

1926-27.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

No. 85.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 2ND MARCH, 1927.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., according to the terms of the Resolution of the 13th August last.—
Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. RESIGNATION OF MEMBER AND ISSUE OF AND RETURN TO WRIT (DALLEY DIVISION).—Mr. Speaker announced that during the adjournment he had received from Mr. W. G. Mahony a letter, dated 18th January, 1927, resigning his seat as Member for the Electoral Division of Dalley, and informed the House that he had, on the 1st February last, issued a Writ for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Dalley, in the State of New South Wales, and that he had received a Return to such Writ, and by the endorsement thereon it appeared that Edward Granville Theodore had been elected in pursuance of the said Writ.
3. MEMBER SWORN.—The Honorable Edward Granville Theodore was introduced, and made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
4. DEATH OF THE HONORABLE WILLIAM GUTHRIE SPENCE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That this House expresses its deep regret at the death of the Honorable William Guthrie Spence, who was for many years a Member of the House of Representatives and for some time Postmaster-General of the Commonwealth, and extends its sympathy to the wife and family of the deceased gentleman.
And Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition) having seconded the motion, and all Members present having risen in silence—
Question—passed.
Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to transmit to Mrs. Spence the foregoing Resolution, and a copy of the speeches delivered thereon.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

STONEHAVEN,
Governor-General.

Message No. 54.

A Bill intituled "*Judiciary Act 1926*," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Brisbane,

11th August, 1926.

2nd March, 1927.

6. MESSAGES FROM THE DEPUTY OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General's Deputy were received, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker:—

SOMERS,
Deputy of the Governor-General.

Message No. 55.

Bills intituled:—

“ *Canned Fruits Export Control Act 1926* ”
 “ *Canned Fruits Export Charges Act 1926* ”
 “ *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Appropriation Act 1926* ”
 “ *War Pensions Appropriation Act 1926* ”
 “ *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act 1926* ”
 “ *Customs Tariff (No. 2) 1926* ”
 “ *Federal Aid Roads Act 1926* ”

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy of the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Acts.

Melbourne,
16th August, 1926.

SOMERS,
Deputy of the Governor-General.

Message No. 56.

Bills intituled:—

“ *War Service Homes Act 1926* ”
 “ *Maternity Allowance Act 1926* ”
 “ *Income Tax Act 1926* ”
 “ *Land Tax Assessment Act 1926* ”
 “ *Cotton Bounty Act 1926* ”
 “ *Appropriation Act 1926-27* ”

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy of the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Acts.

Melbourne,
23rd August, 1926.

7. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—RESIGNATION OF MEMBER.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received a letter from Mr. Gregory, resigning his position as a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.

8. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—REPORT.—Mr. Mackay, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, brought up the following Report from the Committee—

Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed Installation of Mail-Handling Appliances, General Post Office, Sydney.

Ordered to be printed.

9. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—

Audit Act—Finance 1925-26—The Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure during the year ended 30th June, 1926, accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.

Ordered to be printed.

Commonwealth Bank Act—Commonwealth Bank of Australia—Aggregate Balance-sheet at 30th June, 1926, and Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Note Issue Department at 30th June, 1926; together with the Auditor-General's Reports thereon.

The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

Electoral—Referendums—Statistical Returns in relation to the submission to the Electors of Proposed Laws for the alteration of the Constitution, entitled (1) “ *Constitution Alteration (Industry and Commerce) 1926* ”; (2) “ *Constitution Alteration (Essential Services) 1926* ”; together with Summaries of Referendums, 1906-1926.

National Insurance—

Unemployment—Second Progress Report of the Royal Commission.
 Destitute Allowances—Third Progress Report of the Royal Commission.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

Canberra—Report of Operations of Federal Capital Commission for Quarter ended—
 30th June, 1926.
 30th September, 1926.
 31st December, 1926.

2nd March, 1927.

