

1923.  
(SECOND SESSION.)

# THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 33.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 7TH AUGUST, 1923.

1. The House met, at half past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—DEATH OF LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR EDWARD T. H. HUTTON.—Mr. Bowden (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House, with great regret, of the death of Lieutenant-General Sir Edward T. H. Hutton, who, he said, was the organizer of the Defence Forces of Australia, and was one of the fathers of the mounted infantry movement in the British Empire.
3. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—SUGAR—ROYAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE CERTAIN PURCHASES.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to certain sugar purchases made by the Commonwealth in 1920 from James Nash and W. E. Davies, and informed the House that a Royal Commission would be immediately appointed to investigate the circumstances of these purchases.  
By leave, Mr. Edward Riley asked a question in connexion with the matter, and was replied to by Mr. Bruce.
4. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance of 1923—No. 4—Deserted Wives and Children.
5. NORTHERN TERRITORY RAILWAY EXTENSION BILL—SENATE'S AMENDMENT.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of the Amendment made by the Senate in this Bill—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendment made by the Senate, which is as follows:—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE.

Page 2, clause 8, lines 17–20, leave out all words from and including, "The provisions of", to and including "Northern Territory (Administration) Act 1910", insert, "Notwithstanding the provisions of section eleven of the Northern Territory (Administration) Act 1910, the provisions of section sixty-three of the Commonwealth Railways Act 1917 shall apply in relation to the acquisition of land for the purposes of the Railway as if after the words 'Crown Lands of' and after the words 'whether by' there were inserted the words, 'the Commonwealth or'".

Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, That the Senate's Amendment be agreed to.  
Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.  
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Stewart, the House adopted the Report.

7th August, 1923.

6. SUPPLY [BUDGET DEBATE].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Question again proposed (*see p. 95 ante*), That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—The Parliament—namely—

The President ... .. £1,100

be agreed to.

General debate resumed.

*Want of Quorum.*—Mr. Gabb called the attention of the Temporary Chairman (Mr. Bayley) to the fact that a quorum of Members was not present.

Whereupon Mr. Bayley counted the Committee, and the bells having been rung, and a quorum of Members not having been obtained within the prescribed time, and the honorable Member for Hindmarsh (Mr. Makin) having left the Chamber—

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Bayley reported that a quorum of Members was not present in the Committee, and that the honorable Member for Hindmarsh had left the Chamber; whereupon Mr. Speaker instructed the Serjeant-at-Arms to direct the honorable Member to return to the Chamber, in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 34; and the honorable Member having returned as directed, Mr. Speaker counted the House, and a quorum of Members having been obtained, the House again resolved itself into the Committee.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

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

7. MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WHEAT POOL ADVANCES BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General's Deputy was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

W. H. IRVINE,

*Deputy of the Governor-General.*

*Message No. 17.*

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Deputy of the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to authorize the Treasurer of the Commonwealth to guarantee advances made to finance schemes for the marketing of wheat.

Melbourne, 6th August, 1923.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, at the next sitting.

8. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Income Tax—Agreement between the Commonwealth and the State of New South Wales as to the assessment and collection of the Commonwealth Tax and the State Tax by the State Commissioner of Taxation.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at one minute to eleven 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. Donald Cameron\*, Mr. Cunningham, Sir Neville Howse\*, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lambert, Mr. McGrath, Sir Granville Ryrie, and Mr. Thompson.

\* On leave.

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