

1923-24.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 58.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 15TH MAY, 1924.

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. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Gabb 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 prohibition of entry into Australia of persons of German parentage and nationality".
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. Gabb 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.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Radio-Broadcasting—Amendment of Wireless Regulations—Report of Conference, held in Sydney, between the Secretary of the Postmaster-General's Department and representatives of Australian Broadcasting Companies, and of the Association for the Development of Wireless in Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS (MR. GIBSON AND MR. HUNTER).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for three months be given to the honorable Member for Corangamite (Mr. Gibson), on the ground of urgent public business, and for one month to the honorable Member for Maranoa (Mr. Hunter), on the ground of ill-health.
Question—put and passed.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—CANNED FRUIT BOUNTY BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—
MR. SPEAKER, *Message No. 49.*
The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to provide for the Payment of Bounties on the Production and Export of Canned Fruit,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.
The Senate, THOS. GIVENS,
Melbourne, 15th May, 1924. President.
6. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Audit Act—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial year 1923-24—Dated 7th May, 1924.
Electoral Act and Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 69.
Public Service Act—Appointment of W. S. Cook, Department of Works and Railways.
7. EXPORT TRADE—OVERSEAS EXCHANGE AND CREDITS.—Mr. Pratten moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the economic and financial position of the Commonwealth, and especially in relation to overseas exchange and credits, the Government should immediately initiate a policy calculated to rectify conditions which are penalizing our export trade and frustrating the beneficial effects intended to be produced by the National policy of Tariff Protection.

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Mr. Pratten not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A—

Suspension of Standing Orders—

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the honorable Member to continue his speech.

Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the Members of the House.

Mr. Pratten continued and concluded his speech.

Mr. Earle Page, addressing the House, and 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 Thursday next.

8. SEAMEN'S BARRACKS, FLINDERS NAVAL DÉPÔT—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work :—

The erection of an additional block to the Seamen's Barracks at Flinders Naval Dépôt, which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and on which the Committee has duly reported to this House the result of its investigations.

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—"the Resolution before the House remain in abeyance until such time as the Public Accounts Committee reports on the Jervis Bay Naval College".

Debate continued.

Amendment ruled out of order on the ground that it was not in accordance with the procedure prescribed by sub-section (6.) of Section 15 of the *Public Works Committee Act*.

Debate continued.

Mr. Edward Riley moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—"the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works regarding Flinders Naval Dépôt, of 1924, be referred back for further consideration so that the matter may be considered in conjunction with the results of an investigation now being conducted by the Public Accounts Committee in regard to the Jervis Bay Naval College."

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put and passed.

Original question—put and passed.

9. SEAT OF GOVERNMENT (ADMINISTRATION) BILL (1924).—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.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3 debated—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 33.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Killen
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Lister
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mann
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Marks
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Austin Chapman	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Corser	Mr. Pratten
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Seabrook
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Frederick Francis	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. William Watson
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Whitsitt
Mr. Gregory	
Sir Littleton Groom	
Mr. Hill	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Hurry	Mr. Manning
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Prowse

Noes, 19.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. O'Keefe
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Charlton	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Forde	Mr. West
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Yates
Mr. Lacey	
Mr. Mahony	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Makin	
Mr. McNeill	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Parker-Moloney	Mr. Jazzarini

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 4 debated and agreed to.

Clause 5—

Mr. Yates moved, as an amendment, That after the word "which" (line 12) the following words be inserted "shall be the Minister of Works and Railways who".

Debate ensued.

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Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 6 debated—

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment, That the word "three" (line 21) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the word "one" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

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

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at thirteen 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. Gibson*, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Hughes*, Mr. Hunter*, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Marr, Mr. Charles McDonald*, and Sir Granville Ryrie.

* On leave.

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