- International Labour Organization of the League of Nations—
 Eighth Session, held at Geneva, 26th May to 5th June, 1926—Draft Convention and Recommendation adopted by the Conference.
 Ninth Session, held at Geneva, 7th to 24th June, 1926—Draft Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the Conference.
- League of Nations—Slavery Convention, signed at Geneva, 25th September, 1926.
- Papuan Oilfields—Reports from Anglo-Persian Oil Company for—
 June, 1926.
 July, 1926.
 August, 1926.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

- National Debt Sinking Fund Act—National Debt Commission—Third Annual Report, for year ended 30th June, 1926.
- Public Service Act—Third Report on the Commonwealth Public Service by the Board of Commissioners, dated 30th December, 1926.
- Railways—Report, with Appendices, on Commonwealth Railways, 1925-26.
- River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for year 1925-26.

Severally ordered to be printed.

- Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator—
 No. 28 of 1926—Australian Workers' Union, and Amalgamated Postal Workers' Union of Australia.
 No. 29 of 1926—Commonwealth Public Service Clerical Association.
- Audit Act—
 London Account Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 186.
 Naval Account Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 189.
 Transfers of amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—
 Financial Year, 1925-26—
 Dated 1st December, 1926.
 Dated 17th December, 1926.
 Financial Year, 1926-27—
 Dated 25th January, 1927.
- Australian Imperial Force Canteens Funds Act—Auditor-General's Report on the accounts of the Trustees for the year 1925-26.
- Beer Excise Act—Beer Excise Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 184.
- Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 166.
- Cotton Bounty Act—Cotton Bounty (Yarn) Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 151.
- Customs Act—
 Customs Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 203.
 Customs (Cinematograph Films) Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 119.
 Proclamations prohibiting the Exportation (except under certain conditions) of—
 Cinematograph Films (dated 9th September, 1926).
 Opium, &c. (dated 20th November, 1926).
- Deceased Soldiers' Estates Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 208.
- Defence Act—
 Civilian Staff Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 209.
 Financial and Allowance Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 211.
 Munitions Supply Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 210.
 Royal Military College Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 179.
 Regulations Amended—
 Statutory Rules 1926, Nos. 120, 121, 139, 143, 144, 145, 148, 153, 162, 167, 168, 174.
 Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 5, 6, 7.
 Royal Military College—Report for year 1925-26.
- Defence Retirement Act—Regulations Repealed—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 161.
- Distillation Act—Distillation Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 206.
- Electoral Act and Referendum (Constitution Alteration) Act—
 Electoral and Referendum Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 201.
 Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, Nos. 113, 117.
- Electoral Act (Commonwealth) and Electoral Act (State of Victoria)—Amendment to Regulations relating to Joint Electoral Rolls in the State of Victoria—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 13.
- Entertainments Tax Assessment Act—Entertainments Tax Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 187.
- Export Guarantee Act—Return showing Assistance granted up to—
 30th September, 1926.
 31st December, 1926.

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- High Court Procedure Act—Rules of Court—Rule *re* Sittings—Dated 15th November, 1926.
 Income Tax Assessment Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 191.
 Inscribed Stock Act—Regulations Amended—
 Statutory Rules 1926, No. 165.
 Statutory Rules 1927, No. 4.
- Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act—Invalid and Old-age Pensions Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 178.
- Iron and Steel Products Bounty Act—Statement setting out particulars relating to approval given for the use of imported materials in the manufacture of products (Traction Engines) upon which bounty may be paid.
- Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at—
 Melbourne, Victoria—For Postal purposes.
 Onslow, Western Australia—For Customs purposes.
 Perenjori, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Pithara, Western Australia—For Postal purposes.
 Sandy Bay, Tasmania—For Postal purposes.
 Sydenham, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
 Toowoomba, Queensland—For Defence purposes.
 Urayarra, Federal Capital Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.
 Willoughby, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.
 Woodside, South Australia—For Defence purposes.
 Yenda, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
- Maternity Allowance Act—Maternity Allowance Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 172.
- Meteorology Act—Meteorological Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 204.
- Nationality Act—Return for 1926.
- Naval Defence Act—
 Naval College Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 181.
 Naval Establishments Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 197.
 Naval Financial Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 198.
 Naval Forces Regulations—Statutory Rules 196, No. 196.
 Naval Reserve Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 199.
 Naval Reserve (Seagoing) Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 207.
 Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, Nos. 112, 122, 123, 124, 126, 127, 154, 173, 180, 195.
- New Guinea Act—
 Ordinances of 1926—
 No. 18—Supply (No. 1) 1926–27.
 No. 19—Supply (No. 2) 1926–27.
 No. 20—Appropriation (No. 2) 1925–26.
 No. 21—Mining.
 No. 22—Expropriation (No. 2).
 No. 23—Supply (No. 3) 1926–27.
 No. 24—Uncontrolled Areas.
 No. 25—Mining (No. 2).
 No. 26—Supply (No. 4) 1926–27.
 No. 27—Printers and Newspapers.
 Ordinances of 1927—
 No. 1—Land.
 No. 2—Police Force.
 No. 3—Claims by and against the Administration.
 No. 4—Appropriation (1926–27).
 No. 5—Mining.
- Norfolk Island Act—Ordinances of 1926—
 No. 6—Executive Council.
 No. 7—Justices Validation.
- Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—
 Crown Lands Ordinance—Regulations.
 Ordinances of 1926—
 No. 21—Public Service (No. 2).
 No. 22—Bank Holidays.
 No. 23—Birds Protection (No. 2).
 No. 24—Jury.
 Ordinance of 1927—No. 1—Crown Lands.
 Statement and Plan relative to resumption of an area reserved for the use and benefit of the inhabitants of the Town of Darwin.
- Northern Territory Representation Act and Commonwealth Electoral Act—
 Northern Territory Electoral Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 200.
 Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 170.
- Papua and New Guinea Bounties Act—Papua and New Guinea Bounties Regulations—
 Statutory Rules 1926, No. 183.

