

1951.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 21.

TUESDAY, 2ND OCTOBER, 1951.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable A. G. Cameron) took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—REPATRIATION BILL 1951.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 21.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Repatriation Act 1920-1950’ , and for other purposes* ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

EDWARD MATTNER,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 27th September, 1951.

Mr. Francis (Minister representing the Minister for Repatriation) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the 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.

3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
National Debt Sinking Fund Act—National Debt Commission—Twenty-eighth Annual Report, for year 1950-51.

Public Service Act—Appointments—Postmaster-General's Department—P. T. Bason, K. W. Hix, A. R. M. Langley, R. G. Smart, R. O. Smith, F. H. Thornley.

Public Service Arbitration Act—Determinations—1951—

No. 64—Australian Broadcasting Commission Staff Association.

No. 65—Federated Clerks' Union of Australia.

No. 66—Postal Overseers' Union of Australia.

No. 67—Hotel, Club, Restaurant and Caterers Employees' Union of New South Wales and Federated Liquor and Allied Trades Employees' Union of Australasia.

No. 68—Transport Workers' Union of Australia.

No. 69—Commonwealth Medical Officers' Association.

No. 70—Postal Overseers' Union of Australia.

No. 71—Commonwealth Storemen and Packers' Union of Australia.

No. 72—Hotel, Club, Restaurant and Caterers Employees' Union of New South Wales and Federated Liquor and Allied Trades Employees' Union of Australasia.

No. 73—Federated Clerks' Union of Australia.

No. 74—Commonwealth Legal Professional Officers' Association.

No. 75—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.

No. 76—Federated Clerks' Union of Australia.

4. PUBLIC SERVICE RETRENCHMENTS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—

Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement regarding instructions given by the Government to effect a reduction of ten thousand in the number of Commonwealth employees.

Mr. Menzies then, by command of His Excellency the Administrator of the Government of the Commonwealth, laid upon the Table the following Paper:—

Public Service Retrenchments—Ministerial Statement—

and moved, That the Paper be printed.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Dean 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.

5. DEFENCE FORCES RETIREMENT BENEFITS BILL 1951.—Mr. McBride (Minister for Defence) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act 1948-1950*, and for other purposes.

Question—put and passed.

2nd October, 1951.

6. COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION BILL 1951.—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act 1930-1950*, and for other purposes.  
Question—put and passed.
7. SUPERANNUATION BILL 1951.—Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Superannuation Act 1922-1950*, and for other purposes.  
Question—put and passed.
8. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Eric J. Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) from making his speech in Committee of Supply on the Budget without limitation of time.  
Question—put and passed.
9. SUPPLY—BUDGET DEBATE.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

General debate resumed on the question, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division No. 1—Senate—namely—

Salaries and allowances .. .. . £16,400

be agreed to.

Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition) moved, as an amendment, That the first item be reduced by £1.

Debate continued.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

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

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Bostock, Mr. Davies, Mr. Howse, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Keon, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Opperman, Mr. Riordan and Mr. Timson.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.