
THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 23.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 4TH MARCH, 1926.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.
2. ABSENCE OF MR. SPEAKER.—The Clerk, at the Table, having informed the House that Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) was unavoidably absent, the Chairman of Committees (Mr. Bayley) took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, and read Prayers.
3. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—FOURTH GENERAL REPORT.—Mr. Prowse, for the Chairman, brought up the Fourth General Report of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, and moved, That it be printed.
Question—put and passed.
4. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
New Guinea Act—Ordinance of 1926—No. 5—Advisory Council.
5. WAYS AND MEANS [CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed on the first Item (numbered 3) of the Customs Tariff (*see* pages 72 to 87). Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Robert Cook reported accordingly.

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

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—ELECTORAL ACT—JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 16.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 12 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith, viz. :—

- (1) That the Senate agrees to the appointment of a Joint Committee to inquire into the law and procedure in relation to—
 - (a) enrolment on the Commonwealth Electoral Rolls ;
 - (b) postal voting at Commonwealth Elections ;
 - (c) signed articles ;
 - (d) polling facilities ;
 - (e) donations or gifts by Members or candidates ;
 and to report on any additional safeguards necessary to prevent impersonation and duplicate voting.
- (2) That Senators Payne, Plain, Graham, and Thompson be appointed to serve on such Committee with Members of the House of Representatives.
- (3) That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers, and records, to move from place to place, and to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament.
- (4) That two Members shall be the quorum of Senators present to constitute a sitting of such Committee.
- (5) That the time and place of the first meeting of the Committee shall be 10 o'clock a.m. on Thursday, 18th March, in the Senate Committee Room.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 4th March, 1926.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

4th March, 1926.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty 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. Aubrey Abbott, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Malcolm Cameron, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Grosvenor Francis, Mr. Josiah Francis, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Roland Green, Sir Littleton Groom, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini*, Mr. Ley, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Manning, Mr. Marks, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Nott, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Thomas Paterson, Mr. Rodgers, Sir Granville Ryrie, and Mr. Seabrook.

* On leave.

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