

1945-46.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 134.

FRIDAY, 2ND AUGUST, 1946.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. DOUBLE TAXATION—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement explaining in broad outline the terms of the agreement proposed to be made between the United Kingdom and Australia for the purpose of avoiding double taxation on income.
3. MINISTERIAL DUTIES.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) informed the House that, consequent upon Mr. Makin leaving to take up duty as Australian Ambassador at Washington, United States of America, Mr. Drakeford would act as Minister for the Navy and Mr. Dedman would act as Minister for Munitions and Minister for Aircraft Production, as from 3rd August, 1946. Mr. Chifley also announced that he would act as Minister for External Affairs until the return of Mr. Evatt.
4. AUSTRALIAN SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL MISSIONS TO GERMANY AND JAPAN—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the arrangements made for making available to Australian industry reports containing information gained by Australian scientific and technical missions which had visited Germany and Japan.
5. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Royal Highness the Governor-General—
 - Wool—Outline of War-time Wool Purchase Arrangement, 1939-45.
 Ordered to lie on the Table.
 The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 - Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department of External Affairs—G. D. Cunningham, S. W. Jamieson.
 - Land Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Defence purposes—Eagle Farm, Queensland.
 - National Security Act—
 - National Security (General) Regulations—Order by State Premier—New South Wales (No. 63).
 - National Security (Prices) Regulations—Orders—Nos. 2604-2621.
 - Seat of Government Acceptance Act and Seat of Government (Administration) Act—Regulations—1946—No. 2 (Building and Services Ordinance).
6. RAILWAY STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENT BILL 1946.—Mr. Ward (Minister for Transport), pursuant to leave given on the 31st July, brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to authorize the Execution by or on behalf of the Commonwealth of an Agreement between the Commonwealth and the States of New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia in relation to the Standardization of certain Railways, to approve of the Raising of Loans for Defence purposes (namely, the Standardization of those Railways), and for other purposes*", and moved, That it be now read a first time.
 Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
 Mr. Ward moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
 Mr. Harrison 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.
7. COAL INDUSTRY BILL 1946.—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 agreed to.

Clause 6—

Mr. Harrison moved, as an amendment, That the following words be added to sub-clause (1.) :—
 "or any union, association or organization of employers or employees engaged in the coal industry".

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

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Mr. Harrison moved, as an amendment, That after "company" (page 4, line 14) the following words be inserted:—"or a member of any such union, association or organization of employers or employees".

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 7 to 10 agreed to.

Clause 11—

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister representing the Minister for Supply and Shipping), the following amendment was made:—

Page 5, lines 20-22, omit " , until amended, revoked or terminated by the Board, continue to be subsisting or in course ", insert " have effect ".

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

Page 5, line 32, omit " nine ", insert " ten ".

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

Page 5, line 41, omit " that ", insert " the ".

Page 6, line 2, omit " nine ", insert " ten ".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 12 debated and agreed to.

Clause 13—

Mr. Harrison moved, as an amendment, That the following paragraph be added to sub-clause (1.):—

"(e) to ensure to owners engaged in the coal industry a fair profit on capital invested, and, for this purpose, where necessary, to pay bounties on coal produced, to make grants and to pay subsidies."

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Riordan reported accordingly.

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

8. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was received, and was read by Mr. Speaker:—

HENRY,

Governor-General.

Message No. 57.

Proposed Laws intituled:—

" *Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Act 1946* "

" *Australian National University Act 1946* "

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 Royal Highness has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Admiralty House,

Sydney, 1st August, 1946.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Post-war Reconstruction) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Hutchinson moved, That Mr. Francis be granted an extension of time.

Question—put and negatived.

Debate continued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fourteen 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. J. A. Beasley, Mr. Blain, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Clark, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Haylen, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Langtry, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McLeod, Sir Frederick Stewart, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. White.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.