

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 97.

TUESDAY, 21ST JUNE, 1949.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.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. COAL-MINING INDUSTRY—THREATENED STRIKE—STATEMENT BY MEMBER.—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, made a Statement regarding a threatened strike in the coal-mining industry. Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, also made a Statement in connexion with the matter.
4. PETROL RATIONING—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PRESENTATION OF PAPERS.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to petrol rationing, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Papers:—
Text of letter dated 16th June, 1949, addressed to the Premiers of all States ;
Memorandum entitled "The General Dollar Shortage" ;
Memorandum entitled "The Dollar Element in Petrol and other Petroleum Products" ;
Memorandum entitled "The Effects of a Cessation of Petrol Rationing" ; and
Text of letter dated 20th June, 1949, addressed to the Premiers of all States.
Severally ordered to lie on the Table.
5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of Health—E. H. Hipsley.
Hospital Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 31.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—
Department of the Interior purposes—Cairns, Queensland.
Postal purposes—Port Augusta, South Australia.
Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 30.
Services Trust Funds Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 32.
Superannuation Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1949, No. 33.
6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 1 to 6 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 7, Government Business.
7. POST AND TELEGRAPH RATES BILL 1949.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Calwell (Minister representing the Postmaster-General) moved, 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.
8. INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT 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.
Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) 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 a later hour this day.
9. INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORT—
MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPERS.—Mr. Evatt (Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the international situation generally and the work of the United Nations. Mr. Evatt then, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Papers:—
International Affairs—Ministerial Statement, 21st June, 1949 ; and
United Nations—General Assembly—Second Part of Third Session, New York, April-May, 1949—Report on work of Australian Delegation—
and moved, That the Papers be printed.

21st June, 1949.

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. INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT 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.

Ordered—That Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) be granted extensions of time (2).

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.*)

Clauses 1 to 5 agreed to.

Schedule debated and agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehy reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

11. STATES GRANTS 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, and agreed to, after debate.

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 (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 323) the Bill was read a third time.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes to 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. Bowden, Mr. Burke, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Gullett, Mr. James, Mr. Lawson, Mr. McBride, Mr. Mulcahy, Mr. Rosevear and Mr. Scullin.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.