

1948-49.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 77.

WEDNESDAY, 16TH MARCH, 1949.

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. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.
Question—put and passed.
3. CONSOLIDATION OF COMMONWEALTH ACTS AND STATUTORY RULES—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House that it was proposed to prepare a consolidation of Commonwealth Acts and of Statutory Rules as at the 31st December, 1950.
Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
4. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.
Question—put and passed.
5. COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL BILL 1949.—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.
Question—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.)

Clauses 1 to 7 agreed to.
 Clause 8 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 9 to 11 agreed to.
 Clause 12 debated and agreed to.
 Clauses 13 to 19 agreed to.
 Title agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

6. NORTHERN TERRITORY REPRESENTATION BILL 1949.—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—
Question—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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

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7. AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY REPRESENTATION BILL 1949.—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—
Question—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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr. Johnson (Minister for the Interior), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

8. SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH BILL 1949.—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.
Question—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.)

Bill, by leave, considered by Parts.
Parts I. (clauses 1 to 7) and II. (clauses 8 to 10) agreed to.
Part III. (clauses 11 to 14)—
Mr. Holt moved, as an amendment, That after “ possessing ” (clause 11, page 4, line 34) the word “ high ” be inserted.
Debate ensued.
Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehy reported accordingly.
Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS BILL 1949.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Message No. 65.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Pharmaceutical Benefits Act 1947 ’* ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The Senate,
Canberra, 16th March, 1949.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

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.

Mr. Dedman moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) 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.

10. SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY RESEARCH BILL 1949.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—
Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Part III. (clauses 11 to 14)—

Debate resumed on the amendment moved by Mr. Holt, viz. :—That after “ possessing ” (clause 11, page 4, line 34) the word “ high ” be inserted.

Amendment negatived.

Part agreed to.

Part IV. (clauses 15 to 20) agreed to.

Part V. (clauses 21 to 24) debated and agreed to.

Parts VI. (clauses 25 and 26) and VII. (clauses 27 to 33) agreed to.

Schedules agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehy reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

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11. SEAMEN'S COMPENSATION BILL 1949.—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.
Question—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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole.

Mr. Beale moved, as an amendment, That at the end of sub-section (2.) of proposed section 10A (page 6) the following words be added:—"or within such further time not exceeding three years as the Court in the special circumstances of the case may allow".

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Bill agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister representing the Minister for Shipping and Fuel), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

12. PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA BILL 1949.—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of the Amendments made by the Senate in this Bill—
Mr. Deputy Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments, which are as follows:—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1.—Page 10, clause 36, at end of clause add the following sub-clause:—

"(7.) A member of the Legislative Council shall, before taking his seat, make and subscribe before the Administrator, or a person thereunto authorized by the Administrator, an oath or affirmation in the form in the Sixth Schedule to this Act."

No. 2.—Page 16, clause 59, line 9, leave out "Sixth", insert "Seventh".

No. 3.—Page 22, after the Fifth Schedule insert the following Schedule:—

"SIXTH SCHEDULE.

Section 36.

OATH.

I, A.B., do swear that I will render true and faithful service as a member of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea. So help me God!

AFFIRMATION.

I, A.B., do solemnly and sincerely promise and declare that I will render true and faithful service as a member of the Legislative Council of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea."

No. 4.—Page 23, leave out "SIXTH SCHEDULE", insert "SEVENTH SCHEDULE".

On the motion of Mr. Chambers (Acting Minister for External Territories), the Amendments were agreed to.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Lazzarini reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Chambers, the House adopted the Report.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Scully (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-one minutes past ten 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. Burke, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Fadden, Mr. Francis, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Hadley, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Holloway, Mr. Hughes, Mr. James, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Scullin, Mr. Ward, Mr. White and Mr. Williams.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.