

1914.

55

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 20.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 27TH MAY, 1914.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. REMOVAL OF MACE, AND OTHER IRREGULAR PROCEEDINGS.—Mr. Speaker made the following statement to the House—

I think it right to bring under the notice of the House certain irregular proceedings in relation to the conduct of the business of the House which transpired during the course of last week's sittings.

When the proceedings were resumed after the luncheon adjournment on Friday, it was reported to me that the Mace had been removed by some unauthorized person. I had a search instituted, and, at a later hour of the day, an attendant recovered the Mace, which had been secreted under one of the Opposition benches. In connexion with this episode, the names of two honorable Members of this House have been published by the *Argus* newspaper. Perhaps the honorable Members concerned may desire to offer an explanation of the incident to the House.

About the same time, I missed the Speaker's copy of "May's Parliamentary Practice" from its accustomed place on my desk. This was recovered at a late hour at night by one of the attendants, lying open, face downwards, in a fuel locker in the North Lobby. All the reference marking slips, which I had inserted for convenience of ready reference on points liable to crop up during various stages of the proceedings of the House, were missing, and have not since been recovered.

I discovered subsequently that other papers, typed and in manuscript, having special reference to authorities and House of Commons' decisions relating to rulings I had given, which are the subject of notices of motions of dissent on the business paper, were missing from my desk.

In the early hours of the morning, when a division was about to take place, the attendants reported that the keys had been removed from the Chamber doors on either side of the Speaker's Chair, and thus the doors could not be locked during the Divisions. And, later, it was reported to me that the communication door, leading from the passage behind the Speaker's Chair into the Queen's Hall, had been locked and the key removed.

The interference with the exits and entrances to the Chamber is, in my opinion, a matter of very grave importance, involving, as it does, the obstructing of Members in the performance of their legitimate duties in the House, and the several matters mentioned I think should be noticed by the House, as every Member is personally concerned in anything affecting the rights and privileges of Members, and the honour, dignity, credit, and reputation of Parliament.

Mr. Higgs (one of the Members referred to), Mr. Joseph Cook (the Prime Minister), Mr. Fisher (the Leader of the Opposition), and other honorable Members addressed the House on the matter.

3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Postmaster-General's Department—

Postal Service.—Report by Mr. Geo. A. Gasman, Superintendent of Mails, Chicago, regarding "Machinery in the Postal Service."

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

27th May, 1914.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE—FIRST REPORT FROM.—Mr. McWilliams, Chairman, brought up the First Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate).

The Report was read by the Clerk, and is as follows :—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have met in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the undermentioned Petition and Papers presented to Parliament, make the following recommendations :—

| Subject of Paper. | Recommendation of Committee. | Remarks. |
|--|--------------------------------|---|
| †Petition—Woodlark Island—Radio-Telegraph Station—Praying for establishment of | No recommenda- tion | |
| Papers— | | |
| Audit Act— | | |
| Transfers—Financial Year 1913-14— | | |
| Dated 5th February, 5th and 25th March, 30th April, 8th May, 1914 | " " | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, Nos. 297, 334 | " " | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Statutory Rules 1914, Nos. 6, 18 | " " | " " |
| Beer Excise Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 317 | " " | " " |
| Bounties Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 306 | " " | " " |
| Coal Vend Case—Judgment of Privy Council on Appeal | To be printed | |
| Colonial Sugar Refining Company's Case—Judgment of Privy Council | " " | |
| Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 347 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Commonwealth Bank Act— | | |
| Balance-sheet of the Commonwealth Bank of Aus- tralia at 31st December, 1913; together with Auditor- General's Report thereon | To be printed | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, No. 333 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Conciliation and Arbitration, &c.— | | |
| Report on proceedings under Conciliation and Arbitra- tion Act, 15th December, 1904, to 31st December, 1912; under Excise Tariff Act 1906, during the time Act was in operation; and under Arbitration (Public Service) Act to 31st December, 1912 | To be printed | |
| Conciliation and Arbitration Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 331 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Contract Immigrants Act—Return for 1913 | To be printed | |
| Copyright Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 338 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Customs Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 346 | " " | " " |
| Defence— | | |
| Army Medical Corps—Annual Report of Director- General for year ending 30th June, 1913 | To be printed | |
| Military College— | | |
| *"General Knowledge" Paper at Entrance Exam- ination in October, 1913 | To be circulated to Members | |
| Report on Fourth Entrance Examination, October, 1913 | No recommenda- tion | |
| Small Arms Factory, Lithgow—Report by G. Swin- burne, Inter-State Commissioner, on a dispute between the Management of the Factory and the Amalgamated Society of Engineers | To be printed | |
| *Uniforms for National Regiments—Copy of Recom- mendation of Military Board | " " | |

* Presented to Senate only.

† Presented to House of Representatives only.

27th May, 1914.

