

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 102.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 22ND AUGUST, 1924.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS (SIR LITTLETON GROOM, MR. CHARLTON, AND MR. LATHAM).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for two months be given to the honorable Member for Darling Downs (Sir Littleton Groom), and to the honorable Member for Hunter (Mr. Charlton), on the ground of urgent public business; and for one month to the honorable Member for Kooyong (Mr. Latham), on the ground of ill-health.  
Question—put and passed.
3. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.  
Question—put and passed.
4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—LOAN BILL (No. 2) (1924) [£6,450,000].—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 69.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the Raising and Expending of certain Sums of Money*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 21st August, 1924.

JOHN NEWLAND,  
Deputy-President.

5. AUTOMATIC TELEPHONE EXCHANGES, ELSTERNWICK AND NORTHCOTE, VICTORIA—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Atkinson (for Minister for Works and Railways) moved, pursuant to notice, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Public Works Committee Act* 1913-21, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed works:—Establishment of Automatic Telephone Exchanges at Elsternwick and Northcote, Victoria, which works have been investigated by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and on which the Committee has duly reported to this House the result of its investigations.  
Question—put and passed.
6. WIRELESS AGREEMENT BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Mr. Brennan 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 the next sitting.

22nd August, 1924.

7. SUPPLY—[BUDGET DEBATE].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Question again proposed (*see p. 330 ante*), That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—The Parliament—namely—

The President . . . . . £1,100

be agreed to.

General debate resumed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

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

8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DEFENCE EQUIPMENT BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 70.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Two million five hundred thousand pounds for Naval Construction and for a Reserve for Defence* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,  
Melbourne, 22nd August, 1924.

JOHN NEWLAND,  
Deputy-President.

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

War Service Homes Act—Report of the War Service Homes Commission, together with Statements and Balance-sheets—1st July, 1923, to 30th June, 1924.

Ordered to be printed.

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at—

Bexley, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

Carlton, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-four minutes past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Bayley, Mr. Blakeley, Sir Austin Chapman, Mr. Charlton\*, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Gregory, Sir Littleton Groom\*, Mr. Hill, Sir Neville Howse, Mr. Hughes\*, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Latham\*, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Mahony, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Marks\*, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Charles McDonald, Mr. Frederick McDonald, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Prowse, Sir Granville Ryrie, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates.

\* On leave.

FRANK L. CLAPIN,  
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives.