

1954-55.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 44.

THURSDAY, 21ST APRIL, 1955.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable A. G. Cameron) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. **DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.**—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Right Honorable C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce and Minister of Defence Production in the Government of the Dominion of Canada, was within the precincts. The distinguished visitor, thereupon, with the concurrence of honorable Members, was provided with a seat on the floor of the House.
3. **COOK BY-ELECTION.**—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had this day issued the Writ in connexion with the By-election for the Cook Division, and that the dates fixed were those announced to the House yesterday.
4. **PAPERS.**—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—New Guinea—Charges of Wilful Murder against certain Natives—Proceedings at Criminal Sittings at Wewak (July–August, 1954).
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Act—Defence Forces Retirement Benefits Board—Sixth Annual Report, for year 1953–54.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Department of Civil Aviation purposes—Essendon, Victoria.
Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of Civil Aviation—H. R. Sneazwell.
5. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REPORTS.**—Mr. Cramer (Chairman) brought up the following Reports from the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works :—
Report relating to the proposed erection of Automatic Telephone Exchange Building at Redfern, New South Wales.
Report relating to the proposed erection of New Studios for the Australian Broadcasting Commission at Forbes-street, Sydney.
Severally ordered to be printed.
6. **ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.**—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
7. **DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF URGENCY—SALK ANTI-POLIO VACCINE.**—Mr. A. D. Fraser having proposed to Mr. Speaker that a definite matter of urgent public importance be submitted to the House for discussion, namely, “The failure of the Government to provide for adequate supplies of Salk anti-polio vaccine to be available for distribution in Australia immediately its value was proved; and the absence even now, of any satisfactory evidence that the Government is taking every possible step to ensure that the vaccine is provided without delay in full supply and free of charge nationwide, as required to safeguard health and life”—
Mr. Speaker 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. Fraser addressed the House.
Ordered—That Mr. Fraser be granted an extension of time.
Discussion ensued.
Ordered—That Sir Earle Page (Minister for Health) be granted an extension of time.
Discussion continued.
Ordered—That Mr. D. A. Cameron be granted an extension of time.
Discussion continued.
The discussion having been continued for two hours, it was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 92.

21st April, 1955.

8. POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Ordered—That Notice of Motion No. 1 be postponed until after Notice of Motion No. 4, Government Business.
9. RABBIT SKINS EXPORT CHARGES LEGISLATION REPEAL BILL 1955.—Mr. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service), for Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to repeal the *Rabbit Skins Export Charges Act 1940-1942* and the *Rabbit Skins Export Charges Appropriation Act 1940*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Holt then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Holt moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Calwell), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
10. CONSULAR FEES BILL 1955.—Mr. Casey (Minister for External Affairs) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Charging of Fees for Consular Acts performed by Australian Diplomatic and Consular Officers and certain other Officers of the Commonwealth.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Casey then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Casey moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Calwell), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
11. METEOROLOGY BILL 1955.—Mr. Kent Hughes (Minister for the Interior) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Kent Hughes then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Kent Hughes moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Calwell), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
12. NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP BILL 1955.—Mr. Holt (Minister for Immigration) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Nationality and Citizenship Act 1948-1953*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Holt then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Mr. Holt moved, by leave, that the Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.
Mr. 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. Adermann reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr. Holt, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13. LANDS ACQUISITION BILL 1954.—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.
Debate adjourned (Mr. Mackinnon), and the resumption of the debate made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Several Members rising to address the House—
Closure.—Mr. Holt 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 passed.

And then the House, at four minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. T. P. Burke, Mr. Davies, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. E. James Harrison and Mr. Haylen.

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