

1956.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 79.

THURSDAY, 8TH NOVEMBER, 1956.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. McLeay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MIDDLE EAST—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement in regard to the position in the Middle East following the invasion of Egypt by Israel and the later military activities of Great Britain and France, and informed the House of reports received that there had been a cease-fire consequent upon an announcement by the United Nations of an international force for use in the Suez Canal area; it was not known whether it was desired that Australia should contribute to the United Nations force. Mr. Menzies stated that the Government continued to support the action of the United Kingdom.
Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
3. HUNGARY—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Sir Philip McBride (Acting Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement reviewing the position in Hungary consequent on the intervention of Soviet forces.
Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
4. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Papua—Report for year 1954–55.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Explosives Act—Explosives Regulations—Order—Berthing of a vessel.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Postal purposes—
Burnt Yards, New South Wales.
McMahon's Reef, New South Wales.
Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance—1956—No. 2—Pharmacy.
Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—
Customs and Excise—P. J. A. Murray.
Labour and National Service—M. S. O'Brien.
Postmaster-General—W. A. Gold, D. J. Simpson.
Works—W. F. Coyle, W. B. Gilbert, J. A. Y. Rutter, A. R. Sullivan, K. T. Tymukas.
Public Service Arbitration Act—Determinations—1956—
No. 106—Association of Railway Professional Officers of Australia.
No. 107—Amalgamated Engineering Union and others.
No. 108—Australian Workers' Union.
No. 109—Commonwealth Public Service Artisans' Association.
Tobacco Industry Act—First Annual Report for period ended 30th June, 1956.
5. WENTWORTH BY-ELECTION.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had yesterday issued the Writ in connexion with the By-election for the Wentworth Division, and that the dates fixed were those announced to the House on the 23rd October.
6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL—ASSENT TO BILLS.—Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were announced informing the House that His Excellency, in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills:—
5th November, 1956—*Message*—
No. 58—Supplementary Appropriation 1955–56.
Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Services) 1955–56.
7th November, 1956—*Message*—
No. 59—Mount Stromlo Observatory 1956.
International Wheat Agreement 1956.
No. 60—Loan (War Service Land Settlement) 1956.
Loans Securities 1956.

8th November, 1956.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—A Message from the Senate was reported returning the following Bill without amendment :—
2nd November, 1956, a.m.—*Message No. 114*—Australian Security Intelligence Organization 1956.
8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—A Message from the Senate was reported acquainting the House that the Senate had agreed to the Amendment made by the House in the following Bill :—
2nd November, 1956, a.m.—*Message No. 116*—War Service Homes 1956.
9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—SUPERANNUATION BILL (No. 2) 1956.—Mr. Speaker reported the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 115.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the Superannuation Act 1922–1955*”, as amended by the “*Superannuation Act 1956*”, and for other purposes”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill with the Amendments indicated by the annexed Schedule, in which Amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Canberra, 2nd November, 1956, a.m.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

Ordered—That the Amendments be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments, which are as follows :—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

- No. 1.—Page 6, clause 10, lines 2 to 6, leave out paragraph (a), insert the following paragraph :—
“(a) the employment of a contributor, being a person who is deemed to be an employee by virtue of sub-section (5.) or (6.) of section four of this Act, sub-section (6.) of section nine of the *High Commissioner Act 1909–1952* or sub-section (2.) of section thirteen of the *Australian Security Intelligence Organization Act 1956*, terminates or is terminated ; and”.
- No. 2.—Page 6, clause 10, line 14, after “sub-section” insert “, except in so far as it relates to persons employed under the *Australian Security Intelligence Organization Act 1956*,”.
- No. 3.—Page 7, clause 15, lines 12 to 16, leave out paragraph (a), insert the following paragraph :—
“(a) the employment of a contributor to the Provident Account, being a person who is deemed to be an employee by virtue of sub-section (5.) or (6.) of section four of this Act, sub-section (6.) of section nine of the *High Commissioner Act 1909–1952* or sub-section (2.) of section thirteen of the *Australian Security Intelligence Organization Act 1956*, terminates or is terminated ; and”.
- No. 4.—Page 7, clause 15, line 24, after “sub-section” insert “, except in so far as it relates to persons employed under the *Australian Security Intelligence Organization Act 1956*,”.
- On the motion of Sir Arthur Fadden (Treasurer), the Amendments were agreed to.
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.
On the motion of Sir Arthur Fadden, the House adopted the Report.

10. AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY—PROPOSED JOINT COMMITTEE.—Mr. Fairhall (Minister for the Interior) moved, by leave—

(1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to—

(a) examine and report on all proposals for modifications or variations of the plan of lay-out of the City of Canberra and its environs published in the *Commonwealth of Australia Gazette* on the nineteenth day of November, 1925, as previously modified or varied, which are referred to the Committee by the Minister for the Interior ; and

(b) examine and report on such other matters relating to the Australian Capital Territory as may be referred to the Committee by the Minister for the Interior.

