

1954-55.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 85.

TUESDAY, 11TH OCTOBER, 1955.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Adermann) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE—CHANGES OF STAFF.—Mr. Deputy Speaker informed the House of the following further changes which had been made of officers in attendance in the Chamber:—
Mr. Pettifer to be Third Clerk-Assistant,
Mr. Reid to be Serjeant-at-Arms.
During the absence of Mr. Reid overseas, Mr. Blake would act as Serjeant-at-Arms.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Navigation Act—Navigation (Dangerous Goods) Regulations—Determination dated 26th September, 1955.
Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—
Postmaster-General—C. W. Millar, D. MacQueen, J. S. B. Rosair, H. J. Ruddell.
Social Services—P. A. Perrins.
Public Service Arbitration Act—Determination—1955—No. 37—Australian Journalists' Association.
4. DISCUSSION OF MATTER OF URGENCY—COMMONWEALTH-OWNED SHIPS.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced that both the honorable Member for Wilmot (Mr. Duthie) and the honorable Member for Yarra (Mr. Keon) had presented to him written statements of definite matters of urgent public importance proposed to be submitted to the House for discussion to-day. In accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No. 106A, he had given priority to the matter proposed by Mr. Duthie, namely, "The urgent necessity of obtaining a definite assurance from the Government that no attempt will be made to dispose of Commonwealth-owned ships, that Government ownership be fully maintained and that the fleet be expanded for the benefit of the people of Australia".
Mr. Deputy 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. Duthie addressed the House.
Discussion ensued.
Mr. Townley (Minister representing the Minister for Shipping and Transport) moved, That the Business of the Day be called on.
Question—put.
The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 51.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Davis	Mr. Haworth	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Townley
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Dean	Mr. Holt	Mr. McColm	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Howse	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Turner
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bland	Mr. Failes	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Opperman	Mr. Wight
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Lawrence	Mr. Osborne	
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Leslie	Sir E. Page	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Brand	Mr. Francis	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Pearce	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Luck	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Davidson
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Lucock	Mr. Swartz	Mr. Gullett
Mr. Cramer	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Timson	

11th October, 1955.

NOES, 44.

Mr. Anderson	Mr. Cope	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Andrews	Mr. Costa	Mr. Greenup	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Webb
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Coutts	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. Bird	Mr. Crean	Mr. E. James	Mr. McLeod	
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Cremeen	Harrison	Mr. Minogue	Tellers:
Mr. T. P. Burke	Mr. Davies	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Morgan	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Duthie	Mr. James	Mr. Peters	Mr. Daly
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Fitzgerald
Mr. Clarey	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Riordan	
Mr. Clark	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Keon	Mr. Stewart	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

5. SOCIAL SERVICES BILL (No. 2) 1955.—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—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. A. D. Fraser, viz.:*—That all words after “That” be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—“the Bill be redrafted to provide, as from the 1st July, 1955, in the light of the declining purchasing value of money, increases in the rates of social service payments to the maximum extent that the national economy will permit, and, particularly, to ensure as a minimum that each of these payments is restored to the same percentage of the (unpegged) basic wage as it was under the adjustment of rates by the Chifley Government in 1948”—

Debate resumed.

Mr. E. James Harrison addressing the House—

Closure.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the question be now put.

Question—That the question be now put—put and passed.

And the question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—being accordingly put—

The House divided (The Deputy Speaker, Mr. Adermann, in the Chair)—

AYES, 51.

Mr. Allan	Mr. Dean	Mr. Hasluck	Sir P. McBride	Mr. Townley
Mr. Bate	Mr. Drummond	Mr. Haworth	Mr. McColm	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Beale	Mr. Drury	Mr. Holt	Mr. McLeay	Mr. Turner
Mr. Bostock	Mr. Failes	Mr. Hulme	Mr. McMahon	Mr. Wentworth
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Jack	Mr. Opperman	Mr. Wight
Mr. Brand	Mr. Fairhall	Mr. Kent Hughes	Mr. Osborne	
Mr. Brimblecombe	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Lawrence	Sir E. Page	Tellers:
Mr. D. A. Cameron	Mr. Francis	Mr. Leslie	Mr. Pearce	
Mr. Cramer	Mr. Freeth	Mr. Lindsay	Mr. Robertson	Mr. Gullett
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Hamilton	Mr. Luck	Mr. Swartz	Mr. Lucock
Mr. Davis	Sir E. Harrison	Mr. Mackinnon	Mr. Timson	

NOES, 45.

Mr. Andrews	Mr. Clark	Mr. A. D. Fraser	Mr. Joshua	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Cope	Mr. Fuller	Mr. Keon	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Costa	Mr. Galvin	Mr. Lawson	Mr. Webb
Mr. Bird	Mr. Coutts	Mr. Greenup	Mr. Luchetti	Mr. Whitlam
Mr. W. M. Bourke	Mr. Crean	Mr. Griffiths	Mr. Makin	
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Cremeen	Mr. E. James	Mr. Minogue	Tellers:
Mr. T. P. Burke	Mr. Curtin	Harrison	Mr. O'Connor	
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Davies	Mr. Haylen	Mr. Peters	Mr. Daly
Mr. C. R. Cameron	Mr. Duthie	Mr. James	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Fitzgerald
Mr. Clarey	Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Riordan	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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.)

Clause 1—

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bowden reported accordingly.

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

6. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Eric Harrison (Vice-President of the Executive Council) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at ten 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. Brown, Mr. Bryson, Mr. A. G. Cameron, Mr. Casey, Mr. Chambers*, Mr. Downer, Mr. Drakeford, Sir Arthur Fadden, Mr. Joske*, Mr. Lemmon, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Menzies, Mr. Mullens, Mr. Russell, Mr. Ward, Mr. Watkins and Mr. Wheeler.

* On leave.

A. A. TREGEAR,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.