

1937-38-39.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 85.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH MAY, 1939.

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. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Thorby rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The acceptance of a tender to erect additions to the General Post Office, Sydney, at a cost of £410,776, such tender not being the lowest tender received".  
Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—  
Mr. Thorby moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr. Harrison (Postmaster-General) 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.  
Debate continued.  
The debate having been continued for two hours, it was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 257B.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Customs Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1939, No. 37.  
Excise Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1939, No. 39.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the Orders of the Day, Government Business, be postponed until after the consideration of Notice of Motion No. 1, Government Business.
5. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business at the next sitting.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put.  
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Bell, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 30.

Mr. Badman	Mr. McCall
Mr. Casey	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Collins	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Corser	Mr. Paterson
Mr. Francis	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Price
Sir Henry Gullett	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Holt	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Hunter	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Street
Mr. Jennings	Mr. Thorby
Mr. Jolly	
Mr. Lane	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Gardner
Sir Charles Marr	Mr. Nock

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Mr. Anthony	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Scully
Mr. Clark	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Ward
Mr. Forde	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Frost	Mr. White
Mr. Green	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Lazzarini	
Mr. Mahoney	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. McHugh	Mr. Gander
Mr. Mulcahy	Mr. George Lawson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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6. SUPPLY AND DEVELOPMENT BILL 1939.—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 5—

Debate resumed on the amendment moved by Mr. White, viz. :—That the word “ profits ” (page 2, line 30) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the words “ net profit to six per centum ” in place thereof.

Mr. Francis not having concluded his speech at the termination of the first period allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—

Mr. Price moved, That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.

*Chairman's Ruling.*—The Chairman (Mr. Prowse) ruled that such a motion would not be in order as the practice of the Committee was that an honorable Member could not proceed immediately with his second speech if another Member rose, and that, until the two periods for speaking allowed by Standing Order No. 257B had been exhausted, a motion for an extension of time could not be accepted.

Debate continued.

Amendment withdrawn, by leave.

Debate continued.

Mr. McCall moved, as an amendment, That the word “ profits ” (page 2, line 30) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the words “ net profit to six per centum on the value of the actual assets employed in the earning of such profit ” in place thereof.

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.

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 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. Barnard, Mr. Blain, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Fairbairn, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Makin, Mr. Maloney, Mr. Martens, Sir Earle Page, and Mr. Thompson.

F. C. GREEN,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*