1914-15.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 31.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 21st APRIL, 1915.

- 1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Dalley Electoral Division.—Issue of Writ.—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he had on Monday last issued a Writ for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Dalley, in the State of New South Wales, in the place of Robert Howe, deceased. The dates appointed in the Writ were as follow:—

Date of Nomination—Thursday, 6th May, 1915. Date of Polling—Saturday, 15th May, 1915. Return of Writ, on or before Monday, 31st May, 1915.

3. Petition.—Mr. Laird Smith presented a Petition from Timber Mill Owners and Employés in Tasmania praying that the House will impose import duties on timber based on the suggestions contained in the Petition.

Petition received.

4. Papers.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General— Department of External Affairs—

Food Supplies and Trade and Industry during the War—Correspondence between the Royal Commission and the Minister for External Affairs.

Panama Pacific Exposition—Royal Commission—Correspondence between the Minister for External Affairs and the President of the Commission.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table and to be printed.

Postmaster-General's Department-

Statement showing Business Transacted and details of Receipts and Expenditure in respect of Post Offices in the Commonwealth, year 1913.

Department of Home Affairs—

Strategic Railway—Instructions issued to Mr. Surveyor Combes in connexion with the preliminary inquiries.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented pursuant to Statute-

Department of Trade and Customs-

Inter-State Commission—Tariff Investigation—Appendices to Report : Statistical and other information, and Evidence—

Apparel, viz :-- Corsets.

Boots and Shoes.

Electroplated Ware.

Gas Meters.

Hides and Skins.

Inks, Stains, and Dressings for Leather.

Iron and Steel.

Leather.

Locks and Lock Furniture.

Matches and Vestas.

Portland Cement.

Shale Oil.

Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes.

Wattle Bark.

Several y ordered to be printed.

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PAPERS—continued.

Department of Trade and Customs-continued.

Public Service Act-

Promotions of-

L. F. East, as Chief Clerk, Central Staff.

J. H. W. Hardie, as Examining Officer, 3rd Class, Townsville.

R. H. Bailey, as Sub-Collector, 4th Class, Cossack, Western Australia.

Central Staff, Lighthouse Branch—New positions created—Professional Division— Appointments of-

J. J. H. Airey, as District Officer, Class C, Western Australia. J. Henry, as Assistant District Officer, Class D, No. 3 District (Head-quarters, Port Adelaide).

N. L. Waliis, as Draughtsman, Class D.

Prime Minister's Department-

Public Service Act—Regulation Amended—Statutory Rules 1915, No. 52.

Postmaster-General's Department—

Public Service Act-

Appointment of D. H. Reader, as Officer in Charge, Class E, Professional Division, Wireless Telegraph Station, Cooktown.

Promotion of E. A. Guillier, as Postmaster, Grade IV., 3rd Class, Hay.

5. Message from the Senate.—Supply Bill (No. 5) 1914-15.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :-

Mr. Speaker. Message No. 39.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and fifteen," to which it has agreed without requests.

> THOS. GIVENS, President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 16th April, 1915.

6. Supply [Estimates 1914-15].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Consideration resumed of Estimates 1914-15.—The Parliament, Division No. 1, Subdivision No. 1.—

Debate continued on the following motion of Mr. Finlayson (page 169 ante):-That the item, "Clerk of the Senate £1,000," be reduced by the sum of £100.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Thomas moved, That the item, "Clerk of the Senate £1,000," be reduced by the sum of £1.

Question—That the item be reduced as proposed—put.

The Committee divided-

Ayes, 11.			Noes, 31.		
Mr. Burchell Mr. Burns Mr. Catts Mr. Chapman Mr. Finlayson Mr. W. Maloney Mr. Thomas	Mr.	Webster Yates Tellers: Fenton Parker Moloney	Mr. Anstey Mr. Archibald Mr. Brennan Mr. Joseph Cook Mr. Dankel Mr. Fisher Sir John Forrest Mr. Glynn Mr. Gregory Mr. Hannan Mr. Hughes Mr. Jensen Mr. Lynch Mr. Mahon Mr. Manifold Mr. Mathews Mr. Orchard	Mr. Mr. Mr. Mr. Mr. Mr. Mr. Mr.	Ozanne Page Palmer Patten Riley Rodgers Sampson Sharpe Laird Smith Spence Stumm Watt Tellers: Greene Watkins

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

Subdivision agreed to.

Subdivisions Nos. 2 and 3 agreed to. Division No. 2, subdivision No. 1, debated and agreed to.

Subdivisions Nos. 2 and 3 agreed to.

Divisions Nos. 3 to 10 agreed to.

Division No. 11, subdivisions Nos. 1 and 2 agreed to.

Subdivision No. 3 debated and agreed to. Divisions Nos. 12 to 14 agreed to. Division No. 15, subdivision No. 1, debated and agreed to. Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly. Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

7. Adjournment.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at thirteen minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Abbott, Mr. Bamford, Mr. Carr, Mr. Fleming, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Groom, Mr. W. Elliot Johnson, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Pigott, Colonel Ryrie*, Mr. Salmon, Mr. Sinclair, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. West.

C. GAVAN DUFFY, Clerk of the House of Representatives.