

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 16.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 2ND DECEMBER, 1914.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITIONS.—Mr. Sturam presented Petitions from—  
George N. Dawson, Chief Ruler, and other members of the Gympie Rechabites Friendly Society;  
J. Bennett, President, and another, of the Gympie Temperance Alliance,  
praying that the decision of the Minister for Defence, that "Dry" canteens only be allowed in connexion with the Expeditionary Forces, be adhered to.  
Petitions severally received.
3. TEMPORARY PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Fisher moved, by leave, that, to-morrow, and on the following Thursday, Government Business have precedence of General Business.  
Question—put and passed.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Department of Trade and Customs—  
Meat Export Trade—Report (with Appendices) of Royal Commission (Mr. Justice Street).  
Department of External Affairs—  
Australian Institute of Tropical Medicine, Townsville, Queensland—Half-yearly Report from 1st January to 30th June, 1914.  
Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.  
Defence Department—  
Military Forces—Physical Training—Report by Hon. Lieut.-Colonel C. Bjelke-Petersen, Director of Physical Training.  
Rifle Clubs—Report on State Rifle Associations, District Rifle Club Unions, and Rifle Clubs, for year ended 30th June, 1914.  
Severally ordered to lie on the Table.  
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Department of the Treasury—  
Audit Act—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial year 1913-14—Dated 25th November, 1914.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DEFENCE BILL (1914).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 16.

The Senate has passed a Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Defence Act 1903-1912,'*" and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,  
President.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 2nd December, 1914.

2nd December, 1914.

6. DEFENCE BILL (1914).—Mr. Jensen moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

7. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—CUSTOMS BILL (1914).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 17.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend Section One hundred and twelve of the 'Customs Act 1901-1910,'*" to which it has agreed without amendment.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 2nd December, 1914.

THOS. GIVENS,  
President.

8. COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL (1914).—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—  
Debate resumed.

Mr. West addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

9. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Department of Home Affairs—

Lands Acquisition Act—

Land acquired under, at—

Bendigo, Victoria—For Defence purposes.

Congwarra, Federal Territory—For Federal Capital purposes.

Glenorchy, Tasmania—For Defence purposes.

Grafton, New South Wales—For Defence purposes.

Port Augusta, South Australia—For Railway purposes.

Postmaster-General's Department—

Public Service Act—Promotion of Arthur Wilson, as Supervisor, Third Class, Telegraph Branch, New South Wales.

10. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fisher moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-eight minutes past six 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. Abbott, Mr. Arthur\*, Mr. Carr, Mr. Joseph Cook, Mr. Jolley\*, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Ozanne\*, and Mr. Wise.

\* On leave.

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