

1943-44.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 28.

WEDNESDAY, 15TH MARCH, 1944.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION—PUBLICITY SERVICES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Calwell (Minister for Information), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the use made of the overseas publicity services of the Department of Information for making known the part played in the war by Australia's fighting forces.
3. CENSORSHIP INQUIRY—CONSTITUTION OF COMMITTEE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House that the Committee convened to inquire into and make recommendations to the Government with respect to Censorship would consist of Mr. Forde (Chairman), Mr. Evatt, Senator Ashley, Mr. Calwell, Mr. Abbott, Mr. Cameron and Senator Foll.
4. ROAD TRANSPORT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Ward (Minister for Transport), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the conditions regulating the use of commercial motor vehicles for long distance haulages.
5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Customs Act—Proclamation prohibiting the exportation (except under certain conditions) of goods—No. 592.
 National Security Act—National Security (Universities Commission) Regulations—Order—Declaration of approved institutions.
6. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.
7. COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION BILL 1944.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act 1930*.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr. Chifley then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
 Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
 Mr. Chifley moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Mr. Holt 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.
8. CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION) BILL 1944.—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—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Menzies, viz. :—That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following in place thereof :—*
 “(1) the reinstatement and advancement of those who have been members of the Fighting Services of the Commonwealth in any war and the advancement of the dependants of those members who have died or been disabled as the consequence of such war, the

15th March, 1944.

- reinstatement and rehabilitation of those other persons, who by reason of war conditions have been displaced from their normal peace-time occupations, the reconstruction of primary and secondary industry—are the first obligations of government in the immediate period after the war ;
- (2) that the existing powers of the Commonwealth are not shown to be inadequate for such purposes ;
 - (3) that it is, however, proper that any doubt on these points should be resolved by appropriate Constitutional amendment ;
 - (4) that no amendment should be approved which would authorize the socialization of industry, the undue centralization of administration, or the maintenance of such laws as unnecessarily interfere with the liberty of citizens to choose their own means of living and to exercise their rights as free people ;
 - (5) further, that the House is concerned at the extent of the surrender of legislative powers to administrative officials ;
 - (6) that, to afford adequate power to the Government and sufficient protection to the citizen, the Bill should be withdrawn and redrafted so as to declare or provide, over a period of five years from the termination of actual hostilities, that the Commonwealth Parliament has, or should have (as the case may be) power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to the fullest repatriation powers ; the use of grants, loans, insurance, training and public works for the provision of employment and the prevention or correction of unemployment ; the organized marketing of primary products of which there is normally an export surplus, and notwithstanding anything contained in section 92 ; the prevention of unreasonable restraint of trade ; the prevention of inflation ; the use of economic regulations only to the extent necessary to deal with the problem of transition from war to peace ; air transport ; national health ; family endowment ; and the people of the aboriginal race ; but should not have power to enable the Executive to engage in any civil production, industry, or commercial process, not authorized by its now existing powers ;
 - (7) that provision should be made that during such period the exercise of such additional powers, when it possesses a legislative nature, should be by Parliament or, if performed by virtue of some delegation by Parliament, should be in terms which when Parliament is sitting have been first laid before and not disapproved by Parliament, and when Parliament is not sitting have been circulated to members at least 14 days before becoming operative ;
 - (8) that provision should be made for the setting up, within a period of two years after the termination of actual hostilities, of an elective popular convention for the review of the structure and working of the Constitution"—

Debate resumed.

Ordered—That Mr. Anthony be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

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

Ayes, 46.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Breen	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Chambers	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Clark	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Coles	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Daly	Mr. Russell
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Smith
Mr. Forde	Mr. Spender
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward
Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Fuller	
Mr. Gaha	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 18.

Mr. Abbott	Dame Enid Lyons
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Anthony	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Fadden	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Francis	Mr. White
Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Corser
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put.

15th March, 1944.

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

Ayes, 55.			Noes, 10.	
Mr. Abbott	Mr. Haylen		Mr. Cameron	
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Holloway		Mr. Francis	
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Hughes		Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Johnson		Mr. Holt	
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Langtry		Mr. Hutchinson	
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Lawson		Dame Enid Lyons	
Mr. Breen	Mr. Lazzarini		Sir Frederick Stewart	
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lemmon		Mr. White	
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Makin			
Mr. Burke	Mr. McEwen		<i>Tellers:</i>	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod		Mr. McDonald	
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Morgan		Mr. Ryan	
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Mulcahy			
Mr. Clark	Sir Earle Page			
Mr. Coles	Mr. Pollard			
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Riordan			
Mr. Corser	Mr. Russell			
Mr. Daly	Mr. Scullin			
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scully			
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehy			
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Smith			
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Spender			
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Ward			
Mr. Forde	Mr. Watkins			
Mr. Fraser				
Mr. Frost	<i>Tellers:</i>			
Mr. Fuller	Mr. Martens			
Mr. Gaha	Mr. Sheehan			
Mr. Hadley				

And so the question—That the Bill be now read a second time—was resolved in the affirmative by an absolute majority of the Members of the House.

