

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 125.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 8TH DECEMBER, 1916.

1. The House met at half-past ten o'clock a.m. pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS.—Mr. John Thomson, for the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, brought up the following Report from the Committee—
Establishing a Commonwealth Public Works Department.
Ordered to be printed.
3. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
The War—Internment Camps—Reports of Visits of Inspection made by Officials of the United States Embassy to various Internment Camps in the United Kingdom.—(Paper presented to the British Parliament.)
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Customs Act—Regulation Amended—Statutory Rules 1916, No. 304.
4. SUPPLY [INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND SUPPLY BILL].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

SUPPLY BILL (No. 3) 1916-17.

Debate resumed on the Interim Financial Statement, and on the motion of Mr. Poynton (*see page 521 ante*), That there be granted to His Majesty for the service of the year ending the 30th day of June, One thousand nine hundred and seventeen, a sum not exceeding £3,293,290—
and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Higgs, viz. :—That the sum be reduced by £1,000,000.
Question—That the sum proposed to be reduced be so reduced—put and negatived.
Original motion agreed to.
Resolution to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, on Wednesday next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

5. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.
Question—put and passed.

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6. SUPPLY RESOLUTION.—The Resolution reported from the Committee of Supply was read and, on the motion of Mr. Poynton, was adopted by the House.
7. WAYS AND MEANS—RESOLUTION.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

SUPPLY BILL (No. 3) 1916-17.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr. Poynton—That towards making good the Supply granted to His Majesty for the services of the year ending 30th June, 1917, a sum not exceeding Three million two hundred and ninety-three thousand two hundred and ninety pounds be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, on Wednesday next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read and, on the motion of Mr. Poynton, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Poynton and Mr. Hughes do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

8. SUPPLY BILL (No. 3) 1916-17.—Mr. Poynton then brought up a Bill intituled "*A 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 seventeen*," and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Poynton moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Bill agreed to, and to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Poynton, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-one minutes to five o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next, at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—General Abbott*, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Carr, Mr. Catts, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Groom, Mr. McGrath*, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Ozanne*, General Ryrie*, Mr. West, and Mr. Yates.

* On leave.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives