

1908.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 1.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THIRD SESSION OF THE THIRD PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER, 1908.

1. The House of Representatives met pursuant to Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor-General, bearing date the thirteenth day of August, 1908, which Proclamation was read at the Table by the Clerk, as follows:—

PROCLAMATION

Commonwealth of
Australia to wit.NORTHCOTE,
Governor-General.

By His Excellency the Right Honorable HENRY STAFFORD, BARON NORTHCOTE, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Grand Commander of the Most Eminent Order of the Indian Empire, Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS by the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act it is amongst other things enacted that the Governor-General might appoint such times for holding the Sessions of the Parliament as he thinks fit, and also from time to time by Proclamation or otherwise prorogue the Parliament: AND whereas on the fourteenth day of July, One thousand nine hundred and eight the Parliament was further prorogued until Wednesday, the nineteenth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and eight, and it is expedient to further prorogue the said Parliament: Now therefore I, HENRY STAFFORD, BARON NORTHCOTE, the Governor-General aforesaid, in exercise of the power conferred by the said Act, do by this my Proclamation further prorogue the said Parliament until Wednesday, the sixteenth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and eight, and I do appoint the said Wednesday, the sixteenth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and eight, as the day for the said Parliament to assemble and be holden for the despatch of business. And all Members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives respectively are hereby required to give their attendance accordingly, in the Building known as the Houses of Parliament, situate in Spring-street, in the City of Melbourne, at half-past Two in the afternoon, on the said Wednesday the sixteenth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and eight.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia aforesaid this thirteenth day of August, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and eight, and in the eighth year of His Majesty's reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

ALFRED DEAKIN.

GOD SAVE THE KING!

(650 copies)

P.11221.

16th September, 1908.

2. Mr. Speaker took the Chair and read Prayers.
3. MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL BY THE USHER OF THE SENATE.—The following Message was delivered by the Usher of the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

His Excellency the Governor-General desires the attendance of this honorable House in the Senate Chamber forthwith.

Accordingly Mr. Speaker with the Members of the House went to attend His Excellency :—And having returned—

4. RETURN TO WRIT (ADELAIDE DIVISION).—Mr. Speaker announced that he had received a Return to the Writ which he had issued on the 14th May last, for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Adelaide, in the State of South Australia, and that by the indorsement on the Writ it appeared that Ernest Alfred Roberts had been elected in pursuance of the said Writ.
5. MEMBER SWORN.—Ernest Alfred Roberts, Esquire, was introduced, and made and subscribed the Oath required by law.
6. MARINE INSURANCE BILL (1908).—Mr. Deakin moved, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act relating to Marine Insurance.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
Mr. Deakin then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act relating to Marine Insurance,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a first time. ¶
Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.
7. HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Speaker reported that the House had this day attended His Excellency the Governor-General in the Senate Chamber, when His Excellency was pleased to make a Speech to both Houses of the Parliament, of which Mr. Speaker said he had, for greater accuracy, obtained a copy, which read as follows :—

GENTLEMEN :

1. It affords me much gratification, on meeting the Parliament of the Commonwealth for the first time, to convey to you and to the people of this country a warm acknowledgment from the Dominion of Canada of your greetings at its Tercentenary which, as the representative of Australia, I had the pleasure of conveying to its citizens, and also to be able to congratulate you most cordially upon the brilliant success attending the visit to these shores of the great Fleet of the United States.

2. In order to complete the pressing work of the Session before the close of the year, you will be invited to deal promptly with a full programme of business.

3. Recent decisions of the High Court render necessary the submission of an amendment of the Constitution relating to the “*New Protection,*” which will be laid before you when measures defining the Seat of Government and providing for National Defence are sufficiently advanced.

