

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 115.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 6TH APRIL, 1921.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., according to the terms of the Resolution of the 26th November last.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. RETURN TO WRIT (KALGOORLIE DIVISION).—Mr. Speaker announced that, during the adjournment, he had received a Return to the Writ which he issued on the 17th November last, for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Kalgoorlie, in the State of Western Australia, in the place of the Honorable Hugh Mahon, and that by the indorsement on the Writ it appeared that George James Foley had been elected in pursuance of the said Writ.
3. MEMBER SWORN.—George James Foley, Esquire, was introduced, and made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
4. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were received, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker :—

FORSTER,

Governor-General.

Message No. 46.

A Bill intituled "*Appropriation Act 1920-21*," 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.

Federal Government House,
Melbourne, 27th November, 1920.

FORSTER,

Governor-General.

Message No. 47.

Bills intituled respectively---

"*Commonwealth Bank Act 1920*,"

"*Commonwealth Electoral (War-Time) Repeal Act 1920*,"

"*Land Tax Act 1920*,"

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.

Government House,
Melbourne, 30th November, 1920.

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FORSTER,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 48.*

Bills intituled respectively—

- “*Passports Act 1920*,”
- “*Quarantine Act 1920*,”
- “*Nationality Act 1920*,”
- “*Aliens Registration Act 1920*,”
- “*Air Navigation Act 1920*,”
- “*Immigration Act 1920*,”
- “*Sugar Purchase Act (No. 2) 1920*,”
- “*Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act 1920*,”
- “*War Precautions Act Repeal Act 1920*,”
- “*Industrial Peace Act (No. 2) 1920*,”
- “*River Murray Waters Act 1920*,”

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.

Government House,
Melbourne, 2nd December, 1920.

FORSTER,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 49.*

The Governor-General informs the House of Representatives that the proposed law intituled “*An Act to amend the Navigation Act 1912–1919*”, which was reserved for the signification of His Majesty’s pleasure, has been laid before His Majesty in Council, and that His Majesty has, by an Order in Council, dated the 14th day of February, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, confirmed, approved, and declared His assent to the said proposed law.

The Governor-General has caused the King’s approval to be proclaimed in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* No. 19, dated the 3rd March, 1921, a copy of which proclamation is attached hereto.

Government House,
Melbourne, 3rd March, 1921.

PROCLAMATION.

Australia to wit. By His Excellency the Governor-General of the Commonwealth of
FORSTER, Australia.
Governor-General.

WHEREAS a proposed law entitled “*An Act to amend the Navigation Act 1912–1919*”, was during the last session of Parliament passed by both Houses of the Parliament of the Commonwealth:

AND WHEREAS upon the said proposed law being on the eleventh day of November, One thousand nine hundred and twenty, presented to me for the Royal Assent, I declared that I reserved the said proposed law for the signification of His Majesty’s pleasure:

AND WHEREAS the signification of His Majesty’s pleasure has been communicated to me:

NOW THEREFORE I, Henry William, Baron Forster, the Governor-General aforesaid, do hereby proclaim and make known that the said proposed law has been laid before His Majesty in Council, and that by an Order in Council bearing date the fourteenth day of February, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, His Majesty has been pleased to confirm, approve, and declare his assent to the proposed law.

(L.S.) Given under my hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth, at Melbourne, this second day of March, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, and in the eleventh year of His Majesty’s reign.

By His Excellency’s Command,

W. MASSY GREENE,
Minister of State for Trade and Customs.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

5. OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE.—APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. Speaker stated that honorable Members would recollect that at the last sitting of the House he had intimated that Mr. Thomas Woollard, the Clerk-Assistant, proposed to retire from the service of the House on his attaining the statutory age. That gentleman had relinquished his position on the 31st of last month, and consequent on his retirement the necessary recommendation had been made by Mr. Speaker for the following changes in regard to the officers in attendance in the Chamber:—

Mr. Clapin to be Clerk-Assistant;

Mr. Hubert to be Second Clerk-Assistant;

Mr. McGregor, who some time ago resumed duty after serving as an officer of the Australian Imperial Force, to be Serjeant-at-Arms and Clerk of Committees.

6th April, 1921.

