

1940-41-42.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 65.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 1942.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable W. M. Nairn) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Hon. D. G. Sullivan, M.P., Minister for Supply and Munitions, and the Rt. Hon. J. G. Coates, M.P., member of the War Cabinet, of New Zealand, were within the precincts. The distinguished visitors thereupon, with the concurrence of honorable Members, were provided with seats on the floor of the House.
3. NATIONAL SECURITY (ECONOMIC ORGANIZATION) REGULATIONS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) presented the following Paper, pursuant to Statute :—
National Security Act—National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations—Statutory Rules 1942, No. 76—
and, by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with regard to a proposal that a Committee of Members of the Parliament should be appointed to consider the effect of the Regulations.
Mr. Fadden (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a Statement in connexion with the proposal.
4. AIR RAIDS ON PORT MORESBY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Air), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to recent air raids on Port Moresby.
5. COAL-MINING INDUSTRY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Beasley (Minister for Supply and Development), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement in reference to the settlement of disputes in the Coal-mining Industry and the exercise of powers under the National Security (Coal Control) Regulations.
6. MINISTERIAL DUTIES.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) announced that Mr. Holloway (Minister for Social Services and Minister for Health) would act as Assistant Minister for Munitions in lieu of Senator Cameron (Minister for Aircraft Production).
7. ASSISTANCE TO PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) announced that the Right Honorable Member for Yarra (Mr. Scullin) had agreed to act for and with the Prime Minister and Minister for Defence Co-ordination in a series of capacities.
8. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Thursday, 5th March, at three o'clock p.m.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
9. PAPERS.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—
Audit Act—Finance—Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for year 1940-41, accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.
Ordered to be printed.
The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Northern Territory—Report on Administration for year 1940-41.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Cable and Wire Bounty Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1941, No. 257.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired—For Defence purposes—Bacchus Marsh, Victoria.
War Service Homes Act—Report of War Service Homes Commission for year 1940-41, together with statements and balance-sheet.

25th February, 1942.

10. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. Evatt (Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement in relation to international affairs and the progress of the war, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—

International Affairs—Ministerial Statement, 25th February, 1942—

and moved, That the Paper be printed.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Cameron moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and negatived.

Debate continued.

Mr. Anthony 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. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-nine minutes past six o'clock p.m., adjourned until Thursday, 5th March, at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting), except Mr. Barnard, Sir George Bell, Mr. Blain, Mr. Coles, Mr. McCall, Sir Earle Page, Sir Frederick Stewart, and Mr. White.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.