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Papua Act—

Infirm and Destitute Natives Account—Statement of Transactions of Trustees, 1925-26.

Ordinances of 1926—

No. 3—Maintenance Orders (Facilities for Enforcement).

No. 4—Companies.

No. 5—Samarai Electric Light and Power.

No. 6—Appropriation 1926-27.

No. 7—Appropriation (No. 1) 1925-26.

No. 8—Mineral Oil and Coal.

No. 9—Superannuation.

No. 10—Land.

Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1926, Nos. 115, 116, 141, 142, 146, 150, 157.

Statutory Rules 1927, No. 9.

Public Service Act—

List of Permanent Officers of the Commonwealth Service on 30th June, 1926.

Appointments—Department of—

Attorney-General—

T. D. Leaper and G. F. Thomas.

Health—

A. B. Lilley.

E. MacKinnon.

T. R. Pearce.

C. Stanley and D. D. Coutts.

Home and Territories—

A. J. Higgs.

Postmaster-General's Department—

C. V. C. Chandler.

Works and Railways—

G. A. Rittinger, G. Hastie, L. M. Jordan, P. R. Fray, J. A. Grant, W. W. E. Gray, and E. Smith.

G. A. Rittinger (Re-appointment).

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, Nos. 105, 108, 110, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 136, 137, 138, 147, 158, 160, 194.

Railways Act—By-laws Nos. 40, 41, 42.

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—

Ordinances of 1926—

No. 11—Church of England Lands.

No. 12—Leases.

No. 13—Hawkers.

No. 14—Lotteries and Art Unions.^a

No. 15—Motor Traffic.

No. 16—Provisional Government (No. [2]).

No. 17—Gun Licence.

No. 18—City Area Leases (No. 3).

No. 19—Industrial Board (No. 2).

No. 20—Trespass on Commonwealth Lands.

No. 21—Billiard Saloon.

No. 22—Trading Hours.

Ordinance of 1927—No. 1—Provisional Government.

Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Order for variation of the plan of lay-out of the City of Canberra and its environs, dated 13th December, 1926.

Science and Industry Research Act—Science and Industry Research Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 125.

Spirits Act—Spirits Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 202.

Superannuation Act—Superannuation Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 188.

Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, Nos. 140, 164, 192, 193.

War Precautions Act Repeal Act—Alien Shareholders Regulations—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 190.

War Service Homes Act—

Land acquired in New South Wales, at—Keiraville, Neutral Bay, South Randwick. Amendment to an arrangement between the War Service Homes Commissioner and the State of Western Australia, dated 17th May, 1926.

Wireless Telegraphy Act—Regulations Amended—

Statutory Rules 1926, No. 114.

Statutory Rules 1927, No. 3.

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10. STATES GRANTS BILL.—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—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Scullin 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.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Albert Green, Sir Neville Howse, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini,
Mr. McGrath, Mr. Parker Moloney, and Mr. Nelson.

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