4. Important proposals affecting the financial future of the Commonwealth ; for federalizing our Navigation Laws ; acquiring the Northern Territory ; for the establishment of the Iron Industry ; of an Agricultural Bureau and the encouragement of Immigration ; together with Bills federalizing the law relating to Public Companies, Bankruptcy, Marine Insurance, Bills of Exchange, and Bills authorizing amendments of the Electoral Law, the Public Service Act, Penny Postage, and certain administrative measures, will be placed before you.

5. I trust that, under Divine guidance, the discharge of your high and honorable duties will promote the welfare of the people of Australia.

8. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Deakin moved, That a Committee, consisting of Mr. Chanter, Mr. Crouch, Mr. Salmon, and Mr. John Thomson, be appointed to prepare an Address in Reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor-General to both Houses of the Parliament.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the Committee do report this day.

9. THE LATE MOST HONORABLE THE MARQUIS OF LINLITHGOW, FIRST GOVERNOR-GENERAL OF AUSTRALIA.—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received the following letter from the Marchioness of Linlithgow in reply to the resolution of condolence passed by the House on 11th March last :—

Grand Hotel,
St. Heliers, Jersey
6th May.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER,

Please convey to the Members of the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia my most sincere and grateful thanks for the kind message they have sent me.

The knowledge of how greatly Australians loved and appreciated my dear husband will always be a help and consolation to me. My children and I are deeply touched by the sympathy and kindness which has been shown us by the people of Australia in our great sorrow.

I am, dear Mr. Speaker,
Yours faithfully,

HERSEY A. LINLITHGOW.

16th September, 1908.

10. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—VISIT OF FLEET.—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table the following copy of the Address presented on behalf of the Parliament of the Commonwealth to Rear-Admiral Charles S. Sperry, and of the proceedings at the presentation :—

VISIT OF THE AMERICAN FLEET TO AUSTRALIA.

COMMONWEALTH'S WELCOME.

Address from Parliament.

Prior to the dinner given by the Commonwealth Government to the American Admirals on the 31st August, 1908, Members of the two Houses of the Federal Parliament assembled in the Senate Chamber, where a Joint Address of Welcome was presented to Rear-Admiral Sperry.

Senator Gould, President of the Senate, addressing Admiral Sperry, said :—

The privilege of presenting an Address to you as representative of the Government of the United States of America from the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Federated Australia, has devolved upon Mr. Speaker and myself; but, before presenting the Address, I desire to say that, although the Governor-General and the Prime Minister of the Commonwealth, and the Governors and representatives of the States of New South Wales and Victoria, have already had an opportunity of welcoming you and your fleet to our shores, and although you have had evidences of the great interest taken by the people of this country in your visit, and of the friendly feeling shown towards the United States by the demonstrations that have awaited you in New Zealand, and in the States of New South Wales and Victoria, still it has been thought but fitting that the representatives of the Commonwealth Parliament should join in that welcome. (Hear, hear.) It was felt that the Commonwealth Parliament, representing as it did the people, and elected upon a franchise so free and so wide as to be truly a reflex of the feelings of the people of this country, should not be behind in expressing its congratulations upon your arrival, and the good-will felt by the people of this country towards the people of the United States. We desire to thank the Government of the United States for affording Australians the opportunity of becoming better acquainted with the people of America. The late Lord Tennyson, in writing of the events that occurred between America and England more than 100 years ago, had said—

"O thou, that sendest out the man
To rule by land and sea,
Strong mother of a Lion-line,
Be proud of those strong sons of thine
Who wrench'd their rights from thee!"

When we look at the great fleet lying in these peaceful waters, and remember the great achievements of the nation you represent, we feel proud of those "strong sons" who have sprung from the same motherland as have we. (Cheers.)

