

1923-24.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 80.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 4TH JULY, 1924.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. LATHAM).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Kooyong (Mr. Latham), on the ground of ill-health.
Question—put and passed.
3. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—FINANCE.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the Expenditure out of Revenue, and the Revenue of the Commonwealth, during the financial year 1923-24.
4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, ELSTERNWICK.—Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-21*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for its investigation and report thereon, viz.:—Establishment of an Automatic Telephone Exchange at Elsternwick, Victoria.
Mr. Stewart having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—
Question—put and passed.
5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORK—AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, NORTHCOTE.—Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-21*, the following work be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for its investigation and report thereon, viz.:—Establishment of an Automatic Telephone Exchange at Northcote, Victoria.
Mr. Stewart having laid on the Table plans, &c., in connexion with the proposed work—
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SEAT OF GOVERNMENT (ADMINISTRATION) BILL (1924).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 57.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to make further provision for the Government of the Territory for the Seat of Government*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.The Senate,
Melbourne, 4th July, 1924.

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

7. COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL (1924).—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—*and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Charlton, viz.:*—That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"in order to preserve the Commonwealth Bank as a National Institution and to extend its operations for the purpose of controlling credit and exchange, it is desirable that financial experts, to be fully employed in the service of the Bank, should be appointed to its management, the proposal of the Government to appoint persons representing squatting and commercial interests, who are diametrically opposed to National banking, being designed more in the interests of private financial institutions than of the People's Bank"—

Debate resumed.

F.4713.

4th July, 1924.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.
The House divided—

Ayes, 30.

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Mr. Atkinson | Sir Neville Howse |
| Mr. Bamford | Mr. Hurry |
| Mr. Bayley | Mr. Jackson |
| Mr. Bowden | Sir Elliot Johnson |
| Mr. Bruce | Mr. Lister |
| Mr. Donald Cameron | Mr. Mackay |
| Mr. Malcolm Cameron | Mr. Maxwell |
| Mr. Robert Cook | Mr. Earle Page |
| Mr. Corser | Mr. Thomas Paterson |
| Mr. R. W. Foster | Mr. Pratten |
| Mr. Frederick Francis | Sir Granville Ryrie |
| Mr. Josiah Francis | Mr. Stewart |
| Mr. Roland Green | |
| Mr. Gregory | <i>Tellers :</i> |
| Sir Littleton Groom | Mr. Marr |
| Mr. Hill | Mr. Prowse |

Noes, 22.

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Anstey | Mr. Mathews |
| Mr. Blakeley | Mr. McNeill |
| Mr. Charlton | Mr. Edward Riley |
| Mr. Forde | Mr. E. C. Riley |
| Mr. Gabb | Mr. Scullin |
| Mr. Albert Green | Mr. Watkins |
| Mr. Lacey | Mr. West |
| Mr. Lambert | Mr. Yates |
| Mr. Lazzarini | |
| Mr. Mahony | <i>Tellers :</i> |
| Mr. Makin | Mr. Fenton |
| Mr. W. Maloney | Mr. Parker Moloney |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Anstey moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

8. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
International Labour Conference of the League of Nations held at Geneva—Fourth Session,
October–November, 1922—Recommendation (Emigration, Immigration, and the
Repatriation and Transit of Emigrants).

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Customs Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 83.

9. LIBRARY COMMITTEE—APPOINTMENT OF MR. DUNCAN-HUGHES IN PLACE OF MR. PRATTEN.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Pratten be discharged from attendance on the Library Committee and that, in his place, Mr. Duncan-Hughes be appointed a member of the Committee.

Question—put and passed.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at two minutes past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Sir Austin Chapman*, Mr. Duncan-Hughes, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Gibson*, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hunter,
Mr. Killen, Mr. Latham*, Mr. Mann, Mr. Manning, Mr. Marks, Mr. Charles McDonald*, Mr. McGrath,
Mr. Seabrook, and Mr. Thompson.

* On leave.

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