THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 7.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 26TH JULY, 1917.

- 1. The House met at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Papers.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute.—

 Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1917, Nos. 149, 150, 151, 157.
- 3. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to notice, That Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister, the Chairman of Committees, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Poynton, and Mr. Tudor be Members of the Standing Orders Committee; three to form a quorum. Question—put and passed.
- 4. LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to notice, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. Anstey, Mr. Archibald, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Higgs, Sir William Irvine, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. Wise be Members of the Library Committee; three to form a quorum. Question—put and passed.
- 5. House Committee.—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to notice, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Page, Mr. Rodgers, Mr. Laird Smith, and Mr. Watkins be Members of the House Committee; three to form a quorum.
 Question—put and passed.
- 6. Printing Committee.—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to notice, That Mr. Bamford, Mr. Fenton, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Riley, Mr. Sampson, and Mr. West be Members of the Printing Committee; three to form a quorum, with power to confer with a similar Committee of the Senate.

 Question—put and passed.
- Supply ["Grievance Day"].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of
 the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—
 Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.
 Debate ensued.
 - Mr. J. H. Catts moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"a Royal Commission be appointed to investigate and report upon the publication, issue, distribution, and financing of the Critchley Parker election pamphlets".

Debate ensued.

Mr. Boyd moved, That the following words be added to the proposed amenament:—"and that no payment be made or expenses allowed to any member of the Royal Commission or any financial assistance given by the Commonwealth towards the purchase of creature comforts for the members of the Commission".

Debate continued.

Mr. Fowler moved (subject to the temporary withdrawal of Mr. Boyd's amendment), That the words "consisting of a member of the Supreme Court of Victoria" be inserted after the word "Commission" in the proposed amendment of Mr. J. H. Catts.

Debate continued.

Mr. Sampson moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put.

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The House divided-

Ayes	, 32.		Noes, 22.
Mr. Archibald Sir Robert Best Mr. Boyd Mr. Chanter Mr. Joseph Cook Mr. Falkiner Sir John Forrest Mr. R. W. Foster Mr. Glynn Mr. Gregory Mr. Hughes Mr. Jensen Mr. Kelly Mr. Lamond Mr. Leckie Mr. Lister Mr. Manifold	Mr. McWilliams Mr. Orchard Mr. Palmer Mr. Pigott Mr. Poynton Mr. Sampson Mr. Bruce Smith Mr. Laird Smith Mr. Spence Mr. Story Mr. Watt Mr. Webster Mr. Wise Tellers: Mr. Atkinson Mr. Greene	Mr. Brennan Mr. J. H. Catts Mr. Chapman Mr. Charlton Mr. Considine Mr. Corser Mr. Fenton Mr. Finlayson Mr. Fowler Mr. Heitmann Mr. Higgs Mr. Lynch	Mr. Mahony Mr. W. Maloney Mr. Mathews Mr. Riley Mr. Tudor Mr. Wallace Mr. West Mr. Yates Tellers: Mr. Page Mr. Watkins

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved-That the House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. Message from the Senate.—Unlawful Associations Bill (1917).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:-

Mr. Speaker.

Message No. 5.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to amend the 'Unlawful Associations Act 1916'", and acquaints the House of Representatives that the Senate does not insist upon its amendment No. 2, disagreed to by the House of Representatives.

> Thos. Givens, President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 26th July, 1917.

9. RAILWAYS BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 11-Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee:)

Resolved, on the motion of Mr. Watt-That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act relating to the Construction and Management of Commonwealth Railways.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

The said Resolution was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Watt, was adopted by the House.

10. RAILWAYS BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time-Debate resumed.

Mr. J. H. Catts moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

11. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Watt moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-five minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

Members Present.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—General Abbott**a, Mr. Bayley, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Burchell**a, Mr. Fleming**a, Mr. Livingston, Mr. McDonald*, Mr. McGrath**a, Mr. Nicholls, General Ryrie**a, Mr. Salmon*, and Mr. John Thomson.

* On leave.
(a) Joined Australian Imperial Expeditionary Forces.

WALTER A. GALE, Clerk of the House of Representatives.