

1917.

(SECOND SESSION.)

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 30.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1917.

1. **The House met**, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. **GRAMPIANS ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT.**—Mr. Speaker announced to the House that he proposed to issue a Writ, on Tuesday next, for the election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Grampians, in the State of Victoria, in the place of the Honorable Charles Carty Salmon, deceased. The dates in connexion with the Election would be fixed as follows :—
 

Date of Issue of Writ	...	...	Tuesday, 25th September, 1917.
Date of Nomination	...	...	Thursday, 11th October, 1917.
Date of Polling	...	...	Saturday, 27th October, 1917.
Date for Return of Writ	...	...	On or before Saturday, 10th November, 1917.
3. **PAPERS.**—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
  - Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired under, at—
  - Cockburn Sound, Western Australia—For Defence purposes.
  - Lytton, Queensland—For Quarantine purposes.
  - War Precautions Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1917, Nos. 212, 213.
4. **WAYS AND MEANS [INCOME TAX RESOLUTION].**—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)*

Debate resumed on the motion of Sir John Forrest, viz. :—That a tax be imposed on incomes derived from sources in Australia at the following amounts and rates, namely :—(See pages 61-3 ante).

Mr. J. H. Catts moved, That all the words after the word "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof :—

" this House has no confidence in a Government which breaks its election pledges not to introduce conscription without reference to the people, the proposal to impose a penalty tax upon single men, eligible for military service, who do not enlist to fight over-sea being a most obnoxious form of military conscription."

Amendment ruled out of order.

Debate on Main Question continued.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

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5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—WAR-TIME PROFITS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 25.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to the Imposition Assessment and Collection of a Tax upon Profits*," to which it has agreed with the amendments indicated in the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

THOS. GIVEN,  
President.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 19th September, 1917.

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

6. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—  
War Precautions Act—Regulation Amended—Statutory Rules 1917, No. 207.
7. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until eleven o'clock a.m. to-morrow.  
Question—put and passed.
8. DEFENCE BILL (1917).—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

*(In the Committee.)*

Clause 2 further debated, and agreed to.

Clauses 3, 4, and 5 agreed to.

Clause 6 was amended, on the motion of Mr. Groom, by the omission of all the words after the word "amended" (line 39) and the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—

"(a) by omitting from sub-section (1.) thereof the words 'for a term' and inserting in their stead the words 'during the continuance of their engagements';

(b) by inserting in sub-section (2.) thereof before the words 'No Permanent Military Forces' the words 'Except in time of war,'; and

(c) by omitting from sub-section (2.) thereof the words 'or except Expeditionary Forces in time of war'.

(2.) This section shall be deemed to have commenced on the first day of August One thousand nine hundred and fourteen."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 7 to 41 agreed to.

Clause 42 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 43 to 48 agreed to.

Clause 49 debated and agreed to.

Clause 50 was amended, on the motion of Mr. Groom, after debate, by the omission of all the words after the word "amended" (line 8) and the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—

"(a) by omitting from sub-section (1.) thereof the words 'in time of peace'; and

(b) by inserting after sub-section (3.) thereof the following sub-section:—

'(3A.) Persons who have served on war service may be exempted from the prescribed training for such period and under such conditions as are prescribed.'

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 51 debated and agreed to.

*New Clause—*

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the following New Clause was, after debate, added to the Bill, to follow Clause 50:—

"50A. After section one hundred and thirty-nine of the Principal Act the following section is inserted:—

'140. The Governor-General may, in time of war, by Order published in the *Gazette*, suspend in any year the whole or any portion of the training prescribed by Part XII. of this Act, and all persons liable to be trained under that Part in that year shall not be required at any subsequent time to undergo the training so suspended.'

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Mr. Groom moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

On the motion of Mr. Groom, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill, after debate, was read a third time.

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9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—LOAN BILL (1917).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 26.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the raising and expending of the sum of One million eight hundred and sixty-two thousand pounds for certain purposes*," to which it has agreed without amendment.

THOS. GIVENS,  
President.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 19th September, 1917.

10. RAILWAYS BILL—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration in Committee of the whole House of the Amendments made by the Senate in this Bill—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

The Committee proceeded to further consider the Amendments (*see pages 68-9 ante*).

Debate resumed on the motion of Mr. Watt, That Amendment No. 1 be agreed to.

Amendment agreed to.

Amendments Nos. 2 to 7 agreed to.

Amendment No. 8, after debate, agreed to.

Amendment No. 9 agreed to.

Amendments Nos. 10, 11, and 12, on the motion of Mr. Watt, agreed to, but the following consequential Amendments made in the clause:—

Page 11, clause 52, line 33, after "employment" insert "in the construction or working of any Commonwealth railway or".

Page 11, clause 52, lines 36-7, after "permanent employment" insert "and the period of his employment in the construction or working of any Commonwealth railway".

Page 11, clause 52, lines 45-6, omit "time of his first appointment to the railway service" and insert "termination of his prior permanent employment".

Page 12, clause 52, lines 4-5, omit "in the railway service".

Page 12, clause 52, line 9, omit "employment in the railway service" and insert "first-mentioned employment".

Amendments Nos. 13 and 14 agreed to.

Amendment No. 15, on the motion of Mr. Watt, after debate, agreed to with the following consequential Amendment:—

Page 15, clause 63, at the end of the clause add the following new sub-clause:—

"(3.) Nothing in this section shall be deemed to empower the Commissioner, without the authority of the Parliament, to acquire any lands dedicated, reserved, or set apart for public parks or recreation grounds."

Amendment No. 16, after debate, agreed to.

Resolutions to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Watt, the House adopted the Report.

11. AUDIT BILL (1917).—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of Message No. 28 from His Excellency the Governor-General's Deputy—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

*Resolved*, on the motion of Sir John Forrest—That it is expedient that an appropriation of moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Audit Act 1901-1912*.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Sir John Forrest moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The said Resolution was read, and, on the motion of Sir John Forrest, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Sir John Forrest and Mr. Joseph Cook do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Sir John Forrest then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Sir John Forrest moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

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

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*(In the Committee.)*

Bill agreed to, and to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir John Forrest, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

12. ADJOURNMENT—COUNT OUT.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Kelly called the attention of Mr. Speaker to the fact that a quorum of members was not present.

The bells having been rung, and a quorum not having been obtained within the prescribed time,

Mr. Speaker thereupon, at forty-four minutes past ten o'clock p.m. adjourned the House until eleven o'clock a.m. to-morrow.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—  
Lieut.-Colonel Abbott<sup>a</sup>, Mr. Burchell<sup>a</sup>, Mr. Fleming<sup>a</sup>, Mr. Higgs, Mr. McDonald<sup>\*</sup>, Mr. McGrath<sup>a</sup>, and Brigadier-General Ryrie<sup>a</sup>

<sup>\*</sup> On leave.

<sup>(a)</sup> Joined Australian Imperial Expeditionary Forces.

WALTER A. GALE,  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*