These and other changes would not add to the total number of officers but had rendered possible a very necessary re-arrangement of duties. When the House of Representatives first met there was a Second Clerk-Assistant, but later, on the promotion of the occupant of that office, Mr. Speaker Holder had said that he did not propose at that time to fill the position of Second Clerk-Assistant, as he desired to try if the work could be efficiently performed with only two Clerks. In view of the fact that the Sessions of the House of Representatives were very much longer and the work of the Department much greater than was anticipated at the inauguration of Federation would be the case, he thought that the time had now arrived for the re-appointment of a Second Clerk-Assistant.

Mr. Speaker further stated that other officers of the staff had also been recommended for promotion as a result of these changes, and Mr. Frank Clifton Green, M.C., Clerk Assistant and Serjeant at Arms of the House of Assembly, Tasmania, had been appointed Clerk of the Papers and Reading Clerk.

Mr. Speaker referred to the financial aspect of the alterations and quoted figures showing that the cost of the salaries of the clerical officers was now £50 per annum less than it was twenty years ago.

Mr. Speaker added that he understood that his recommendations would be given effect to.

6. **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.**—Mr. Hughes, by leave, made a statement with reference to the business to be dealt with by the House.

7. **PETITION.**—Mr. R. W. Foster presented a Petition from certain electors praying that the House would abolish or reduce Tariff taxes which now press heavily upon production.

Petition received and read.

8. **PAPERS.**—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Economics—Final Report of the Royal Commission appointed to consider and report upon Public Expenditure of the Commonwealth of Australia with a view to effecting economies; together with statements by the Government and the Minister for Defence.

Peace—

Treaty of Peace between the Allied and Associated Powers and Hungary, together with Protocol and Declaration, signed at Trianon, 4th June, 1920. [With map.]

Treaty of Peace between the Allied Powers and Turkey, signed at Sèvres, 10th August, 1920. (With map).

Taxation—Commonwealth and State Land and Income Taxes—Collection by one authority and uniform form of return—Report of Board of Inquiry; also Minority Report.

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

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Air Navigation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 33.

Arbitration (Public Service) Act—

Awards and Orders made by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and other documents in the following cases:—

Australian Postal Linesmen's Union. (Dated 18th December, 1920.)

Commonwealth Legal Professional Officers' Association. (Dated 17th December, 1920.)

Commonwealth Postmasters' Association and the Australian Post and Telegraph Association. (Dated 27th November, 1920.)

Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association. (Dated 17th December, 1920.)
Line Inspectors' Association, Commonwealth of Australia. (Dated 18th December, 1920.)

Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service. (Dated 17th December, 1920.)

Audit Act

Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial year 1920-21—

Dated 20th January, 1921.

Dated 2nd March, 1921.

Dated 16th March, 1921.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1921, Nos. 30, 49.

Commonwealth Bank Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 259.

Conciliation and Arbitration Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 99.

Contract Immigrants Act—Return for 1920.

Customs Act—

Proclamation (dated 20th January, 1921) revoking Proclamation (dated 8th January, 1919) relating to the Exportation of Goods per parcels post.

Proclamation (dated 2nd December, 1920) revoking Proclamation (dated 14th January, 1920) relating to the Exportation of goods to Germany, Austria-Hungary, Turkey, and Bulgaria.

Proclamation (dated 16th February, 1921) revoking Proclamation (dated 23rd October, 1914) relating to the Exportation of Wool.

Defence Act—Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 239, 242, 250, 252, 253, 254, 255, 260, 267, 268.

Statutory Rules 1921, Nos. 15, 16, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 34, 35, 36, 40, 41, 44, 53, 54, 55, 59, 60, 61, 62.

Defence Act and Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 269.

Distillation Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 38.

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PAPERS—continued.

