

1901-2.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 219.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 9TH OCTOBER, 1902.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITIONS.—Mr. Hume Cook presented a Petition from John Robertson, of Moonce Ponds, praying that the House will consider the state of the money laws of the Commonwealth and reform them. Petition received.
A Petition in reference to the proposed construction of certain conservation works for the purpose of diverting the waters of the River Murray to the detriment of navigation, and praying that the Government will take such steps as will safeguard the interests of the several States of the Commonwealth as provided by the Constitution, was presented—
By Mr. Batchelor—
From certain persons.
Petition received and read.
Similar Petitions were presented as follow :—
By Mr. Batchelor—
From certain persons (four Petitions).
By Sir Langdon Bonython—
From certain persons (ten Petitions).
By Mr. Kingston—
From certain persons (eight Petitions).
By Mr. Poynton—
From certain persons (five Petitions).
By Mr. V. L. Solomon—
From certain persons (fifteen Petitions).
Petitions severally received.
3. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Isaacs 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 question of a proposed tour of Federal Members of Parliament over Australia."
Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and five Members having accordingly risen—
Mr. Isaacs moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and negatived.
4. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE—AMENDED STANDING RULES AND ORDERS RECOMMENDED BY.—Mr. Speaker, Chairman, brought up from the Standing Orders Committee Amended Standing Rules and Orders relating to Public Business, also those relating to Private Bills, as agreed to by the Committee and recommended to the House, together with the Proceedings of the Committee. Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
5. PAPER.—The following Paper was laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—
Customs Prosecutions—Return to an Order of the House, dated 12th August, 1902.
6. CLAIMS AGAINST THE COMMONWEALTH BILL.—The Order of the Day for the third reading of this Bill having been read—Mr. Deakin moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a third time.

9th October, 1902.

7. **POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.**—Ordered, That the consideration of the remaining Orders of the Day, Government Business, and the Orders of the Day, General Business, be postponed until after the consideration of Notice of Motion, General Business, No. 1.
8. **CONSTRUCTION OF ESPERANCE-COOLGARDIE RAILWAY.**—Mr. Mahon moved, pursuant to notice, That the construction of a railway between Esperance and Coolgardie, or some other point on the eastern gold-fields of Western Australia, is essential to the "absolute freedom" of Inter-State trade contemplated by the Constitution.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Deakin addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

9. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PARLIAMENTARY ALLOWANCES BILL.**—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 58.

The Senate has agreed to the Bill returned herewith, intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to the Allowance to Members of each House of the Parliament of the Commonwealth*," with the amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, with which amendment the Senate desires the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

R. C. BAKER,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 9th October, 1902.

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE.

Clause 2, line 18, after "allowance" omit remainder of clause, insert "under section forty-eight of the Constitution to each Member of the House of Representatives shall be reckoned in the case of a Member elected after the passing of this Act from the day of his election."

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration forthwith in Committee of the whole House.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Salmon reported that the Committee had agreed to the amendment made by the Senate.

On the motion of Mr. Deakin the House adopted the Report.

10. **PAPER.**—Mr. Deakin presented, by command of His Excellency the Acting Governor-General—

S.S. *Drayton Grange*—Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire in to and report upon the arrangements made for the transport of troops returning from service in South Africa in the *Drayton Grange*; and to inquire into and report upon the circumstances under which trooper Harold Burkitt, 2nd Australian Commonwealth Horse, who was in a serious condition of health, was not landed at Adelaide from the s.s. *Norfolk*.

Ordered to lie on the Table and to be printed.

11. **ALTERATION OF TIME OF NEXT MEETING.**—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until half-past two o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

12. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at ten minutes past eight o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow, at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—The Prime Minister* (the Right Honorable Sir Edmund Barton, P.C., G.C.M.G.), the Minister of Defence* (the Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G.), the Honorable Sir Philip Fysh, K.C.M.G., the Right Honorable Sir Edward Braddon, P.C., K.C.M.G.,* Messrs. Cameron, Chapman,* Conroy, Joseph Cook, Cruickshank, Fisher,* Glynn, Harper,* Hartnoll, Hughes, F. E. McLean, Sir William McMillan, K.C.M.G., Mr. Page, the Right Honorable G. H. Reid, P.C., Messrs. Sawers, Bruce Smith,* Watkins, Wilks, and Willis.

* On leave.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.