

1917-18.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 89.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 17TH OCTOBER, 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. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
The War—National Relief Fund—Report on the Administration of, up to the 31st March, 1918.  
(Paper presented to the British Parliament.)  
Ordered to lie on the Table.
3. POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL (No. 2) (1918).—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.  
Question—put.  
The House divided—

Ayes, 26.		Noes, 12.	
Mr. Archibald	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Mathews
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Palmer	Mr. Charlton	Mr. West
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Poynton	Mr. Considine	
Mr. Boyd	Mr. Sampson	Mr. Fenton	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Corser	Mr. Sinclair	Mr. Finlayson	Mr. Page
Mr. Falkiner	Mr. Laird Smith	Mr. Mahony	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Watt		
Mr. Greene	Mr. Webster		
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Wise		
Mr. Groom			
Mr. Lamond	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Lister	Mr. Story		
Mr. Livingston	Mr. John Thomson		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

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

*(In the Committee.)*

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3 debated and agreed to.

Clause 4—

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment, That the following words be inserted after the word "Letters" (line 11) :—"except those posted to soldiers, sailors, and munition workers at present abroad".

Amendment ruled out of order on the ground of irrelevancy.

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment, That the figure and words " $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per letter" (following the word "Letters", line 11) be omitted.

Question—That the figure and words proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—put.

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The Committee divided—

Ayes, 27.		Noes, 12.	
Mr. Archibald	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Charlton	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Palmer	Mr. Fenton	Mr. West
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Poynton	Mr. Finlayson	
Mr. Boyd	Mr. Sampson	Mr. Mahony	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Corser	Mr. Sinclair	Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Brennan
Mr. Falkiner	Mr. Laird Smith	Mr. Mathews	Mr. Page
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Watt		
Mr. Greene	Mr. Webster		
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Wise		
Mr. Groom			
Mr. Jowett	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Lamond			
Mr. Lister	Mr. Story		
Mr. Livingston	Mr. John Thomson		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Tudor moved, as an amendment, That the following Proviso be added to the clause—

“Provided that the rates of postage shall not be increased on letters and newspapers sent to soldiers, sailors, and war workers who are at present overseas in connexion with the present war.”

Amendment ruled out of order on the ground of irrelevancy.

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 27.		Noes, 11.	
Mr. Archibald	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Palmer	Mr. Charlton	
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Poynton	Mr. Fenton	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Boyd	Mr. Sampson	Mr. Finlayson	
Mr. Corser	Mr. Sinclair	Mr. Mahony	Mr. Mathews
Mr. Falkiner	Mr. Laird Smith	Mr. W. Maloney	Mr. Page
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Watt		
Mr. Greene	Mr. Webster		
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Wise		
Mr. Groom			
Mr. Jowett	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Lamond			
Mr. Lister	Mr. Story		
Mr. Livingston	Mr. John Thomson		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Watt, the House adopted the Report.

Mr. Watt moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stage to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Watt moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 25.		Noes, 13.	
Mr. Archibald	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Tudor
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Palmer	Mr. Charlton	Mr. West
Mr. Chanter	Mr. Poynton	Mr. Considine	
Mr. Corser	Mr. Sampson	Mr. Fenton	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Glynn	Mr. Laird Smith	Mr. Finlayson	
Mr. Greene	Mr. Watt	Mr. Higgs	Mr. Mahony
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Webster	Mr. Mathews	Mr. Page
Mr. Groom	Mr. Wise		
Mr. Jensen			
Mr. Lamond	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Leckie			
Mr. Lister	Mr. Story		
Mr. Livingston	Mr. John Thomson		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.

17th October, 1918.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO SUPPLY BILL (No. 2) 1918-19.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

R. M. FERGUSON,  
Governor-General.

Message No. 76.

A Bill intituled "*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,*" 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 Act.

Government House,  
Melbourne, 17th October, 1918.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) BILL 1918-19.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 68.

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 nineteen for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., and to appropriate such sum,*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 17th October, 1918.

THOS. GIVENS,  
President.

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

Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1918, No. 269.

7. LOAN BILL (1918) [£1,242,194].—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. 75—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, after debate—That it is expedient that an appropriation of moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to authorize the raising and expending of the sum of One million two hundred and forty-two thousand one hundred and ninety-four pounds for certain purposes.

Resolution to be reported.

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 [up to the second reading] to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

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

Mr. Groom then brought up the Bill accordingly, 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.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Groom moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at three 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—Lieut.-Col. Abbott, Mr. Anstey\*, Mr. Burchell\*<sup>a</sup>, Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Chapman, Sir Joseph Cook, Mr. Fleming\*<sup>a</sup>, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Heitmann<sup>a</sup>, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Manifold\*, Mr. McDonald, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Riley, Brigadier-General Ryrrie\*<sup>a</sup>, Mr. Wallace<sup>a</sup>, and Mr. Yates\*<sup>a</sup>.

\* On leave.

(<sup>a</sup>) Joined Australian Imperial Force.

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