

1923-24.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 54.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 7TH MAY, 1924.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. DAYS OF BUSINESS—ALTERATION OF.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) 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.
3. GENERAL BUSINESS—PRECEDENCE TO ON THURSDAYS UNTIL 6.30 P.M.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, on each Thursday, unless otherwise ordered, General Business shall take precedence of Government Business until half-past six o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. HUGHES).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the Right Honorable Member for North Sydney (Mr. Hughes), on the ground of urgent private business.
Question—put and passed.
5. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. CHARLES McDONALD).—Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for three months be given to the honorable Member for Kennedy (Mr. Charles McDonald), on the ground of ill-health.
Question—put and passed.
6. THE LATE SENATOR THE HONORABLE E. D. MILLEN.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received from Mrs. Millen a letter thanking the House for its resolution of sympathy in connexion with the death of her husband, Senator the Honorable E. D. Millen.
7. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
New Guinea—Report of Inquiry by A. S. Canning into Allegations of Flogging and Forced Labour of Natives.
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—
No. 7 of 1924—Australian Postal Assistants' Union.
No. 8 of 1924—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
Audit Act—
Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial Year 1923-24—Dated—
2nd April, 1924.
9th April, 1924.
Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 51, 65.
Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 39, 40, 48.
Customs Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 38, 47.
High Court Procedure Act—Rules of Court—Statutory Rules 1923, No. 70.
Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 62, 63.

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Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired at—

- Barham, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
- Clarence Park, South Australia—For Postal purposes.
- East Brunswick, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
- Hurlstone Park, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
- Unley, South Australia—For Postal purposes.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 59, 60, 61.

New Guinea Act—

Ordinances of 1924—

- No. 9—Expropriation.
- No. 10—Supply (No. 8) 1923–24.
- No. 11—Pharmacy and Poisons.
- No. 12—Auctioneers.
- No. 13—Prisons.

Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—

Ordinances of 1924—

- No. 8—Justices' Appeals.
- No. 9—Debtors.

Patents Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1923, Nos. 79, 139.

Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, Nos. 53, 54, 64.

Public Service Act—Appointment of J. W. Fielding, Department of Health.

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinances of 1924—

- No. 2—Trespass on Commonwealth Lands.
- No. 4—Provisional Government.
- No. 5—Fire Brigades.

Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 58.

War Service Homes Act—Land acquired at Willoughby, New South Wales, (2).

8. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Gregory 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 imposition by the Customs Department of a dumping duty on British wire netting imported into Australia".

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. Gregory moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with Standing Order No. 119, and the Business of the Day was called on.

9. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Spahlinger Treatment of Tuberculosis—Report by Sir Neville Howse.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Sir Littleton Groom (Attorney-General) moved, That the Paper be printed.

Sir Littleton Groom not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

10. CANNED FRUIT BOUNTY BILL.—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 and passed.—Bill read a second time.

Mr. Deputy-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 agreed to.

Clause 5 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 6 and 7 agreed to.

Clause 8 debated—

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment, That the words "the whole or any" (page 3, lines 16–17) be omitted and that the words "on the quantity canned" be inserted after the word "bounty" (line 17).

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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The Committee divided—

Ayes, 23.		Noes, 31.	
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. McNeill	Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Killen
Mr. Charlton	Mr. O'Keefe	Mr. Bamford	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Edward Riley	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Manning
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. E. C. Riley	Mr. Bruce	Mr. Marks
Mr. Forde	Mr. Scullin	Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Lacey	Mr. West	Mr. Austin Chapman	Mr. Pratten
Mr. Lambert	Mr. Yates	Mr. Robert Cook	Sir Granville Ryrie
Mr. Lazzarini		Mr. Corser	Mr. Seabrook
Mr. Mahony	<i>Tellers :</i>	Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Makin		Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Frederick McDonald	Mr. Fenton	Mr. Frederick Francis	Mr. Whitsitt
Mr. McGrath	Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. Josiah Francis	
		Mr. Gardner	<i>Tellers :</i>
		Sir Littleton Groom	Mr. Marr
		Mr. Hill	Mr. Prowse
		Mr. Hurry	

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 9 and 10 agreed to.

Clauses 11 to 15, by leave, taken together, and agreed to.

Schedules agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Sir Neville Howse reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Austin Chapman (Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report.

Mr. Austin Chapman 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.

On the motion of Mr. Austin Chapman, the Bill was read a third time.

11. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered, That the intervening Business be postponed until after the consideration of Notice of Motion No. 1, Government Business:

12. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—TELEGRAPH CABLE—SYDNEY—NEWCASTLE—WEST MAITLAND.—Sir Littleton Groom (Attorney-General), for Mr. Gibson (Postmaster-General), moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for their report, viz.:—Provision of a telegraph cable between Sydney and Newcastle, and Newcastle and West Maitland.

Sir Littleton Groom having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—

Question—put and passed.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at four minutes 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. Bayley, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Hughes*, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Mann, and Mr. Charles McDonald*.

* On Leave.

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