- Electoral Act (Commonwealth) and Electoral Acts (South Australia)—Regulations relating to Joint Electoral Rolls in South Australia—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 32.
- Electoral Act and Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 261.
- Entertainments Tax Assessment Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 218.
- Excise Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 37.
- High Court Procedure Act—Rules of Court—
Statutory Rule 1920, No. 162.
Rule *re* Sittings, dated 1st February, 1921.
- Immigration Act—Return for 1920.
- Income Tax Assessment Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 258.
- Industrial Peace Acts—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 264.
- Land, Mining, Shares, and Shipping Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 251.
- Land Tax Assessment Act—Applications for Relief—Statement showing Relief granted to Taxpayers, 16th February, 1918, to 12th September, 1920.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired under, at—
Branxholm, Tasmania—For Postal purposes.
Dee Why, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
Fremantle, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
Gordon, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
Kalamunda, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
Nedlands Park, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
West Guildford, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
- Naturalization Act—Return of number of Persons to whom Naturalization Certificates were granted during 1920.
- Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—
Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 72, 73, 100, 101, 131, 145, 155, 156, 157, 163, 190, 210, 211, 219, 229, 230, 231, 232, 248, 249.
Statutory Rules 1921, Nos. 1, 21, 56.
- Norfolk Island—
Ordinance of 1921, No. 1—Executive Council.
Census Regulations 1921.
- Northern Territory—
Ordinances of 1920—
No. 7—Lunacy.
No. 10—Taxation.
No. 11—Examination of Engine-drivers.
Ordinances of 1921—
No. 1—Early Closing.
No. 2—Affirmations.
- Papua—
Ordinances of 1920—
No. 6—Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2) 1919–1920.
No. 7—Supply (No. 1) 1920–1921.
No. 9—Census.
- Patents Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 137.
- Patents Act, Trade Marks Act, Designs Act, Patents, Trade Marks and Designs Act, and Treaty of Peace Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 61.
- Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—
Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 158, 166, 173, 181, 182, 191, 202, 212, 213, 225, 226, 227, 240, 244, 245, 246, 262, 265.
Statutory Rules 1921, Nos. 5, 6, 8, 9, 18, 19, 20, 23, 42, 43, 52.
- Public Service Act—
Appointments, Promotions, &c.—
G. Apperley, Postmaster-General's Department.
J. G. Berry, Postmaster-General's Department.
H. F. Brodribb, Department of the Treasury.
L. O. Brown, Prime Minister's Department.
W. R. Campbell, Department of the Treasury.
C. Clemenger, E. J. Cook, A. W. O'Hehir, N. D. McNally, P. M. A. Lantry, B. Stanley, C. B. Brown, C. F. Hill, B. H. Brown, W. E. Addicoat, C. Barnes, J. D. O'Meally, E. R. Norman, J. L. Cody, J. V. Stapleton, E. R. Scott, D. C. L. Payne, C. R. Lambert, A. H. Davey, A. J. Pickering, R. White, Department of the Treasury.
E. Dean, Postmaster-General's Department.
R. Dooley, Department of Works and Railways.
C. G. P. Edmonds, Department of the Treasury.
G. T. Evans and J. H. Shepherd, Department of the Treasury.
L. H. Griffiths, Postmaster-General's Department.
T. C. H. Powell, E. R. Halse, R. A. Whitelaw, A. J. Drummond, R. A. Crowe, J. W. Ryan, P. W. G. Bennett, T. A. R. Rooke, H. E. J. Woodland, C. C. Christie, P. S. McGovern, T. L. Lea, T. Goggin, L. V. Kennedy, G. A. Forster, Department of the Treasury.

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PAPERS—continued.

J. A. McGlynn, Postmaster-General's Department.
 W. M. Murphy, E. T. Domeney, C. B. Hughes, Department of the Treasury.
 A. S. Murray, Department of the Treasury.
 L. H. T. Powell, Postmaster-General's Department.
 C. P. Shaw, I. G. Keating, L. Knibbs, Department of the Treasury.
 A. H. Smith, Department of the Treasury.
 M. H. Tait, Postmaster-General's Department.
 H. Theggie, Department of the Treasury.
 H. E. Tregaskis, Department of the Treasury.
 J. A. Wilson, H. R. Griffiths, Department of the Treasury.

Regulations Amended -

Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 237, 238, 241, 263, 266.
 Statutory Rules, 1921, Nos. 29, 57, 58.

Railways Act - By-law No. 19.

Seat of Government -

Ordinances of 1920--

No. 2- Rates.

No. 3- Stock.

Ordinance of 1921 :

No. 1- Stock.

Service and Execution of Process Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 136.

Trading with the Enemy Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 47.

Trading with the Enemy Act, Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act, and Treaties of Peace (Austria and Bulgaria) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 10.

Treaties of Peace (Austria and Bulgaria) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1921, Nos. 45, 63.

Treaty of Peace Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 13.

Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1921, No. 46.

War Gratuity Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 217.

War Precautions Act and Land, Mining, Shares, and Shipping Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 93, 95, 172.

War Precautions Act Repeal Act—Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1920, No. 257.

Statutory Rules 1921, Nos. 3, 14.