REPORT—continued.

| Subject of Paper. | Recommendation of Committee. | Remarks. |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| <i>Papers—continued:</i> | | |
| Defence Act— | | |
| Landing of Sailors from Foreign Men-of-War, &c.— Statutory Rules 1913, No. 325 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Military College—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 326 .. | " " | " " |
| Military Forces— | | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, Nos. 312, 313, 322, 323, 327 .. | " " | " " |
| Statutory Rules 1914, Nos. 3, 13, 27, 29, 31 .. | " " | " " |
| (Financial and Allowance Regulations)— | | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, Nos. 321, 324, 332 .. | " " | " " |
| Statutory Rules 1914, Nos. 1, 2, 15, 20, 23, 28, 33-37, 39 | " " | " " |
| Universal Training— | | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, Nos. 311, 328, 329 .. | " " | " " |
| Statutory Rules 1914, Nos. 4, 14, 16, 19, 24, 32 .. | " " | " " |
| Distillation Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 343 .. | " " | " " |
| Dominions Royal Commission—Natural Resources, Trade, and Legislation of certain portions of His Majesty's Dominions— | | |
| First Interim Report | " " | |
| Second Interim Report | " " | |
| Minutes of Evidence—Taken in— | | |
| London, October and November, 1912— | | |
| Part I.—Migration | " " | |
| Part II.—Natural Resources, Trade, and Legis- lation | " " | |
| New Zealand, 1913 | " " | |
| Australia, 1913— | | |
| Part I. | " " | |
| Part II. | " " | |
| London, November, 1913; and Papers laid before the Commission | " " | |
| Electoral Matters—Interim Report of Royal Commission | To be printed | |
| Excise Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 345 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Federal Territory—Report by Messrs. D. J. Mahony and T. Griffith Taylor, on a Geological Reconnaissance | " " | |
| High Court Procedure Act and Judiciary Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 330 | " " | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Immigration Act—Return for 1913 | To be printed | |
| Inter-State Conference, Melbourne, March–April, 1914, Report of Resolutions, Proceedings, and Debates; together with Appendices | " " | |
| Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act—Statutory Rules 1914, No. 10 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Land Tax Assessment Act— | | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, Nos. 335, 337 | " " | " " |
| Statutory Rules 1914, No. 5 | " " | " " |
| Lands Acquisition Act— | | |
| Land acquired under, at Baulkham Hills, Bayswater, Beecroft, Bligh, Booroomba (2), and Gibraltar, Brisbane, Burnie, Camberwell, Collingwood, Crystal Brook, Daylesford, Doodlakine, Dorrigo, Dowsing's Point, East Perth, Essendon, Finley, Friezland, George Town, Ginnindera (3), Granville, Hawthorn, Jervis Bay, Kilkenny, Latrobe, Malvern, Marrickville, Maryborough, Molong, Newmarket, Pentland, Pialligo, Prospect, Queanbeyan, Rosewood, Ryde, South Head (Sydney), Sydney, Tharwa, Vacluse (2), Wallend- been, Wallsend, Wallumbilla, Weetangera, Woodforde | " " | Published in <i>Gazette</i> |
| Manufactures Encouragement Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 316 | " " | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |

27th May, 1914.

REPORT—continued.

