

1917-18.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 70.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 6TH JUNE, 1918.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PRINTING COMMITTEE—SECOND REPORT FROM.—Mr. McWilliams, for the Chairman, brought up the Second Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate).

The Report was read by the Clerk, as follows :—

SECOND REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have met in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the Petitions and Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, recommend that the following be printed :—

- Taxation—Report of the Resolutions and Proceedings of the Conference of Commonwealth and States Taxation Officers held at Melbourne, March, 1917.
- † Military Hospital, Randwick—Reports of the Advisory Committee for Military Hospitals and Convalescent Homes, upon administration.
- † Commonwealth Line of Steamships—Return showing Voyages made and Cargoes carried from October, 1916, to 25th April, 1918.
- † Shipping—Return showing, under various headings, Ships that have been withdrawn from service in Australian waters since the outbreak of the War.
- † The War—Return showing Persons of Enemy Birth and Enemy Descent employed in the Department of Defence.
- * Defence—Proposals of the Government for Home Defence of Australia.

† Presented to House of Representatives only.
* Presented to Senate only.

Committee Room,
6th June, 1918.

W. J. McWILLIAMS,
for Chairman.

Mr. McWilliams moved, by leave, That the Report be adopted.
Question—put and passed.

3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 - Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Award (dated 13th May, 1918) of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and other documents, in connexion with a plaint submitted by the General Division Officers' Union of the Trade and Customs Department of Australia.
 - Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired under, at Brisbane—For Customs purposes.
 - Public Service Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, No. 134.

F.6286.

6th June, 1918.

4. AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS' REPATRIATION BILL (1918).—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 2 to 5 agreed to.

Clause 6

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (i) (lines 29-34) be omitted, and that the following paragraph be inserted in place thereof:—

“(i) who have been declared by the competent Naval or Military Medical Board at the headquarters abroad of the Australian Naval or Military Forces to be medically unfit for service, and who have been returned, or whom it is proposed to return, to Australia, or”.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (iii) (lines 44-7) be omitted, and that the following paragraph be inserted in place thereof:—

“(iii) to the mothers of deceased or incapacitated Australian soldiers—

(a) who are widows and were, prior to the enlistment of those soldiers, dependent upon them; or

(b) whose husbands are so incapacitated as to be unable to contribute materially to their support.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 7 agreed to.

Clause 8—

Mr. Considine moved, as an amendment, That the following words be inserted after the words “is amended”:—“by inserting immediately after the word ‘sailors’ the words ‘who have been previously selected by the returned soldiers and sailors of that State’”.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 17.

Noes, 25.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Mathews
Mr. Bruce	Mr. McWilliams
Mr. Chapman	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Charlton	Mr. West
Mr. Fenton	
Mr. Finlayson	
Mr. Fowler	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Higgs	Mr. Considine
Mr. Lynch	Mr. Nicholls

Mr. Archibald	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Palmer
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Pigott
Mr. Boyd	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Corser	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Falkiner	Mr. Spence
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Watt
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Webster
Mr. Greene	Mr. Wise
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Groom	
Mr. Jensen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Jowett	Mr. Story
Mr. Lamond	Mr. John Thomson

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 9 debated.

Sir Robert Best moved, as an amendment, That the following words be added to paragraph (b):—

“and for the granting of assistance and benefits to any person who has enlisted or fought with the British Imperial the Australian Imperial or the British Dominion Forces in the present war or of any relative or dependant of such person.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause postponed.

Clauses 10 to 14 agreed to.

Clause 15 debated and agreed to.

Clause 16—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word “amended” (lines 39-42) be omitted, and that the following words be inserted in place thereof:—

“by omitting the words ‘invite subscriptions or organize any scheme for raising money for the repatriation of Australian soldiers or for any purpose connected therewith’ and inserting in their stead the words ‘invite subscriptions or raise money by any means whatsoever for any patriotic fund or any fund in relation to the war.’”

