

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 160.

TUESDAY, 23RD JUNE, 1931.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Norman J. O. Makin) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.

2. 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 :—

ISAAC A. ISAACS,  
Governor-General.

Message No. 71.

A Proposed Law intituled "*Commonwealth Bank Act 1931*," 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 Law.

Government House,  
Canberra, 19th June, 1931.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—NORTHERN TERRITORY (ADMINISTRATION) BILL (1931).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 118.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the Northern Territory (Administration) Act 1901-1931*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendment indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendment the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 18th June, 1931.

WALTER KINGSMILL,  
President.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendment made by the Senate, which is as follows :—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENT MADE BY THE SENATE.

Page 2, after clause 4 insert the following new clause :—

5. Section eighteen of the *Northern Territory (Administration) Act 1910-1926*, as amended by the *Northern Territory (Administration) Act 1931*, is repealed and the following section inserted in its stead :—

"18.—(1.) The Supreme Court of North Australia shall continue in the Continuance of Courts.  
Territory as the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory and the Supreme Court of  
Central Australia is hereby abolished.

23rd June, 1931.

“(2.) Any action or legal proceeding pending, at the date of commencement of this Act, in the Supreme Court of North Australia or the Supreme Court of Central Australia, shall, by virtue of this section, be transferred to the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory.

“(3.) Until other provision is made by or under any law of the Commonwealth—

(a) all other Courts of Justice in existence in North Australia or Central Australia shall continue in the Territory as Courts of the Territory; and

(b) the jurisdiction, practice and procedure of any Court which continues in pursuance of this section in the Territory shall continue as the jurisdiction, practice and procedure of that Court.”

On the motion of Mr. Blakeley (Minister for Home Affairs), the Amendment was agreed to. Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed: Mr. McGrath reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Blakeley, the House adopted the Report.

4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
 Conciliation and Arbitration Act—Rules of Court Amended—Statutory Rules 1931, No. 71.  
 Lands Acquisition Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1931, No. 62.  
 Northern Australia Act—  
 Central Australia—Ordinance of 1931—No. 5—Income Tax.  
 North Australia—Ordinance of 1931—No. 8—Income Tax.  
 Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—Ordinances of 1931—  
 No. 1—Encouragement of Primary Production.  
 No. 2—Crown Lands.  
 No. 3—Interpretation.  
 Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1931, Nos. 61, 70.  
 Sales Tax Assessment Acts (Nos. 1 to 9)—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1931, No. 63.
5. DEBT CONVERSION AGREEMENT 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. Crouch addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—  
 Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.  
 Mr. Crouch continued and concluded his speech.  
 Debate continued.  
 Mr. Roland Green addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—  
 Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.  
 Mr. Roland Green continued and concluded his speech.  
 Debate continued.  
 Mr. Curtin 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.
6. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
 Debate ensued.  
 Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at one minute to eleven 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. Eldridge, Mr. Frost, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Killen, Mr. Latham, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Marks, Mr. Marr, Mr. Mathews\*, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Parkhill, and Mr. Ward.

\* On leave.

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