

1929-30-31.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 132.

FRIDAY, 24TH APRIL, 1931.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Norman J. O. Makin) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
2. PRIVILEGE.—Mr. Bayley raised a question of Privilege, and moved, That the expulsion of a member of the press from the press gallery or precincts of the House is a question for the House to decide, and is not a matter for decision by the Speaker, acting either on his own authority or at the suggestion of the Ministry.

Debate ensued.

Member named.—Mr. Speaker named the honorable Member for Wide Bay (Mr. Bernard Corser), for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) having addressed the House, and Mr. Bernard Corser having apologized to the Chair, the matter was not further proceeded with.

Debate continued.

Member named.—Mr. Speaker named the honorable Member for Batman (Mr. Brennan), for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Mr. Scullin having addressed the House, and Mr. Brennan having apologized to the Chair, the matter was not further proceeded with.

Debate continued.

Closure.—Mr. Ward moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 24.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Long
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. McNeill
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Forde	Mr. Tully
Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Albert Green	
Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Keane	Mr. Lacey
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Watkins

Noes, 22.

Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Marr
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Price
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Guy	
Mr. Hill	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Latham	
Mr. Lyons	Mr. Bayley
Mr. Mackay	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Marks	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the question—That the motion be agreed to—being accordingly put—

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 23.

Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Marr
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Price
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Guy	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Hill	
Mr. Latham	
Mr. Lyons	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Mackay	Mr. Bayley
Mr. Marks	Mr. Josiah Francis

Noes, 23.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Martens
Mr. Beasley	Mr. McNeill
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Forde	Mr. Tully
Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Albert Green	
Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Keane	Mr. Lacey
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Long	

The numbers for the "Ayes" and the "Noes" being equal, Mr. Speaker gave his casting vote with the "Noes".

And so it was negatived.

24th April, 1931.

3. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister), moved, by leave, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable Questions upon Notice to be answered.
Question—put and passed.
4. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—TASMANIAN MAIL SERVICE.—Mr. Albert Green (Postmaster-General), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the Tasmanian Mail Service.
5. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Papua Act—Ordinance of 1930—No. 9—Supplementary Appropriation (No. 1), 1929–30.
6. COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL (1931).—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 3 debated and agreed to.

Clause 4—

On the motion of Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister), the following amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 2, lines 6–19, omit proposed new section 60HA, insert the following new section :—

“ 60HA.—(1.) Any sum payable, in the Commonwealth or in any Territory under the control of the Commonwealth, under any contract or agreement, whether made before or after the commencement of this section, may be paid in Australian notes or Treasury Notes issued under any other Act, notwithstanding any provision in the contract or agreement requiring payment in any other currency. Amounts due under contracts may be paid in Australian notes or Treasury Notes.

(2.) Any provision in any contract or agreement, under which any sum is payable in the Commonwealth or in any Territory under the control of the Commonwealth, which requires the payment of any further or additional amount by reason of the rate of exchange existing with any other country shall, subject to this section, be void and of no effect.

(3.) A further or additional amount of which payment is required shall be deemed to be required by reason of the rate of exchange existing with another country if in the opinion of any Court of competent jurisdiction it is in fact required for that reason, notwithstanding that in the contract or agreement that reason is not expressed or some other reason is expressed.

(4.) The Governor-General may, by notice published in the *Gazette*, exempt from the operation of sub-section (2.) of this section contracts and agreements, of such class as is specified in the notice, whether made before or after the date of publication of the notice.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 agreed to.

Clause 6—

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Mackay reported accordingly.

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

7. CORRECTION OF ERROR IN DIVISION LIST.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that in the first Division to-day the Tellers for the Ayes inadvertently made an error. The correct number of the Ayes was 24 instead of 23, as reported. He would direct the Clerk to correct the record accordingly.
8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eight minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Coleman, Mr. Crouch, Mr. Culley, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Gibbons, Mr. Gullett, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hunter, Mr. James, Mr. Jones, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lewis, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Mathews*, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Edward Riley, Mr. E. C. Riley, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Theodore, Mr. White, and Mr. Yates.

* On leave.

E. W. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.