

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 41.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 1922.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

FORSTER,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 23.*

Bills intituled—

“*Meat Export Bounties Act 1922*”,“*Tasmania Grant Act 1922*”,“*War Pensions Appropriation Act 1922*”,

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, 25th September, 1922.

3. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Greene moved, pursuant to notice given by Mr. Hughes, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until eleven o'clock a.m. to-morrow.
Debate ensued.
Question—put.
The House divided—

Ayes, 34.

Noes, 15.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Bell	Mr. Jowett
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Lamond
Mr. Blundell	Mr. Lister
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Marks
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Poynton
Mr. Chanter	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Corser	Sir Granville Ryrie
Mr. Fleming	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Francis	Mr. Watt
Mr. Greene	Mr. Wise
Mr. Groom	
Mr. Higgs	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hill	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Hunter	Mr. Story

Mr. Brennan	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Considine	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Foley	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Gabb	Mr. West
Mr. Lambert	
Mr. Mahony	
Mr. W. Maloney	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Mathews	Mr. Fenton
Mr. McDonald	Mr. Riley

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

4. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the consideration of the remaining Notices of Motion be postponed until after the Orders of the Day, Government Business.
5. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Defence Act—Regulations (Munitions Supply)—Statutory Rules 1922, No. 119.
F.4510.

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6. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—SUPERANNUATION BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

FORSTER,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 24.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of amendments to be moved by the Attorney-General to a Bill for an Act to provide Superannuation Benefits for Persons employed by the Commonwealth and to make provision for the families of those persons.

Melbourne, 21st September, 1922.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be considered in Committee of the whole House forthwith. 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. Groom, after debate—That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of amendments to be moved by the Attorney-General to a Bill for an Act to provide Superannuation Benefits for Persons employed by the Commonwealth and to make provision for the families of those persons.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

Ordered—That the Report be considered at once.

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

7. SUPERANNUATION BILL.—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.)

Clause 12 further considered—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendment was made :—

Sub-clause (3.), omit this sub-clause.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 13—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendment was made :—

After sub-clause (1.) insert the following new sub-clause :—

“(1A.) An employee whose salary does not exceed Two hundred and eight pounds per annum may elect to contribute additional units or half units to make up a total number of two and a half, three or four units.”.

Mr. Charlton moved, as a further amendment, That the words “who is, at the commencement of this Act, not less than thirty years of age,” (page 5, lines 22–23) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Clause further debated.

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following further amendment was made :—

Page 5, lines 30–31, omit “for which he is entitled to contribute, having regard to his rate of salary”.

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following further amendment was made :—

Page 5, line 41, after “belongs” add “, or the number of four units, whichever is the greater.”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 14 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 15 to 19 agreed to.

Clause 20 debated—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Line 20, after “from” insert “the”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 21 agreed to.

Clause 22—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

At the end of the clause add the following proviso :—

“Provided that where a contributor is on leave of absence through illness, either without pay or at less than full pay, the Board may, upon his application, permit the contributions falling due during his absence to be paid by him in such smaller sums, and at such periods, as the Board approves.”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 23—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendments were made :—

Lines 33–34, omit “, other than a contributor the age for whose retirement is fixed by law at an earlier age than sixty-five years.”.

Lines 35–39, omit all words from and including “upon attaining” to the end of the clause, insert “on or after attaining the maximum age for retirement.”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 24—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendment was made :—

Sub-clause (2.), omit this sub-clause.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 25 debated and agreed to.

Clause 26—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Line 23, omit “break-down retirement”, insert “retirement through invalidity or physical or mental incapacity”.

Clause, as amended, debated and agreed to.

Clauses 27 and 28 agreed to.

Clause 29—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendment was made :—

Line 41, omit “age of sixty-five years”, insert “maximum age for retirement”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 30—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendment was made :—

Line 9, omit “ten”, insert “seven”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 31 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 32 and 33 agreed to.

Clause 34 debated and agreed to.

Clause 35—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendments were made :—

Line 14, omit “age of sixty-five years”, insert “maximum age for retirement”.

Line 15, omit “commencement of this Act”, insert “date notified in pursuance of sub-section (1.) of section twelve of this Act”.

After sub-clause (1.) insert the following proviso :—

“Provided that, if the maximum age for retirement is less than sixty-five years, the pension payable under this section shall be the actuarial equivalent of such pension payable as from the age of sixty-five years.”.

Sub-clause (4.), omit this sub-clause.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 36—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendments were made :—

Line 41, omit “was of or over the age of sixty-five years”, insert “had attained the maximum age for retirement”.