(2) That the Committee consist of two Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Prime Minister, two Members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Leader of the Opposition in the House of Representatives, three Senators appointed by the Leader of the Government in the Senate and two Senators appointed by the Leader of the Opposition in the Senate.

(3) That every appointment of a member of the Committee be forthwith notified in writing to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(4) That the Committee elect as Chairman of the Committee one of the members appointed by the Leader of the Government in the Senate.

(5) That the Chairman of the Committee may, from time to time, appoint another member of the Committee to be the Deputy Chairman of the Committee, and that the member so appointed act as Chairman of the Committee at any time when the Chairman is not present at a meeting of the Committee,

8th November, 1956.

- (6) That the Committee have power to appoint sub-committees consisting of three or more of its members and to refer to such a sub-committee any matter which the committee is empowered to examine.
- (7) That the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records and to sit during any recess or any adjournment of the Parliament and during the sittings of either House of the Parliament.
- (8) That the Committee have leave to report from time to time and that any member of the Committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report.
- (9) That five members of the Committee, including the Chairman or Deputy Chairman, constitute a quorum of the Committee, and two members of a sub-committee constitute a quorum of the sub-committee.
- (10) That in matters of procedure the Chairman or Deputy Chairman presiding at the meeting have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, have a casting vote, and that, in other matters, the Chairman or Deputy Chairman have a deliberative vote only.
- (11) That the foregoing provisions of this resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.
- (12) That a Message be sent to the Senate acquainting it of this resolution and requesting that it concur and take action accordingly.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

Question—put and passed.

12. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. H. E. Holt (Minister for Labour and National Service) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Ordered—That Mr. Holt be granted an extension of time.

The debate having been closed by Mr. Holt having spoken in reply—

Mr. Evatt (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, addressed the House.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes to six o'clock p.m., adjourned until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by Resolution of the House at this sitting.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Brand, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Casey, Mr. Clark, Mr. Cleaver, Mr. Drury, Mr. Duthie, Mr. Fairbairn*, Mr. Harrison, Mr. James, Mr. H. V. Johnson, Mr. Leslie, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Morgan, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Riordan*, Mr. Robertson, Mr. Stokes and Mr. Watkins.

* On leave.

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

1956-57.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.

The following Message from the Senate was received after the adjournment of the House on the 8th November, 1956 :—

[Australian Capital Territory—Joint Committee]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 117.

The Senate, having considered Message No. 119 of the House of Representatives, has agreed to the following resolutions in connexion therewith :—

- (1) That the Senate concurs in the Resolution transmitted to the Senate by Message No. 119 of the House of Representatives with reference to the appointment of a Joint Committee to examine and report on certain matters relating to the Australian Capital Territory.
- (2) That the provisions of that Resolution, so far as they are inconsistent with the Standing Orders, have effect notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders.

The Senate,
Canberra, 8th November, 1956.

A. M. McMULLIN,
President.

1956-57.

MESSAGES FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

ASSENT TO BILLS.

The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General intimating that His Excellency, in the name and on behalf of Her Majesty, had assented to the following Bills, were received after the adjournment of the House on the 8th November, 1956 :—

8th November, 1956—*Message No. 61*—

Stevedoring Industry Charge 1956.
Home Nursing Subsidy 1956.
Land Tax Abolition 1956.
Customs Tariff (No. 4) 1956.
Excise Tariff (No. 3) 1956.
Customs Tariff Validation 1956.
Cocos (Keeling) Islands 1956.
Tractor Bounty (No. 2) 1956.

15th November, 1956—*Message*—

No. 62—Repatriation (Far East Strategic Reserve) 1956.
Broadcasting and Television (No. 3) 1956.
Commonwealth Employees' Compensation 1956.
Estate Duty Assessment 1956.
National Health (No. 2) 1956.
Re-establishment and Employment 1956.
Repatriation (No. 2) 1956.
Social Services (No. 2) 1956.
Commonwealth Railways 1956.
War Service Homes 1956.

No. 63—Income Tax and Social Services Contribution Assessment (No. 3) 1956.
Income Tax and Social Services Contribution (Individuals) 1956.
Conciliation and Arbitration (No. 2) 1956.
Public Service Arbitration (No. 2) 1956.
Australian National Airlines 1956.
Aluminium Industry 1956.
States Grants 1956.
States Grants (Special Financial Assistance) 1956.
Sugar Agreement 1956.
Northern Territory (Administration) (No. 2) 1956.
Customs Tariff (Industries Preservation) 1956.
Superannuation (No. 2) 1956.
Australian Security Intelligence Organization 1956.