Bill accordingly read a second time.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) moved, That the clause be postponed.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Fadden proposing to move, as an amendment, That the words “ as an instruction to the Government to call a further conference of the States to attempt to remove the remaining points of disagreement ” be added to the motion—

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman (Mr. Riordan) ruled that such an amendment would not be in order.

Debate continued.

A Point of Order having been taken that Mr. Fadden, having circulated notice of his intention to move that the clause be postponed, was entitled to be called to speak by the Chair before any other Member—

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman ruled that the circulation of a proposed motion or amendment did not confer any right to the call from the Chair and pointed out to the Committee that Mr. Evatt rose first and obtained the call.

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

Question—That the Ruling be dissented from—put.

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

Ayes, 20.			Noes, 43.	
Mr. Abbott	Dame Enid Lyons		Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McEwen		Mr. Beasley	Mr. James
Mr. Anthony	Sir Earle Page		Mr. Breen	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan		Mr. Brennan	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Spender		Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Fadden	Sir Frederick Stewart		Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Francis	Mr. White		Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Harrison			Mr. Chambers	Mr. Makin
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>		Mr. Chifley	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Corser		Mr. Clark	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald		Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy
			Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard
			Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell
			Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully
			Mr. Evatt	Mr. Sheehy
			Mr. Falstein	Mr. Smith
			Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
			Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins
			Mr. Frost	
			Mr. Fuller	<i>Tellers:</i>
			Mr. Gaha	Mr. Martens
			Mr. Hadley	Mr. Sheehan
			Mr. Haylen	

And so it was negatived.

15th March, 1944.

Sir Earle Page proposing to move, as an amendment, That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—"it be an instruction to the Government to call a further conference of the States to attempt to remove the remaining points of disagreement".

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman ruled that such an amendment would not be in order.

Question—That the clause be postponed—put.

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

Ayes, 42.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway
Mr. Breen	Mr. James
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Makin
Mr. Clark	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Daly	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Russell
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Scully
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Forde	Mr. Smith
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward
Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Fuller	
Mr. Gaha	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 19.

Mr. Abbott	Dame Enid Lyons
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Anthony	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Spender
Mr. Fadden	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Francis	
Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Corser
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 2 debated—

Mr. Fadden moved, That the clause be postponed.

Debate continued.

Member named.—The Temporary Chairman (Mr. Martens) named the honorable Member for Indi (Mr. McEwen) for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

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

Mr. McEwen having left the Chamber, and having returned and expressed his regret, the matter was not further proceeded with.

Debate continued.

Member named and suspended.—The Temporary Chairman (Mr. Martens) named the honorable Member for Wide Bay (Mr. Corser) for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the honorable Member for Wide Bay be suspended from the service of the Committee.

Question—put.

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

Ayes, 43.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. James
Mr. Breen	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Makin
Mr. Chifley	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Clark	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Russell
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Scully
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Forde	Mr. Smith
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward
Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Fuller	
Mr. Gaha	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Conclan
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Holloway	

Noes, 21.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Bowden	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Corser	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Spender
Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Anthony
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald
Dame Enid Lyons	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The Temporary Chairman forthwith suspended the proceedings of the Committee.

The House resumed.

The Temporary Chairman of Committees reported the circumstance to the House.

15th and 16th March, 1944.

Mr. Speaker thereupon put the question—That the honorable Member for Wide Bay (Mr. Corser) be suspended from the service of the House.

Question—put.

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

Ayes, 44.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway
Mr. Breen	Mr. James
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Johnson
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Makin
Mr. Clark	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Daly	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Russell
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Scully
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Forde	Mr. Smith
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward
Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Fuller	
Mr. Gaha	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan

Noes, 21.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Bowden	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Corser	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Spender
Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Adermann
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald
Dame Enid Lyons	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The honorable Member was, therefore, under Standing Order No. 59, suspended for the remainder of the day's sitting, and he accordingly withdrew from the Chamber.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 2 further considered—

Mr. Evatt moved, as an amendment, That the words " section fifty-one, the following section :—51A." (page 1, lines 7-9) be omitted with a view to inserting the words " Chapter I, the following Chapter and section :—

' CHAPTER IA.—TEMPORARY PROVISIONS.
' 60A." in place thereof.

Debate continued.

Amendment temporarily withdrawn, by leave.

Ordered—That the clause be considered by paragraphs.

Paragraph (i)—

On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the following amendments were made :—

Page 1, line 14, omit " the present ", insert " any ".

Page 1, line 16, omit " the present ", insert " any ".

Paragraph, as amended, agreed to.

Paragraph (ii) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (iii) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (iv) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (v) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (vi) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (vii) debated and agreed to.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

THURSDAY, 16TH MARCH, 1944.

Paragraph (viii) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (ix) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (x) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (xi) debated—

Mr. Spender moved, as an amendment, That all words after " works " be omitted.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Paragraph agreed to.

Paragraph (xii) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (xiii) debated and agreed to.

Paragraph (xiv) debated and agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the following further amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 2, after sub-section (1.) insert the following sub-section :—

" (1A.) Neither the Commonwealth nor a State may make any law for abridging the freedom of speech or of expression."