After sub-clause (1.) insert the following proviso :—

“Provided that, if the maximum age for retirement is less than sixty-five years, the pension payable under this section shall be the actuarial equivalent of such pension payable as from the age of sixty-five years.”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 37—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Line 17, omit “that, owing to ill-health, he is unable to continue”, insert “of invalidity or physical or mental incapacity”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 38—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendments were made :—

Line 36, after “Act” insert “up to the date of his retrenchment”.

Lines 37–38, omit “take such equivalent in the form of a lump sum payment”, insert “receive payment in the form of a lump sum”.

Line 39, omit “the matter”, insert “in which form payment shall be made”.

Line 41, omit “enters the service of the Commonwealth”, insert “re-enters the service”.

Page 12, line 5, omit “a lump sum payment under this section enters”, insert “payment in the form of a lump sum under this section re-enters”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 39—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Line 14, omit “enters the service, he shall”, insert “re-enters the service, he shall contribute as provided in Part III. of this Act, but shall”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

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Clause 40—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, the following amendments were made :—

Line 22, omit “ may suspend ”, insert “ shall discontinue ”.

Line 31, omit “ may suspend ”, insert “ shall discontinue ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 41—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Lines 34–35, omit “ his pension rights under this Act shall not operate ”, insert “ payment of his pension under this Act shall be discontinued ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 42 agreed to.

Clause 43—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Lines 12–13, omit “ her pension rights under this Act shall not operate ”, insert “ payment of her pension under this Act shall be discontinued ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 44 to 49 agreed to.

Clause 50 debated and negatived.

Clause 51—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Lines 34–35, omit “ commencement of this Act ”, insert “ date notified in pursuance of sub-section (1.) of section twelve of this Act ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 52—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Lines 30–31, omit “ commencement of this Act ”, insert “ date notified in pursuance of sub-section (1.) of section twelve of this Act ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 53—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendments were made :—

Lines 17–18, omit “, and before the commencement, of this Act ”, insert “ of this Act and before the date notified in pursuance of sub-section (1.) of section twelve of this Act ”.

Lines 19–20, omit paragraph (a), insert—

“ (a) has attained the maximum age for retirement, or is an invalid, or is unable, by reason of physical or mental incapacity, to continue to perform his duties, and ”.

Line 24, after “ four ” insert “ commencing at the age of sixty-five years ”.

Lines 26–28, omit “ but in no case shall the pension under this section exceed half the annual rate of salary paid at date of retirement ”.

After sub-clause (1.) insert the following proviso :—

“ Provided that, if the maximum age for retirement is less than sixty-five years, the pension payable under this section shall be the actuarial equivalent of such pension payable as from the age of sixty-five years.”.

Line 41, omit “ thirty-six ”, insert “ thirty-five ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 54—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendments were made :—

Lines 5–6, omit paragraph (a), insert—

“ (a) had attained the maximum age for retirement, or was an invalid, or was unable, by reason of physical or mental incapacity, to continue to perform his duties ; and ”.

Line 12, after “ four ” insert “ commencing at the age of sixty-five years ”.

After sub-clause (1.) insert the following proviso :—

“ Provided that, if the maximum age for retirement is less than sixty-five years, the pension payable under this section shall be the actuarial equivalent of such pension payable as from the age of sixty-five years.”.

Line 17, omit “ thirty-seven ”, insert “ thirty-six ”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 55—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendments were made :—

Line 26, after “ four ” insert “ commencing at the age of sixty-five years ”.

Lines 29–30, omit paragraph (a), insert—

“ (a) has attained the maximum age for retirement, or is an invalid, or is unable, by reason of physical or mental incapacity, to continue to perform his duties ; and ”.

After sub-clause (1) insert the following proviso :—

“ Provided that, if the maximum age for retirement is less than sixty-five years, the pension payable under this section shall be the actuarial equivalent of such pension payable as from the age of sixty-five years.”.

Line 34, omit “ was not less than sixty-five years of age ”, insert “ had attained the maximum age for retirement ”.

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Line 35, omit " commencement of this Act ", insert " date notified in pursuance of sub-section (1.) of section twelve of this Act, or his second retirement occurs prior to that date ".

Line 38, omit " thirty-seven ", insert " thirty-six ".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 56—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Page 18, line 12, after " payments " add " less the actuarial equivalent of the contributions made under the last preceding sub-section ".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 57 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 58 and 59 agreed to.

Clause 60—

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following amendment was made :—

Line 5, omit " as prescribed by employees ", insert " by employees in the manner specified by the Minister by notice published in the *Gazette* ".

Clause, as amended, debated and agreed to.

Clauses 61 to 66 agreed to.

Clause 67 debated—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at four 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—Mr. Bamford, Mr. Bayley, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Hay, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Lavelle*, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Marr, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Pratten, and Mr. Wienholt.

* On leave.

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