

1913.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 39.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 16TH OCTOBER, 1913.

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

2. COLLIERY DISASTER AT SENGHENYWD.—Mr. Joseph Cook having expressed deep sympathy with the relatives of the victims in the calamitous colliery disaster at Senghenywd read to the House the following cablegram transmitted by His Excellency the Governor-General:—

“On behalf of the Government and people of the Commonwealth of Australia I shall be glad if you will kindly convey to the relatives of the sufferers through the terrible colliery disaster at Senghenywd an expression of our sincere sympathy. We deeply deplore the loss of these valuable lives, and earnestly hope that the rescue operations now in progress will be attended with success.”

Mr. Fisher also addressed the House expressing deep sympathy.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—LOAN BILL (1913) (AMENDMENT).—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

DENMAN,

Governor-General.

Message No. 15.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of the following amendment of the “Bill for an Act to authorize the raising and expending of the sum of Three million and eighty thousand pounds for certain purposes,” to be proposed by the Treasurer, the Right Honorable Sir John Forrest:—

“Page 1, clause 2, at the end of the clause insert the following proviso:—

‘Provided that, notwithstanding anything contained in that Act, the sum to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund into the Trust Fund, under the head of the Stock Redemption Fund, in respect of the items numbered six and seven in the Schedule to this Act, shall be Five pounds per centum per annum on the amount of stock sold for the purposes of those items.’”

Government House,

Melbourne, 14th October, 1913.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

4. PAPERS.—Mr. Kelly presented, pursuant to Statute—

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at—

Boomi, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Bulli, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.

Toowoomba, Queensland—For Defence purposes.

Tuggerunong, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

5. POSTAL DEPARTMENT—PROPOSED BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.—Mr. Webster moved, pursuant to Order, That the Postal Department should be placed under a Board of Management, on the lines laid down in the report of the Royal Commission on Postal Services.

Mr. Webster in addressing the House, not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A, was given leave to continue his speech for an additional quarter of an hour.

Mr. Wynne 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 Thursday next.

16th October, 1913.

6. SMALL-POX—ISOLATION IN LIEU OF VACCINATION.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Webster:—That—with a view to putting an end to the suffering, sacrifice of human life, and the commercial, industrial, and domestic stagnation in the State of New South Wales, resulting from the proclamation and administration of the laws governing small-pox epidemics—this House is of the opinion that the proclamation should be cancelled, and that isolation, combined with sanitary reform, the true enemy of small-pox, should be substituted for the present injurious methods—

Debate resumed.

Ordered, on the motion of Mr. Webster.—That the Order of the Day be discharged.

7. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That the remaining Orders of the Day, General Business, be postponed as follows, viz. :—Order of the Day No. 3 until Thursday next; Order of the Day No. 4 until Thursday, 30th instant.

8. DIVORCE LAWS.—Mr. W. Maloney moved, pursuant to notice—

(1) That, in the opinion of this House, the present evils of the Divorce Laws in the various States, as pointed out repeatedly by the various State Judges, should be eliminated by the Federal Parliament enacting a law for the Commonwealth that would remove the many injustices caused by the differences existing in Divorce Law in the various States.

(2) That, contingent upon this resolution being carried, it be taken as an instruction to the Government of the day to bring in a Divorce Bill to apply to the Commonwealth.

Mr. Greene 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 Thursday, 13th November next.

9. MR. T. HORAN—CASE OF.—Mr. Burns moved, pursuant to notice, That all papers in connexion with the removal of Mr. Thomas Horan from the position of presiding officer at Woonona in connexion with the Federal Election 1910 be laid on the Table of the House.

Debate ensued.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

10. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Notices of Motion, General Business, Nos. 3 and 4, be postponed until Thursday, 30th instant.

11. OSTRICH FARMING.—Mr. Palmer moved, pursuant to notice, That the industry of ostrich farming should be stimulated by the Government—

(a) by providing a bounty;

(b) by the employment of an expert to report upon the steps necessary to make the industry profitable; and

(c) by negotiations with the South African Government with a view to the introduction of high-class birds into the Commonwealth.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Groom 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 Thursday, 13th November next.

12. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Notice of Motion, General Business, No. 6, be postponed until Thursday, 30th instant.

13. SUPPLY [“GRIEVANCE DAY.”]—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—

Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into the said Committee.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Catts.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.