

1946-47.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 45.

THURSDAY, 1ST MAY, 1947.

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. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—LEAVE TO MAKE NOT GRANTED.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) asked leave to make a Ministerial Statement.
Objection being raised, leave not granted.
3. ADDITIONAL FOOD SUPPLIES FOR THE UNITED KINGDOM—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the plans of the Government for making additional food supplies available to the United Kingdom.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determination by the Arbitrator, &c.—1947—No. 22—
 Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
 Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment—Department—
 Commerce and Agriculture—W. T. Doig.
 External Affairs—E. R. Walker.
 Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1947, No. 36.
 Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance—1947—No. 1—Police.
5. POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Ordered—That Notice of Motion No. 1, General Business, be postponed until the next sitting.
6. ADMINISTRATION OF NEW GUINEA AND TERRITORIES—PROPOSED JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE.—Mr. White moved, pursuant to notice, That a Joint Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the following :—
 (a) the inadequacy of the administration which has been set up under the New Guinea Act ;
 (b) the failure of the administration to maintain production of essential commodities ;
 (c) the lack of a policy for the economic development of the Territories which could proceed hand in hand with a progressive native policy ;
 (d) the unbalanced native policy and its adverse effect upon the natives and upon economic development ; and
 (e) the unrest which exists in the Public Service in the Territories due to unsettled conditions and the failure of the Government to provide suitable living conditions, adequate classification, and to deal with the high cost of living.
 Ordered—That Mr. Ward (Minister for External Territories) be granted an extension of time.
 It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with Standing Order No. 119.
 Mr. Ward was granted leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
 Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1, General Business, be postponed until the next sitting.

F.6632.

1st May, 1947.

8. ROCKET BOMB TESTING RANGE IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mrs. Blackburn :—That in the opinion of this House—

(1) the proposal to establish a rocket bomb testing range in Central Australia is an act of injustice to a weaker people who have no voice in the ordering of their own lives ; is a betrayal of our responsibility to guard the human rights of those who cannot defend themselves ; and a violation of the various Charters that have sought to bring about world peace, and

(2) such action is against the interests of the whole of the people in this Commonwealth—

Debate resumed.

Question—put and negatived.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—QUARANTINE BILL 1947.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 28.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Quarantine Act 1908–1924 ’* ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 1st May, 1947.

Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

10. SUPPLY [“ GRIEVANCE DAY ”].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—

Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

Debate ensued.

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

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

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

11. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eighteen minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Abbott, Mr. Adermann, Mr. Conelan, Mr. Daly, Mr. Davidson, Mr. Drakeford, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. Fadden, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Holt, Mr. Howse, Mr. Lang, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Riordan and Mr. Spender.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.