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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 29.

PROCEEDINGS VOTES AND

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, 21st JULY, 1903.

- 1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Petitions.—Mr. R. Edwards presented a Petition from certain persons styling themselves respectively President and Secretary of the Brisbane Chamber of Commerce, in reference to the case of Goldring r. the Collector of Customs, New South Wales, praying that the House will forthwith adopt measures to bring the Minister of Customs and his officers under the immediate jurisdiction of some court of law wherein any citizen may claim those rights which have existed from time immemorial, and, further, that justice may be done to all.

Petition received and read.

Mr. R. Edwards presented a similar Petition from certain persons styling themselves respectively President and Secretary of the Brisbane Chamber of Manufactures.

And, after debate-

Petition received.

3. Paper.—Sir Edmund Barton presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General— Federal Capital-Report of the Royal Commission on Sites for the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth, with Appendices and Plans.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

4. Message from the Senate. -- Metric System of Weights and Measures. -- Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:-

Message No. 8.

Mr. Speaker.

The Senate having taken into consideration Message No. 4 of the House of Representatives, requesting the concurrence of the Senate in certain resolutions transmitted therewith, in reference to the Metric System of Weights and Measures, acquaints the House of Representatives that it concurs in such resolutions.

R. C. BAKER,

President.

The Senate, Melbourne, 17th July, 1903.

5. Leave of Absence to Member (Mr. F. E. McLean).-Mr. Sydney Smith moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be granted to the honorable Member for Lang (Mr. F. E. McLean).

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

- 6. Paper.—Sir Edmund Barton presented, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament—
 - Electoral Act 1902—Report of the Commissioner (Mr. G. C. Morrison) appointed to distribute the State of Victoria into Divisions, together with a Map showing the names and boundaries of each proposed Division.
- 7. ORDER OF BUSINESS ON FRIDAYS .- Sir Edmund Barton moved, pursuant to notice, That, on Friday, 24th instant, and on every following Friday, until otherwise ordered, Government business shall take precedence of General business.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

21st July, 1903.

8. NAVAL AGREEMENT BILL. -The Order of the Day for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time, and on the following amendment, viz.:—That the word "now" be omitted from, and that the words "this day six months" be added to, the question, having been read-

Debate resumed.

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

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

9. Adjournment.—Sir Edmund Barton moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

Members Present.—All Members were present except—Mr. Batchelor, Sir Langdon Bonython, Mr. G. B. Edwards, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Harper, Sir William Lyne, Mr. Macdonald-Paterson, Mr. McCay, Mr. F. E. McLean*, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Sawers, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. V. L. Solomon, and Mr. Watkins. * On leave.

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