THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 24.

WEDNESDAY, 13TH OCTOBER, 1948.

- 1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.-The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Clark) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Paper.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Electoral Act-Report, with Map, by the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of redistributing the State of Tasmania into Electoral Divisions. Ordered-That the Report be printed.

3. Adjournment-Motion for Purpose of Discussion.—Mr. Lang 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 impairing of friendly relations with the United States of America by reason of allegations made by the Minister for Immigration to the effect that the United States authorities have violated an agreement respecting certain Australian women engaged in post-war work for the United States Government"

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. Lang moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Several Members rising to address the House—
Closure.—Mr. Scully (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put. Question—That the question be now put--put and passed.

And the question —That the House do now adjourn--was put accordingly, and negatived.

- 4. Postponement of Business.—Ordered—That the intervening business be postponed until after Notice of Motion No. 1, Government Business.
- 5. ELECTORAL DIVISIONS OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA—PROPOSED REDISTRIBUTION.—Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That the House of Representatives approves of the distribution of the State of Western Australia into Electoral Divisions as proposed by Messrs.

 J. M. W. Anderson, W. V. Fyfe and J. G. Kilpatrick, the Commissioners appointed for the purpose of distributing the said State into Divisions, in their report laid before Parliament on the 30th day of September, 1948, and that the names of the Divisions suggested in the report, and indicated on the maps referred to therein, be adopted, except that the name "Curtin" be substituted for the name "Stirling".

Question-put and passed.

6. Social Services Consolidation Bill 1948.—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-Debate resumed.

Mr. Barnard (Minister for Repatriation) addressing the House—

Closure moved.—Mr. Cameron moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Clark, in the Chair)-

| Ayes, 24. | | | Noes, 33. | |
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| Mr. Abbott Mr. Adermann Mr. Anthony Mr. Beale Mr. Bowden Mr. Cameron Mr. Fadden Mr. Francis Mr. Gullett Mr. Hamilton Mr. Harrison Mr. Hughes Mr. Hutchinson Dame Enid Lyons | Mr. McBride Mr. McEwen Sir Earle Page Mr. Rankin Mr. Ryan Mr. Spender Mr. Turnbull Mr. White Tellers: Mr. Corser Mr. Falkinder | Mr. Barnard Mr. Beazley Mrs. Blackburn Mr. Brennan Mr. Burke Mr. Calwell Mr. Chambers Mr. Conelan Mr. Daly Mr. Dedman Mr. Duthie Mr. Edmonds Mr. Fraser Mr. Gaha Mr. Haylen Mr. Holloway Mr. Johnson Mr. Lang | Mr. Langtry Mr. Lawson Mr. Lazzarini Mr. Lemmon Mr. McLeod Mr. O'Connor Mr. Pollard Mr. Riordan Mr. Scully Mr. Thompson Mr. Ward Mr. Watkins Mr. Williams **Tellers:** Mr. Fuller Mr. Sheehan | |
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And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

Question- That the Bill be now read a second time-put and passed.—Bill read a second time. Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2

Mr. Harrison moved, as an amendment, That the words "day on which it receives the Royal Assent" (page 1, lines 10 and 11) be omitted with a view to inserting the words "first day of July, One thousand nine hundred and forty-eight" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

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

The Committee divided (The Deputy Chairman, Mr. Burke, in the Chair)-

| Ayes, 30. | | 1 | Noes, 24. | | |
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| Mr. Barnard Mr. Beazley Mrs. Blackburn Mr. Calwell Mr. Chambers Mr. Clark Mr. Conelan Mr. Daly Mr. Dedman | Mr. Langtry Mr. Lawson Mr. Lazzarini Mr. Lemmon Mr. McLeod Mr. O'Connor Mr. Pollard Mr. Riordan Mr. Scully | Mr. Abbott Mr. Adermann Mr. Anthony Mr. Beale Mr. Bowden Mr. Cameron Mr. Davidson Mr. Fadden Mr. Francis | Mr. Lang Dame Enid Lyons Mr. McBride Mr. McEwen Mr. Rankin Mr. Ryan Mr. Spender Mr. Turnbull Mr. White | | |
| Mr. Duthie Mr. Edmonds Mr. Fraser Mr. Gaha Mr. Haylen Mr. Holloway Mr. Johnson | Mr. Thompson Mr. Ward Mr. Williams Tellers: Mr. Fuller Mr. Sheehan | Mr. Gullett Mr. Hamilton Mr. Harrison Mr. Hutchinson | Tellers: Mr. Corser Mr. Falkinder | | |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 3 agreed to.

Clause 4-

On the motion of Mr. Holloway (Minister representing the Minister for Social Services), the following amendment was made:-

Page 2, before the definition of "unmarried person" in paragraph (c) insert the following definition:-

"" service pensioner" means a person in receipt of a service pension under the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act 1920-1947;".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 5 and 6 agreed to.

Clause 7—

On the motion of Mr. Holloway, the following amendments were made:-

Page 3, line 30, after "pensioner" insert "or a service pensioner". Page 3, line 42, after "pensioner" insert "or a service pensioner".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 8 to 13 agreed to.

Clause 14 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 15 to 19 agreed to.

Proposed new clause

Mr. Hamilton moved, That the following new clause be inserted in the Bill:

"17A. Section one hundred and six of the Principal Act is amended by adding to the definition of 'income' the following paragraph:—

'(f) a war pension;".

Debate ensued.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight-

THURSDAY, 14TH OCTOBER, 1948.

Debate continued.

Question—That the clause proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

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

| Ayes, 23. | | Noes, 31. | |
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| Mr. Abbott Mr. Adermann Mr. Anthony Mr. Beale Mr. Bowden Mr. Cameron Mr. Davidson Mr. Fadden Mr. Francis Mr. Gullett Mr. Hamilton Mr. Harrison | Dame Enid Lyons Mr. McBride Mr. McEwen Mr. Rankin Mr. Ryan Mr. Spender Mr. Turnbull Mr. White Tellers: Mr. Corser | Mr. Barnard Mr. Beazley Mrs. Blackburn Mr. Burke Mr. Calwell Mr. Chambers Mr. Clark Mr. Conelan Mr. Daly Mr. Dedman Mr. Duthie Mr. Edmonds | Noes, 31. Mr. Lang Mr. Langtry Mr. Lawson Mr. Lemmon Mr. McLeod Mr. O'Connor Mr. Pollard Mr. Riordan Mr. Scully Mr. Thompson Mr. Ward Mr. Williams |
| Mr. Harrison Mr. Hutchinson | Mr. Corser Mr. Falkinder | Mr. Edmonds Mr. Fraser Mr. Gaha Mr. Haylen Mr. Holloway Mr. Johnson | Mr. Williams Tellers: Mr. Fuller Mr. Sheehan |

And so it was negatived.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly. On the motion of Mr. Holloway, by leave, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

7. Adjournment. -- Mr. Holloway (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Holt, Mr. Howse, Mr. James, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Menzies, Mr. Mulcahy, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Russell, Mr. Scullin and Mr. Sheehy.

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