15th and 16th March, 1944.

On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the following further amendment was made:—

Page 2, after sub-section (1A.) insert the following sub-section:—

“(1B.) Section one hundred and sixteen of this Constitution shall apply to and in relation to every State in like manner as it applies to and in relation to the Commonwealth.”.

Mr. Evatt moved, as a further amendment, That after sub-section (1B.) the following sub-section be inserted:—

“(1C.) A regulation of a legislative character under the authority of any law made by the Parliament in the exercise of any power conferred by sub-section (1.) of this section—

- (a) shall, subject to this section, take effect on the expiration of the fourteenth day after its contents have been notified in the manner provided by the Parliament to each senator and each member of the House of Representatives or on such later date as is specified in the regulation;
- (b) shall not take effect if, within fourteen days after its contents have been so notified, either House of the Parliament passes a resolution disapproving of the regulation; and
- (c) shall take effect on the date of its making or on such later date as is specified in the regulation, if the Governor-General in Council declares on specified grounds that the making of the regulation is urgently required.”.

Mr. Spender moved, as an amendment upon the proposed amendment, That the proposed sub-section be omitted with a view to inserting the following sub-section in place thereof:—

“(1C.) No regulation of a legislative character under the authority of any law made by the Parliament in exercise of any power conferred by this Constitution shall be made or if made become operative, unless and until it has been approved by both Houses of the Parliament:

Provided that during such period as the Parliament is not sitting in session the Governor-General in Council may declare on specified grounds that the making of the regulation is urgently required, and thereupon any such regulation may be made and take effect on the date of its making or on such later date as is specified in the regulation, but unless confirmed by both Houses of the Parliament within one month of its next meeting after the making of such regulation shall cease to have any effect or operation.”.

Debate continued.

Amendment upon proposed amendment negatived.

Original amendment agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the following further amendment was made:—

Page 2, line 35, omit “the last preceding sub-section”, insert “sub-section (1.) of this section”.

Amendment previously moved by Mr. Evatt, and temporarily withdrawn, viz. :—

Page 1, lines 7-9, omit “section fifty-one, the following section:—51A.”, insert “Chapter I, the following Chapter and section:—

‘CHAPTER IA.—TEMPORARY PROVISIONS.

‘60A.’,

was again moved and agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Postponed clause 1—

On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the following amendment was made:—

Page 1, line 6, after “Reconstruction” insert “and Democratic Rights”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Title—

On the motion of Mr. Evatt, the following amendment was made:—

Page 1, omit all words after “Constitution”, insert “for a limited period by empowering the Parliament to make Laws in relation to Post-war Reconstruction, and by including Provisions to safeguard Freedom of Speech and Expression and Freedom of Religion”.

Title, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments, and with an amended Title.

The House resumed; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

Mr. Evatt moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Evatt moved, That the Report be adopted.

Debate ensued.

Point of Order.—Mr. Curtin raised a Point of Order that debate must be relevant to the motion, and that proceedings in Committee or at an earlier stage could not be discussed.

Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Speaker upheld the Point of Order.

Member named.—Mr. Speaker named the honorable Member for Richmond (Mr. Anthony) for reflecting on the Chair.

Mr. Anthony having withdrawn the offending reflection, the matter was not further proceeded with.

Debate continued.

Question—That the Report be adopted—put.

15th and 16th March, 1944.

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

Ayes, 43.		Noes, 19.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway	Mr. Abbott	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Breen	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Anthony	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Cameron	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Fadden	Mr. Spender
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Makin	Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Chifley	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Clark	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Adermann
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy	Dame Enid Lyons	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Pollard	Mr. McEwen	
Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan		
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell		
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully		
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Sheehy		
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Smith		
Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward		
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Watkins		
Mr. Frost			
Mr. Fuller	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Gaha	Mr. Martens		
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Sheehan		
Mr. Haylen			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Evatt moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. McEwen proposing to move, That the Bill be recommitted—

Point of Order.—Mr. Forde (Minister for the Army) raised a Point of Order that such a motion would not be in order at this stage.

Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Speaker upheld the Point of Order.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the Bill be now read a third time—put.

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

Ayes, 44.		Noes, 18.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway	Mr. Abbott	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Breen	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Anthony	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Langtry	Mr. Bowden	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Bryson	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Cameron	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Fadden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Francis	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Makin	Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Chifley	Mr. McLeod	Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Clark	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. Adermann
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy	Dame Enid Lyons	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Pollard		
Mr. Daly	Mr. Riordan		
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Russell		
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Scully		
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Sheehy		
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Smith		
Mr. Forde	Mr. Spender		
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward		
Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins		
Mr. Fuller			
Mr. Gaha	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Hadley	Mr. Martens		
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Sheehan		

And so the question—That the Bill be now read a third time—was resolved in the affirmative by an absolute majority of the Members of the House.
Bill accordingly read a third time.

9. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until half-past four o'clock p.m. this day.

Question—put and passed.

15th and 16th March, 1944.

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

And then the House, at twenty-two minutes past five o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past four o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Blain*, Mr. Guy, Mr. Mountjoy, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Wilson.

* On leave.

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