| Subject of Paper. | Recommendation of Committee. | Remarks. |
|---|------------------------------|--|
| <i>Papers—continued—</i> | | |
| Maternity Allowance Act—Statutory Rules 1913, Nos. 298, 299 | No recommendation | Already in print and circulated to Members |
| Naturalization Act—Return for 1913 | To be printed | |
| Naval Defence— | | |
| Reports <i>re</i> Naval Bases, &c., by Sir Maurice Fitzmaurice | .. .. . |  |
| *Strength of British Naval Complement in the Pacific | .. .. . |  |
| Naval Defence Act— | | |
| Naval College—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 308 | No recommendation | Already in print and circulated to Members |
| Naval Forces—Statutory Rules 1914, No. 21 .. .. . | .. .. . | .. .. . |
| Post and Telegraph Act— | | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, Nos. 309, 314, 318, 319, 320, 348, 349, 350 .. .. . | .. .. . | .. .. . |
| Statutory Rules 1914, Nos. 9, 11, 12, 17, 22, 25, 26, 30 | .. .. . | .. .. . |
| Postal and Telegraphic—Tasmanian Mail Service—Agreement between Postmaster-General and the Union Steam-ship Company of New Zealand Limited, and Huddart Parker Limited, for conveyance of mails between Melbourne and Launceston, and Melbourne and Burnie | | |
| | To be printed | |
| Powellised and other Timbers—Interim Report of the Royal Commission .. .. . | .. .. . |  |
| Public Service Act— | | |
| Statutory Rules 1913, No. 341 | No recommendation | Already in print and circulated to Members |
| Recommendations, &c., in cases of Appointments, Promotions, &c., of J. A. Allan, H. G. Brain, W. Butler, J. G. B. Castieau, F. F. Clausen, H. W. Cooley, T. L. Coughlan, J. Crennan, C. W. Davies, C. E. Deacon, W. G. C. L. Dix, H. A. Dixon, V. C. Duffy, S. Dunlop, G. P. Embleton, R. A. Fetherston, D. W. Fordyce, H. J. T. Giles, W. J. Gore, T. G. Gray, P. F. Green, W. J. Hall, J. C. Hamilton, A. Hampton, A. J. Harney, J. H. Hartshorn, J. Henderson, H. C. Hine, W. H. C. Hughes, N. R. James, S. S. Mackenzie, H. Macklin, E. J. Marquard, J. E. Martin, W. C. D. McBurney, A. E. McCloskey, W. McGregor, W. McPherson, A. E. Munyard, R. J. Murphy, W. Palmer, H. N. M. Parke, A. T. M. Potter, E. P. Ramsay, G. F. Riddett, C. F. Robinson, H. M. Robinson, J. Robinson, P. E. Row, H. J. Rowthorn, W. K. Ryan, T. H. Sewell, J. R. Sinclair, P. L. Sheaffe, A. B. Smith, E. Stanfield, C. Stewart, F. G. Thorpe, C. J. Westhoven, O. L. Wild, G. E. Wright | | |
| | | |
| Railways— | | |
| *Resignation of Mr. H. Deane as Engineer-in-Chief | To be printed | |
| *Resignation of Mr. H. Deane as Engineer-in-Chief, and Appointment of Mr. N. G. Bell as his successor | No recommendation | |
| Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta— | | |
| *Clearing and Earthworks at Kalgoorlie end—Letters from Acting Supervising Engineer, Kalgoorlie, to Mr. W. Morris | To be printed | |
| †Permanent Working Plan and Section of portion of the line | No recommendation | |
| Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta Railway Act—Schedule 2— | | |
| Passenger Fares during construction .. .. . | .. .. . |  |
| Port Augusta to Oodnadatta Railway—Agreement between the Commonwealth and the State of South Australia, for the working of | | |
| | To be printed | |
| Spirits Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 344 | No recommendation | Already in print and circulated to Members |

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27th May, 1914.

REPORT—continued.

| Subject of Paper. | Recommendation of Committee. | Remarks. |
|--|------------------------------|---|
| <i>Papers—continued.</i> | | |
| Telegraphs and Telephones Special Works Account Act— Transfers dated—17th December, 1913, 5th March, 7th April, 1914 | No recommenda- tion | |
| *Timber—Particulars of, at present stored, for use by Commonwealth Government | To be printed | |
| Trade Marks Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 339 | No recommenda- tion | Already in print and cir- culated to Members |
| Wireless Telegraphy Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 351 | " " | " " |
| Commonwealth Workmen's Compensation Act—Statutory Rules 1913, No. 336 | " " | " " |

* Presented to Senate only.

Committee Room,
21st May, 1914.

W. J. McWILLIAMS,
Chairman.

Mr. McWilliams moved, by leave, That the Report be adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.

5. RIFLE RANGES.—Mr. Higgs moved, pursuant to notice, That a Return be laid upon the Table showing—

- (1) The number of rifle ranges in Australia, and the location of each.
- (2) The number of miniature rifle ranges in Australia, and the location of each.
- (3) The average or approximate cost of a miniature rifle range.

Question—put and passed.

6. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Defence Department—

Report of Court of Inquiry, M.O. $\frac{19}{1914}$.—Fifth Infantry Brigade Camp, Liverpool, New
South Wales, 29th November to 6th December, 1913.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Department of the Treasury—

Public Service Act—Promotion of—

A. D. Metzner, as Clerk, 3rd Class, Pensions and Maternity Allowance Branch, Central Staff.

H. Thege and O. G. Dutton, as Special Magistrates and Examiners, 3rd Class, Pensions Branch, Victoria.

Telegraphs and Telephones Special Works Account Act—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council, dated 16th May, 1914.

Department of External Affairs—

Northern Territory—Ordinance of 1914—No. 1—Brands.

Postmaster-General's Department—

Public Service Act—Promotion of—

A. Bennett, as Inspector, 2nd Class, Inspection and Inland Mail Branch, Victoria.

T. Warren, as Supervisor, 3rd Class, Mail Branch, Sydney.

Defence Department—

Defence Act—Universal Training—Regulations Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1914, Nos. 41, 42.

Naval Defence Act—Universal Training—Regulations and Instructions—Royal Australian Naval Reserve (O)—Amended (Provisional)—Statutory Rules 1914, No. 40.

Department of Home Affairs—

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at—

Beecroft, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Booroomba, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Essendon, Victoria—For Defence purposes.

Pialligo, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Queanbeyan, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

South Head, Sydney, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.

Tharwa, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

27th May, 1914.

7. GOVERNMENT PREFERENCE PROHIBITION BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the third reading—Mr. W. H. Irvine moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Higgs 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 to-morrow.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. W. H. Irvine moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at ten minutes past ten 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. Abbott, Mr. Arthur, Mr. Conroy, Mr. Patten, and Mr. Webster.

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