

1905.

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# THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 43.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 1905.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. JAPANESE : AND IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION ACT.—Mr. Bruce Smith moved, pursuant to notice—
  - (1) That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the facts that the Japanese people have placed themselves in the front rank of civilized nations ; that they have proved themselves to be one of the most progressive peoples in the world : that, as a nation, they have become the honoured and trusted friend and ally of the British people, and therefore of the British Empire ; because of their high national character ; and because they have become one of the greatest naval and military powers of the world : the time has arrived for differentiating the Japanese people from other Asiatic races with whom they have been impliedly grouped under the Immigration Restriction Act of 1901, and for placing them, in their relationship to the people of Australia, upon the same footing of international amity as that which is now extended to European peoples.
  - (2) That the Immigration Restriction Act of 1901 should be so amended as to admit of the regulation of the admission of the Japanese people to Australia being made the subject of diplomatic negotiation and mutual arrangement, subject to any proposed treaty being submitted to the approval of Parliament, or so as to admit of the Japanese language being included with those of European nations as the basis of an educational test of the rights of immigrants : thus to remove from the Japanese people the implied stigma, of which they have complained, of being grouped with other Asiatic races as “ prohibited immigrants.”

Mr. Brown moved, That the debate be now adjourned.  
 Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and resolved in the affirmative.  
 Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for Thursday next.
3. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of Order of the Day, General Business, No. 1, be postponed until Thursday, 16th November next.
4. HOME RULE FOR IRELAND.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Higgins :—

That an humble Address be presented to His Majesty as follows :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY :

We, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Members of the House of Representatives, in Parliament assembled, desire most earnestly in our name and on behalf of the people whom we represent, to express our unswerving loyalty and devotion to Your Majesty's person and Government.

We have observed with feelings of profound satisfaction the evidence afforded by recent legislation and recent debates in the Houses of Parliament of the United Kingdom, of a sincere desire now to deal justly with Ireland ; and in particular we congratulate the people of the United Kingdom on the remarkable Act directed towards the settlement of the land question, and on the concession to the people of Ireland of a measure of Local Government for municipal purposes. But the sad history of Ireland since the Act of Union shows that no British Parliament can understand or effectively deal with the economic and social conditions of Ireland.

28th September, 1905.

Enjoying and appreciating as we do the blessings of Home Rule here, we would humbly express the hope that a just measure of Home Rule may be granted to the people of Ireland. They ask for it through their representatives—never has request more clear, consistent, and continuous been made by any nation. As subjects of Your Majesty we are interested in the peace and contentment of all parts of the Empire, and we desire to see this long-standing grievance at the very heart of the Empire removed. It is our desire for the solidarity and permanence of the Empire, as a Power making for peace and civilization, that must be our excuse for submitting to Your Majesty this respectful petition—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Reid moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the first word "That" be omitted, and that the following words be inserted in place thereof, viz. :—

"whilst in full sympathy with every movement calculated to advance the best interests of Ireland, this House declines to petition His Majesty either in favour of or against a change in the parliamentary system which at present prevails in the United Kingdom—

- (1) because this House does not consider such matters within its legitimate province ;
- (2) because they will shortly become issues in an appeal to the electors of Great Britain and Ireland, in which this House has no right to interfere ; and
- (3) because this House confidently relies upon the fairness and wisdom of the British people for the removal of every just Irish grievance in the manner most likely to promote the welfare of the Irish people and the stability of the Empire."

Debate continued.

Mr. Kelly addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he have 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 Thursday, 12th October next.

5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the consideration of Orders of the Day, General Business, Nos. 3 and 4 be postponed until Thursday next.

6. SUPPLY.—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.

Question—put and negatived.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into the said Committee.

7. COMMERCE BILL (No. 2).—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration of the Reports from the Committee of the whole House on this Bill—Sir William Lyne moved, That the Reports be now adopted.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the third reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Deakin moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at thirty-three 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 except—Mr. Joseph Cook, Mr. R. Edwards, Mr. Fowler, Mr. Fuller, Mr. Kingston, Mr. McColl, Mr. Page, Sir John Quick\*, Mr. Sydney Smith, Sir George Turner, Mr. Wilks, and Mr. Willis.

\* On leave.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,  
Clerk of the House of Representatives.