

1917-18.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 77.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS.

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 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. SWAN ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT.—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that yesterday he issued a Writ for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Swan in the State of Western Australia, in the place of Lord Forrest, deceased. The dates fixed in the Writ were as follows :—

Date of Nomination	Friday, 4th October, 1918.
Date of Polling	Saturday, 26th October, 1918.
Date for Return of Writ	On or before Thursday, 31st November, 1918.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—Mr. Speaker announced that, during the recent adjournment, he had received from His Excellency the Governor-General the following Message:—

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 71.

The following Bills intituled :—

- " A Bill for an Act to amend the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act 1917 "
- " A Bill for an Act to amend the Defence Act 1903-1917 "
- " A Bill for an Act relating to Civil Employment in the Department of Defence "
- " A Bill for an Act to amend the Income Tax Assessment Act 1915-1916 "
- " 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 nineteen "
- " A Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and eighteen and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for such year ", and
- " A Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of a Bounty on the Export of Evaporated Apples from the Commonwealth "

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency, has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Acts.

Federal Government House,
Melbourne, 19th June, 1918.

19th September, 1918.

4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
- Cyclone—Cairns and Innisfail districts, March, 1918—Report by Mr. Bamford, M.P., and Senator Crawford as to damage done and relief measures.
 - Irish Convention—Report of Proceedings—(Paper presented to the British Parliament).
 - Proportional Representation—Report of the Royal Commission with the scheme prepared by the Commissioners—(Paper presented to the British Parliament).
 - Reform of Second Chamber—Conference—Letter from Viscount Bryce to the Prime Minister—(Paper presented to the British Parliament).
 - The War—(Papers presented to the British Parliament)—
 - Board of Trade Departmental Committees—Reports *re* the position (after the War) of—
 - Electrical Trades.
 - Engineering Trades.
 - Shipping and Shipbuilding Industries.
 - Textile Trades.
 - Commercial and Industrial Policy—Committee on—Interim Report on the Treatment of Exports from the United Kingdom and British Overseas Possessions and the Conservation of the Resources of the Empire during the transitional period after the War.
 - Holland—
 - Correspondence with the Netherlands Government respecting the Requisitioning of Dutch Ships by the Associated Governments.
 - Correspondence between His Majesty's Government and the Netherlands Government respecting the treatment by the latter of Belligerent Merchant Vessels whose status has been changed as the result of an Act of War—Part I.—Cases of the steam-ships *Maria* and *Huntstrick*. Part II.—German ships at Antwerp at the outbreak of the War.
 - Report on the Export of Cement from the United Kingdom to Holland.
 - Prisoners of War—Report on the Treatment by the Enemy of British Prisoners of War behind the firing lines in France and Belgium.
 - Prisoners of War and Civilians—Agreement between the British and Ottoman Governments respecting.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

- Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and other documents, in connexion with complaints submitted by—
 - Commonwealth Legal Professional Officers' Association (dated 28th June, 1918).
 - Federated Public Service Assistants' Association (dated 14th August, 1918).
- Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, No. 217.
- Customs Act—
 - Proclamations prohibiting Exportation (except under certain conditions)—
 - Brook Millet (dated 4th September, 1918).
 - Butter (dated 28th August, 1918).
 - Honey (dated 4th September, 1918).
 - Phosphorus, Strychnine and its Salts, and Arsenic and its Water-soluble Salts (dated 31st July, 1918).
 - Red Lead and White Lead (dated 14th August, 1918).
 - Sausage Casings (dated 14th August, 1918).
 - Proclamation (dated 10th July, 1918) revoking Proclamation (dated 26th July, 1916) prohibiting Exportation of Goods to Liberia.
 - Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 216, 226, 230.
- Defence Act—Regulations Amended—
 - Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 144, 145, 148 to 152, 157, 160, 161, 166 to 169, 183, 184, 201 to 204, 210, 212 to 214, 231, 232.
- Land Tax Assessment Act—Applications for Relief—Schedule of Relief granted to Taxpayers in all States.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired under, at—
 - Broken Hill, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.
 - Caulfield, Victoria—For Defence purposes.
 - Drummoyne, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.
 - Hobart, Tasmania—For Defence purposes.
 - Maryborough, Queensland—For Defence purposes.
 - North Sydney, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.
 - Randwick, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.
 - Rutherglen, Victoria—For Defence purposes.
- Naval Defence Act—
 - Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 180, 181, 209, 234.
- Northern Territory—
 - Ordinance of 1918—No. 10—Stock Diseases.
 - Public Service Ordinance—Regulations Amended (two).
- Papua—Ordinances of 1918—
 - No. 6—Superannuation.
 - No. 7—Ordinance Interpretation.
 - No. 8—Supplementary Appropriation (No. 1) 1917–1918.
 - No. 10—Native Crown Servants.

