

1937-38.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 27.

THURSDAY, 9TH JUNE, 1938.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. J. Bell) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Administrator—Northern Territory—Recommendations (December, 1937) of policy in Native Affairs, by Dr. Donald Thompson.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments of P. E. Disney and W. F. Jones, Department of the Interior.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at—
Adelong, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.
Ararat, Victoria—For Defence purposes.
Ceduna, South Australia (2)—For Defence purposes.
3. NATIONAL HEALTH AND PENSIONS INSURANCE BILL 1938.—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 19 debated—

Mr. James proposing to move, as an amendment, That all words after "Act" (line 31) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the words "for all purposes of this Act" in place thereof—
Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman (Mr. Prowse) ruled that such an amendment would extend the benefits and, therefore, would increase the appropriation and would not be in order.

Mr. James moved, That the clause be postponed.

Debate continued.

Question—That the clause be postponed—put and passed.

Clause 20 debated and agreed to.

Clause 21—

Mr. Makin proposing to move, as an amendment, That the following sub-clause be added :—

"(3.) For all purposes of this Act the contributions of an insured person shall be deemed to have been paid each week during his free insurance period."—

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman ruled that such an amendment would not be in order as it would give certain persons benefits to which they would otherwise not be entitled, and this would necessitate additional expenditure from the Consolidated Revenue.

Dissent from Chairman's Ruling.—Mr. Blackburn having handed in, in writing, an objection to the Ruling of the Chairman, moved, That the Ruling be dissented from.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Prowse, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 24.

Mr. Baker	Mr. Makin
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Martens
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Clark	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Forde	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Green	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. James	Mr. Gander
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. George Lawson

Noes, 29.

Mr. Anthony	Mr. McCall
Mr. Badman	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Paterson
Mr. Casey	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Collins	Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Corser	Mr. Spender
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Street
Mr. Holt	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Thorby
Mr. Jennings	
Mr. Jolly	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lane	Mr. Gardner
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Noek
Sir Charles Marr	

And so it was negatived.

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Mr. Makin moved, That the clause be postponed.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the clause be postponed—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Prowse, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 24.		Noes, 32.	
Mr. Baker	Mr. Martens	Mr. Anthony	Mr. Lyons
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Badman	Sir Charles Marr
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Cameron	Mr. McCall
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Casey	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear	Mr. Collins	Mr. Paterson
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Sheehan	Mr. Corser	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward	Mr. Fadden	Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Spender
Mr. Green	Mr. Wilson	Mr. Francis	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Holloway		Mr. Gregory	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Street
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander	Mr. Holt	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Makin	Mr. George Lawson	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Thorby
		Mr. Jennings	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Jolly	Mr. Gardner
		Mr. Lane	Mr. Nock
		Mr. John Lawson	

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 22 agreed to.

Clause 23—

Mr. Barnard moved, That the clause be postponed.

Debate ensued.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

FRIDAY, 10TH JUNE, 1938.

Debate continued.

Question—That the clause be postponed—put and negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Suspension of Sitting.—At twenty-nine minutes to one o'clock in the morning, the Chairman left the Chair.

Resumption of Sitting.—At half-past ten o'clock a.m., the Chairman resumed the Chair.

Clause 24—

On the motion of Mr. Casey (Treasurer), the following amendments were made, after debate:—

Page 7, line 40, after "not" insert "while that certificate remains in force,".

Page 8, line 6, after "Act" insert "while that certificate remains in force,".

Page 8, line 22, after "retires" insert "while the certificate remains in force,".

Page 8, line 36, after "shall" insert "while that certificate remains in force,".

Debate continued.

Mr. Spender moved, as a further amendment, That the following sub-clause be added:—

"(7.) The Commission may issue a certificate in the prescribed form to a contributor who makes an application for exemption and establishes to the satisfaction of the Commission that he is a bona fide adherent to and member of a duly constituted Branch of the Christian Science Church or Society and thereupon during the currency of the said certificate the provisions of this Act relating to medical benefit shall not apply to such contributor and the amount of contribution payable by such contributor shall be reduced by such amount as the Commission shall from time to time determine:

Provided that such certificate may at any time be cancelled by the Commission if the Commission is satisfied that the holder thereof is not such an adherent to and member of such Church or Society and shall be so cancelled at the request of the holder thereof."

Point of Order.—Mr. Holt raised a Point of Order that the amendment would increase the appropriation required, and, therefore, was not in order.

Temporary Chairman's Ruling.—The Temporary Chairman (Mr. John Lawson) ruled that the amendment was in order.

Debate continued.

Member named.—The Chairman named the honorable Member for Hunter (Mr. James) for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Mr. James having expressed his regret, the matter was not further proceeded with.

Debate continued.

Question—That the sub-clause proposed to be added be so added—put.

9th & 10th June, 1938.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Prowse, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 26.		Noes, 29.	
Mr. Baker	Mr. Maloney	Mr. Anthony	Mr. McCall
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Martens	Mr. Badman	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. Cameron	Mr. Paterson
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Casey	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Collins	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Forde	Mr. Sheehan	Mr. Corser	Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Francis	Mr. Spender	Mr. Fadden	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward	Mr. Fairbairn	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Gregory	Mr. Street
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Wilson	Sir Henry Gullett	Mr. Thompson
Mr. James		Mr. Holt	Mr. Thorby
Mr. Jolly	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Hutchinson	
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gander	Mr. Jennings	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Makin	Mr. George Lawson	Mr. Lane	Mr. Gardner
		Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Nock
		Sir Charles Marr	

And so it was negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 25—

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORT.—Mr. Francis, 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 erection of a Community Hospital at Canberra, Federal Capital Territory.

Ordered to be printed.

5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Ordinances of 1938—

No. 20—Canberra Community Hospital.

No. 21—City Area Leases.

No. 22—Hospital Tax.

6. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Casey (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fifteen minutes to five 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. Hughes, Mr. Menzies*, Sir Earle Page*, Mr. Scully, and Mr. White*.

* On leave.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.