The Speaker (Sir Frederick Holder), addressing the Admiral, said :—

Many years ago your forefathers and ours dwelt together in the motherland. Yours went westward, and founded a great nation. Ours moved eastward, and also founded a nation. To-day the eastern and the western paths meet, and we rejoice at the opportunity thus afforded us of offering to you a hearty greeting. (Applause.) Representing, as I do, the House of Representatives, elected directly on the broad franchise of all the manhood and womanhood of the Commonwealth, in its name, and on behalf of the people it represents, I offer you a cordial greeting to this Australia of ours; and I hope, as the President has said, that the events transpiring here now, like those in another State the other day, will tend as the years pass to draw together the two great nations, not only that there may be peace between them, but that through their influence the peace of the world may be preserved. (Applause.)

The Address was then read as follows :—

To

Rear-Admiral CHARLES S. SPERRY,
Commander-in-Chief United States Atlantic Fleet.

On behalf of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, we desire to offer the most hearty welcome to yourself and to every member of your fleet.

Your visit would be a matter of great interest to any community, and especially so to any British community; but to Australians, who have so lately started under a Federal system which in many ways resembles that of your own Republic, the presence of this magnificent representative of the powerful and successful federation which occupies such a prominent position in the social and commercial progress of the world, is an occasion of exceptional rejoicing. We feel sure, from the widespread interest that has been taken in your visit by every one of our citizens, that you will receive a most cordial welcome from all classes in this Commonwealth.

Many bonds of sympathy already exist between your great Nation and the British Empire. Your intercourse with us will, we are confident, increase and strengthen those bonds. The friendly relations existing between the United States and Great Britain constitute an important factor in the peace of the world. We are certain that this meeting between your people and the Australians, short as it is, will add to their mutual friendly feeling and respect. We hope that every member of your fleet will feel that he has come amongst friends, and that he will be able to take away a happy recollection of his visit to Australia.

A. J. GOULD, President of the Senate.

F W HOLDER, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Melbourne, 31st August, 1908.

16th September, 1908.

Rear-Admiral Sperry said in reply—

Nothing could confer higher pleasure than the welcome of the Parliament of this great Commonwealth, representing in a concrete form the union of the six States of the Australian Commonwealth. We have watched the federation of these great States, and the development of their resources, with the keenest interest. I must express, as the immediate head of a military organization, and as the representative of 15,000 active, patriotic sons of the American Republic, sincere acknowledgment of the generous welcome that has been given. I cannot but feel that those for whom I speak, and the people who have received them so warmly, will work together for the peace of the world. (Applause.)

11. PAPERS.—Mr. Deakin presented, pursuant to Statute—
Papua—Ordinance of 1908—Land.

Sir William Lyne presented, pursuant to Statute—
Audit Acts—

Provisional Treasury Regulation 137v.—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 79.
Provisional London Account Regulations—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 89.

Mr. Chapman presented, pursuant to Statute—

Bounties Act—

Regulations—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 69.
Substituted Regulation 16 (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 94.

Customs Act—Repeal of Regulations, viz. :—

Regulation dated 14th August, 1903, *re* Duty on Condensed Whole Egg; and Statutory Rules 1905, No. 39—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 82.

Excise Act—Substituted Drawback Regulation 50—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 68.

Mr. Ewing presented, pursuant to Statute—

Defence Acts—

Military Cadet Corps—Regulations 2, 24, 45 Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 72.

Military Forces—

Regulations (Provisional) and Standing Orders (including Defence Acts and Statutory Rules 1908, No. 60, &c.).

Regulations Amended (Provisional)—

No. 2—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 71.
No. 2—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 99.
No. 199—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 98.

Financial and Allowance Regulations Amended (Provisional)—

No. 77—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 88.
No. 93—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 70.
No. 105—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 97.

Naval Forces—

Financial and Allowance Regulations No. 51 Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 81.

Mr. Hume Cook presented, pursuant to Statute—

Census and Statistics Act—Regulations—

(Provisional) As to additional matters of which Statistics are to be collected—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 66.

As to additional matters of which Statistics are to be collected—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 95.

Declaration by Officer under Section 7—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 76.

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land leased for grazing purposes at Langwarrin Military Reserve, Victoria.