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

6th June, 1918.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 22.		Noes, 16.	
Mr. Archibald	Mr. Palmer	Mr. Boyd	Mr. McWilliams
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Pigott	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Poynton	Mr. Bruce	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Falkiner	Mr. Sinclair	Mr. Chapman	Mr. Tudor
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Spence	Mr. Charlton	Mr. West
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Watt	Mr. Finlayson	
Mr. Greene	Mr. Webster	Mr. Jowett	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Wise	Mr. Lynch	Mr. Corser
Mr. Groom		Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Jensen	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Lamond	Mr. Story		
Mr. Mackay	Mr. John Thomson		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 17 debated.

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (i) (lines 19-25) be omitted, and that the following paragraph be inserted in place thereof:—

“(i) who have been declared by the competent Naval or Military Medical Board at the head-quarters abroad of the Australian Naval or Military Forces to be medically unfit for service, and who have been returned, or whom it is proposed to return, to Australia, or”.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (iii) (lines 36-9) be omitted, and that the following paragraph be inserted in place thereof:—

“(iii) to the mothers of deceased or incapacitated Australian soldiers—

(a) who are widows and were, prior to the enlistment of those soldiers, dependent upon them, or

(b) whose husbands are so incapacitated as to be unable to contribute materially to their support.”

Amendment agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Postponed clause 9—

Mr. Groom moved, as an amendment, That the following words be inserted after the word “Act,” (line 14):—

“or to any relative or person not specified in paragraphs (b), (c), or (d) of section twenty-two of this Act who was dependent upon any deceased or discharged sailor or soldier prior to his enlistment”.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Lamond moved, as an amendment upon the proposed amendment, That the words “relative or” be omitted.

Debate continued.

Amendment upon proposed amendment negatived.

Original amendment agreed to.

Mr. Finlayson moved, as an amendment, That the following paragraph be added to the clause:—

“(c) by adding the following sub-section—(5.) The member of the House of Representatives for the Electoral division in which Local Committees are appointed shall be *ex officio* a member of each Local Committee and Executive within the Division.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

New clauses—

Mr. Jowett moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill to stand as clause 18:—

“18. The provisions of this Act relating to the raising and distribution of funds by the Local Committee shall apply to members of the British Imperial and Dominion Imperial Forces who after discharge may settle within the Commonwealth of Australia.”

Amendment ruled out of order.

Mr. Fenton moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill to stand as clause 18:—

“18. The Minister shall appoint under the provisions of Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Acts qualified officers representing the Commonwealth Government to inspect and report upon properties which the State Governments propose to purchase for repatriation of Australian soldiers and sailors.”

Question—put and negatived.

6th June, 1918.

Mr. Rodgers moved, That the following new clause be added to the Bill to stand as clause 18 :—

18. A Report of the operations under the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act shall be furnished annually.

Question put and passed.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Mr. Groom 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.

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

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DEFENCE (CIVIL EMPLOYMENT) BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 53.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act relating to Civil Employment in the Department of Defence,*" and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 6th June, 1918.

6. DEFENCE (CIVIL EMPLOYMENT) BILL.—Mr. Wise moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

7. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*War Loan Bill (1918)*] [£80,000,000]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 54.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the raising and expending of the sum of Eighty million pounds for War purposes,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 6th June, 1918.

[*War Loan Securities Repurchase Bill*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 55.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the repurchase of War Loan Securities,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 6th June, 1918.

[*Supplementary Appropriation Bill 1916-17*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 56.

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

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 6th June, 1918.

[*Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Bill 1916-17*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 57.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the appropriation out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and seventeen for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c.,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 6th June, 1918.

8. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired under, at Townsville, Queensland—For Defence purposes.

6th June, 1918.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Watt moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fifteen minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Lieut.-Colonel Abbott^{*a}, Mr. Anstey^{*}, Mr. Bamford, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Burchell^{*a}, Mr. J. H. Catts,
Mr. Joseph Cook, Mr. Fleming^{*a}, Lord Forrest, Mr. Heitmann^a, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Livingston,
Mr. Mahony, Mr. Manifold^{*}, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Page^{*}, Mr. Riley, Brigadier-General
Ryrie^{*a}, Mr. Sampson, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates^{*a}.

^{*} On leave.

^(a) Joined Australian Imperial Force.

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