War Service Homes Act—

Land acquired under, at -

Ashfield, New South Wales.
 Auburn, New South Wales.
 Banksia, New South Wales.
 Bathurst, New South Wales.
 Bowral, New South Wales.
 Burwood, New South Wales.
 Carlton, New South Wales.
 Chatswood, New South Wales (2).
 Collie, Western Australia.
 Coogee, New South Wales.
 Corowa, New South Wales.
 Cremorne, New South Wales.
 Geelong, Victoria.
 Goulburn, New South Wales (2).
 Granville, New South Wales.
 Hamilton, New South Wales (4).
 Kogarah, New South Wales.
 Leichhardt, New South Wales.
 Lismore, New South Wales (3).
 Longueville, New South Wales.
 Manly, New South Wales.
 Mascot, New South Wales (2).
 Milton, New South Wales.
 Moss Vale, New South Wales.
 Parramatta, New South Wales (3).
 Penrith, New South Wales.
 Port Kembla, New South Wales.
 Stockton, New South Wales.
 Toongabbie, New South Wales.
 Waratah, New South Wales (4).
 Waverley, New South Wales.
 Weston, New South Wales.
 Willoughby, New South Wales.
 Wonona, New South Wales.
 Woollahra, New South Wales (3).

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PAPERS—continued.

- Revocation and Partial Revocation of Notification of Acquisition of Land under, at—
 Cheltenham, Victoria.
 Geelong, Victoria.
 Islington, New South Wales (2).
 Tighes Hill, New South Wales.
 Waratah, New South Wales (3).
 Weston, New South Wales (3).
- Wireless Telegraphy Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 256.
9. DAYS OF BUSINESS.—Mr. Hughes moved, by leave, That, unless otherwise ordered, this House shall meet for the despatch of business at three o'clock on each Wednesday afternoon, at half-past two o'clock on each Thursday afternoon, and at eleven o'clock on each Friday morning.
 Question—put and passed.
10. STATEMENT BY MR. EARLE PAGE AS TO AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY PARTY.—Mr. Earle Page, by leave, made a statement informing the House, *inter alia*, that the Australian Country Party had appointed him as its Leader.
11. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
 Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works—Interim Report relating to the Shipbuilding Contract of Messrs. Kidman and Mayoh.
 Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
12. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—INTERIM REPORT.—Mr. Fowler, Chairman of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, brought up the following Interim Report from the Committee:—
 Transactions of the War Service Homes Commissioner with Mr. J. T. Caldwell.
 Mr. Fowler moved, that the Report be printed.
 Mr. W. Maloney moved, as an amendment, That the words "and evidence" be inserted after the word "Report".
 Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and passed.
 Motion, as amended, agreed to.
13. 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, relating to the Shipbuilding Contract of Messrs. Kidman and Mayoh.
 Ordered—That the Paper be printed.
14. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Mahony rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The wholesale dismissals of workmen from the Naval Dockyards, Cockatoo Island, and matters in connexion with the administration of the Dockyards and Shipbuilding generally".
 Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—
 Mr. Mahony moved, That the House do now adjourn.
 Mr. Mahony not having, in compliance with Standing Order No. 39, concluded his speech within half an hour, the honorable Member was, by leave of the House, allowed to continue his speech for ten minutes.
 Sir Joseph Cook, addressing the House, and not having, in compliance with Standing Order No. 39, concluded his speech within fifteen minutes, the honorable Member was, by leave of the House, allowed to continue his speech for a few minutes.
 The time having arrived for the interruption of the debate (in accordance with Standing Order No. 119)—
 Ordered—That the debate be continued, if necessary, until 6.30 o'clock p.m.
 Debate continued.
 Mr. Laird Smith, addressing the House, and not having, in compliance with Standing Order No. 39, concluded his speech within fifteen minutes, the honorable Member was, by leave of the House, allowed to continue his speech for five minutes.
 Debate continued.
 Ordered—That the debate be continued, if necessary, until 8.30 o'clock p.m.
 Debate continued.
 Mr. Ryan, addressing the House, and not having, in compliance with Standing Order No. 39, concluded his speech within fifteen minutes, the honorable Member was, by leave of the House, allowed to continue his speech for five minutes.
 Debate continued.
 Question—put and negatived.

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15. WAYS AND MEANS [THE TARIFF].—The House according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

General debate resumed on the first Item of the Customs Tariff (*see* pages 36 to 88 and 321-6 *ante.*) Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

16. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at ten minutes past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Bruce, Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Gabb, Mr. Lavelle, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Makin, Mr. McDonald, and Mr. Nicholls.

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