Land acquired under at—

Bellingen, New South Wales—As a site for a Post Office.
Cessnock, New South Wales—As a site for a Post Office.
Ennoggera, Queensland—For Defence purposes.
Maribyrnong, Victoria—As a site for a Cordite Factory.
Windsor, Victoria—As a site for a Telephone Exchange.

Public Service Act—

Temporary Employés—Return for Financial Year 1907–8.

Regulations Amended, &c.—

No. 104—Sorters—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 64.
No. 104—Assistant, Senior, Post Office—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 65.
No. 104—Fireman—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 75.
No. 104—Instrument Fitter—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 77.
No. 104—Groom in Charge—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 78.
No. 104—New Regulation (Provisional) substituted for Nos. 96, 100, 103, 104—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 83.
Nos. 51, 86, 159 to 161, 163 to 166, &c.—Repealed, and New Regulations (Provisional) substituted—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 90.
Nos. 30, 57, 89, 89A, 90, 268—Substituted Regulations (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 91.
Nos. 264, 276A—Substituted Regulations (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 92.

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- No. 168—Substituted Regulation (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 67.
 No. 172, 182—Substituted Regulations (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 80.
 No. 267A—Provisional—Statutory Rules 1908, No. 93.

The following Papers were laid upon the Table by the Clerk :—

Cost and Revenue under State and Commonwealth of Transferred Services, &c.—Return to an Order of the House dated 29th May, 1908.

Patent Office—Particulars as to Applications, Examiners, and Salaries.—Return to an Order of the House dated 5th June, 1908.

Advertisements by Government, and Cost, &c., of *Commonwealth Gazette*.—Return to an Order of the House dated 21st May, 1908.

12. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—Mr. Chanter brought up the Address in Reply to His Excellency's Speech prepared by the Committee appointed this day, and the same was read as follows :—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

Mr. Chanter moved, That the Address be agreed to by the House.

Mr. Salmon seconded the motion.

Mr. Joseph Cook 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 to-morrow.

13. DAYS OF BUSINESS.—Mr. Deakin moved, by leave, That, until otherwise ordered, this House shall meet for the despatch of business at Three o'clock on each Tuesday afternoon, and at half-past Two o'clock on each Wednesday and Thursday afternoon, and at half-past Ten o'clock on each Friday morning.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

14. DEPARTURE OF LORD NORTHCOTE.—Mr. Deakin moved, by leave, That the following Address to Lord Northcote, the late Governor-General, be agreed to by this House :—

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE HENRY STAFFORD, LORD NORTHCOTE :

We, the Members of the House of Representatives in Parliament assembled, desire to express to Your Lordship our grateful recognition of the judgment and ability, zeal and courtesy, with which as Governor-General of Australia you devoted yourself unremittingly to the duties and opportunities of your exalted office.

In your intimate association with both Houses of Parliament your relations have been at all times cordial, constitutional, and considerate of their great responsibilities.

You have brought to bear in the exercise of your duties an exceptional knowledge of the vast territory and scattered population of the Commonwealth, in gaining which no considerations of personal convenience have been permitted to enter.

The unsparing kindness and generosity on the part of Her Excellency and yourself in promoting all movements for charity or culture, the encouragement of local aptitudes, and the development of a patriotic spirit, are universally acknowledged.

We desire to add a further assurance to those already so freely and widely bestowed of the high value and permanent influence of your and Lady Northcote's many activities, and of the abiding affection, esteem, and gratitude of the people of Australia.

And Mr. Joseph Cook and Mr. Fisher having addressed the House in support of the motion.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Resolved—That Mr. Speaker be requested to forward the resolution by telegraph.

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

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House at twenty-four minutes past five 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. Tilley Brown, Mr. Carr, Mr. Fairbairn, Mr. Harper, Mr. Hedges, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hans Irvine, Mr. Mahon, Sir John Quick, Mr. Reid, and Mr. Bruce Smith.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
 Clerk of the House of Representatives