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PAPERS—continued.

Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 94, 126, 127, 136, 139, 158, 162, 176, 182, 189, 220, 223.

Public Service Act—

Appointments, Promotions, &c.—

J. L. McC. Brain, Prime Minister's Department.

J. S. Buchanan, Postmaster-General's Department.

F. T. Cull, Prime Minister's Department.

L. G. I. French, Prime Minister's Department.

J. M. A. Gough, Prime Minister's Department.

M. T. Keely, J. E. Martin, D. C. Stevenson, Department of the Treasury.

T. G. Leece, C. C. McGarry, F. Claremont, F. V. Becke, M. B. Harry, J. R. Jackson,

W. B. Sheridan, W. E. Bradshaw, C. F. Robinson, W. Reid, W. G. C. L. Dix,

H. W. Germon, R. W. Lloyd, Postmaster-General's Department.

P. J. McCormack, P. L. Johnston, Prime Minister's Department.

C. MacNamara, Prime Minister's Department.

M. C. Meeking, Prime Minister's Department.

J. F. Murphy, Home and Territories Department.

M. H. Simpkins, Prime Minister's Department.

A. B. Smith, Home and Territories Department.

J. H. Starling, Prime Minister's Department.

R. White, Postmaster-General's Department.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 174, 177, 188, 194, 196, 218, 221, 228.

Railways Act—By-law No. 5.

Seamen's Compensation Act—

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1918, No. 63.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, No. 198.

War Precautions Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, Nos. 89, 108, 111, 146, 147, 154, 170, 178, 195, 219, 224.

5. PETITION.—Mr. Kelly presented a Petition from the President of the Proportional Representation Society of New South Wales and from officials of the Farmers' and Settlers' Association and certain other organizations praying that steps be taken in the current Session to pass proportional representation into law.

Petition received and read.

6. AMENDMENTS INCORPORATION BILL (1918)—Mr. Groom, pursuant to leave given on the 11th July, 1917, brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to amend the 'Amendments Incorporation Act 1905'*," and moved, That it 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. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS.—Mr. Gregory, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, brought up the following Report from the Committee—

Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, and Plans relating to the proposed scheme for housing Commonwealth workmen at Lithgow.

Ordered—That the Paper be printed.

8. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Railways—Break of Gauge—Report of Board of Commonwealth and State Railway Engineers on Break of Gauge Devices (16th August, 1918).

Wool Clip, 1917-18—Purchase by the Imperial Government through the Commonwealth Government—Statement by the Central Wool Committee.

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

Wool Clip, 1917-18—Purchase by the Imperial Government through the Commonwealth Government—Tables of Limits, and other Papers.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

9. PAPER [MINISTERIAL STATEMENT].—Mr. Watt presented—

Statement (dated 19th September, 1918), by the Acting Prime Minister, of the Government Policy—

and moved, That the Paper be printed.

Mr. Tudor 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.

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

And then the House, at thirty-three minutes past three 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—
Mr. Anstey*, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Bamford, Sir Robert Best, Mr. Burchell*^a, Sir Joseph Cook,
Mr. Fleming*^a, Mr. Heitmann^a, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Leckie, Mr. Lister, Mr. Manifold*,
Mr. McDonald, Brigadier-General Ryrie*^a, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Spence, Mr. Wallace^a,
Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates*^a.

* On leave.
(a) Joined Australian Imperial Force

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