

1923.
(SECOND SESSION.)

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 21.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 19TH JULY, 1923

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—UNIFORM TAXATION SCHEDULES.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the abolition of the duplication of Taxation Schedules, and the proposed adoption by the Commonwealth and the States of a uniform Schedule.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Audit Act—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial Year 1922-23—Dated 11th July, 1923.

4. "HANSARD"—AUTHORIZATION OF PUBLICATION.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Sir Elliot Johnson:—That, in the opinion of this House, with a view to removing the uncertainty which exists at the present time as to the authority for the publication of the Parliamentary *Hansard*, section 3 of the Parliamentary Papers Act should be amended to include *Hansard* among the documents authorized by Parliament to be printed and published—

Mr. W. Maloney, addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that the honorable Member 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 Thursday, 2nd August next.

5. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—PRINTING OF REPORTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Gregory:—That the three Reports of the Public Works Committee, presented on 12th July, *re* certain works at Canberra, be printed—and on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Blakeley, *viz.*:—That the following words be added to the motion:—"and that the Minority Report (as regards the Provisional Parliament House) signed by Arthur Blakeley, member of the Public Works Committee, be also printed"—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Coleman	Mr. O'Keefe
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Forde	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Yates
Mr. Roland Green	
Mr. Killen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lacey	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Lambert	Mr. Makin

Noes, 31.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Hurry
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Latham
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Lister
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Austin Chapman	Mr. Mann
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Marks
Mr. Corser	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Seabrook
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Whitsitt
Mr. Gibson	
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Groom	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hill	Mr. Marr
Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Prowse

And so it was negatived.

Question—That the original motion be agreed to—put and passed.

F.4713.

19th July, 1923.

6. **NAVIGATION ACT—EFFECT ON TRADE—SELECT COMMITTEE.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Prowse:—That, in the opinion of this House, a Select Committee should be appointed to inquire into and report upon the effect of the operation of the Navigation Act upon Australian trade, industry, and development in the various States and Mandated Territories of the Commonwealth—
 Debate resumed.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr. Prowse moved, That such Committee consist of Mr. Josiah Francis, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Thomas Paterson, Mr. Seabrook, Mr. Watkins, and the Mover, five to form a quorum; with power to send for persons, papers, and records, to adjourn from place to place; and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken; and that such Committee do report this day five months.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Anstey moved, as an amendment, That the name “Mr. Watkins” be omitted, and that the name “Mr. Edward Riley” be inserted in place thereof.
 Amendment agreed to.
 Question—That such Committee consist of Mr. Josiah Francis, Mr. Albert Green, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Thomas Paterson, Mr. Edward Riley, Mr. Seabrook, and the Mover, five to form a quorum; with power to send for persons, papers and records, and to adjourn from place to place; and have leave to report from time to time its proceedings and the evidence taken; and that such Committee do report this day five months—put and passed.
7. **SHIPPING SERVICE—MELBOURNE AND HOBART—SELECT COMMITTEE.**—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. O’Keefe:—That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the necessity for the Commonwealth Government making provision for an adequate direct shipping service between Melbourne and Hobart—
 Debate resumed.
 Mr. Austin Chapman (Minister for Trade and Customs) addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that the honorable Member 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 Thursday next.
8. **POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.**—Ordered, That the consideration of Notice of Motion No. 1, General Business, be postponed until Thursday, 9th August next.
9. **GENERAL ELECTIONS—TIME FOR HOLDING TO SUIT COUNTRY ELECTORS.**—Mr. Lister moved, pursuant to notice, *amended by leave*, That, in the opinion of this House, in order to meet the convenience of electors in the country districts, it is desirable that, whenever possible, Commonwealth general elections should not be held during the period from November to February, inclusive.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.
10. **CONTRACT SYSTEM FOR GOVERNMENT WORK.**—Mr. Killen moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, all Government work should, as far as possible, be carried out by contract.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Fenton addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that the honorable Member 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 Thursday next.
11. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE—REFERENCE OF WORKS—SHIPPING FACILITIES, &c., AND OIL DEPOTS, DARWIN.**—Mr. Stewart (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913–1921*, the following works be referred to the Committee for investigation and report, viz.:—
 (1) Wharfage accommodation and shipping facilities, including sheds, railway and vehicle approaches, &c., Darwin.
 (2) Establishment of oil depôts, Darwin.
 Mr. Stewart having laid on the Table plans, &c., and a Report by Engineer Vice-Admiral Sir William Clarkson, in connexion with the proposed works—
 Question—put and passed.
12. **AIR DEFENCE BILL.**—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.)

By leave, postponed clause 4 further considered—

Debate resumed on the proposed amendment (*as amended, by leave*) of Mr. Charlton, That the definition of “Active Service” (page I, lines 18–21) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following definition in place thereof:—“‘Active Service’ means service in or with a force which is engaged in operations against the enemy;”

Mr. Coleman rising to address the Committee—

Closure—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the question be now put.

19th July, 1923.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 28.		Noes, 20.	
Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Hurry	Mr. Anstey	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Killen	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Latham	Mr. Charlton	Mr. O'Keefe
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Coleman	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Austin Chapman	Mr. Mann	Mr. Fenton	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Marks	Mr. Forde	Mr. William Watson
Mr. Corser	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Gabb	Mr. Yates
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Earle Page	Mr. Roland Green	
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Thomas Paterson	Mr. Lacey	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Seabrook	Mr. Lambert	Mr. Albert Green
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Whitsitt	Mr. Makin	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Gibson			
Mr. Gregory	<i>Tellers :</i>		
Mr. Groom	Mr. Marr		
Mr. Hill	Mr. Prowse		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The question was accordingly put—That the definition proposed to be omitted stand part of the clause—and was negatived.

And the further question being accordingly put—That the definition by Mr. Charlton, viz.:—
“‘Active Service’ means service in or with a force which is engaged in operations against the enemy”, proposed to be inserted be so inserted.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 19.		Noes, 29.	
Mr. Anstey	Mr. McGrath	Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Hurry
Mr. Brennan	Mr. O'Keefe	Mr. Bayley	Mr. Killen
Mr. Charlton	Mr. E. C. Riley	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Latham
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Scullin	Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Forde	Mr. William Watson	Mr. Austin Chapman	Mr. Mann
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Yates	Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Marks
Mr. Albert Green		Mr. Corser	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Lacey	<i>Tellers :</i>	Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Lambert	Mr. Coleman	Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Makin	Mr. Edward Riley	Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Seabrook
Mr. Parker Moloney		Mr. Gardner	Mr. Whitsitt
		Mr. Gibson	
		Mr. Roland Green	<i>Tellers :</i>
		Mr. Gregory	Mr. Marr
		Mr. Groom	Mr. Prowse
		Mr. Hill	

And so it was negatived.

Mr. Bowden (Minister for Defence) moved, as a further amendment, That the following sub-clause be added to the clause:—

(2.) For the purposes of this Act, a person subject to this Act shall be deemed to be on active service whenever he is attached to or forms part of a force which is engaged in operations against the enemy, or is engaged in warlike operations in a country or place wholly or partly occupied by an enemy, or is in military occupation of any foreign country.

Debate ensued.

Amendment, by leave, temporarily withdrawn.

Mr. Charlton moved, as a further amendment, That the definition of “Air Force Act”, (page 2, lines 3-5) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Robert Cook reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

13. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Malcolm Cameron, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Hunter, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Manning, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Pratten, Sir Granville Ryrie, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. West.

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