

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 2.

JOURNALS OF THE SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, 3RD MARCH, 1920.

1. MEETING OF SENATE.—The Senate met at three p.m., pursuant to adjournment.

2. PRAYERS.

3. ELECTION PETITION.—The President informed the Senate that the District Registrar of the High Court at Hobart had forwarded to the Clerk of the Senate a copy of a petition filed by Senator Mulcahy against the declaration of the poll of the recent Senate election for Tasmania.

4. QUESTIONS.—Questions on notice were answered.

5. PAPERS.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen) laid on the Table the following Papers, viz. :—

Pursuant to Statute—

Arbitration (Public Service) Act.—Orders of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and other documents, in connexion with awards or variations of awards in the following cases :—

Australian Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Officers' Association—dated 20th February, 1920.

Commonwealth Engine-driver's and Firemen's Association of Australia—dated 30th January, 1920.

Line Inspectors' Association—Commonwealth of Australia—dated 30th January, 1920.

War Service Homes Act.—Land acquired for War Service Homes purposes at—

Cootamundra, New South Wales.

Goulburn, New South Wales (two notifications).

Mayfield, Newcastle, New South Wales.

Wagga Wagga, New South Wales (two notifications).

The Vice-President of the Executive Council (Senator Russell) laid on the Table the following Paper, viz. :—

By Command—

Electoral—Memorandum relating to the duties and functions of Divisional Returning Officers in the conduct of the scrutiny of Senate Ballot-papers.

6. LEAVE OF ABSENCE.—Senator O'Keefe, pursuant to notice, moved—That two months' leave of absence be granted to Senator Guy, on the ground of ill-health.

Question—put and passed.

7. DAYS OF MEETING.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That the days of meeting of the Senate during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, be Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of each week; and that the hour of meeting, unless otherwise ordered, be Three o'clock in the afternoon of Wednesday and Thursday, and Eleven o'clock in the forenoon of Friday.

Question—put and passed.

8. HALF-PAST SIX P.M. AND ONE P.M. SUSPENSION.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, the sittings of the Senate, or of a Committee of the whole Senate, on sitting days other than Fridays, be suspended from 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m., and on Fridays from 1 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

Question—put and passed.

9. ADJOURNMENT ON FRIDAYS.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, at Four o'clock p.m. on Fridays the President shall put the Question, That the Senate do now adjourn, which Question shall not be open to debate; if the Senate be in Committee at that hour, the Chairman shall in like manner put the Question, That he do leave the Chair and report to the Senate; and upon such report being made the President shall forthwith put the Question, That the Senate do now adjourn, which Question shall not be open to debate.

Provided that if the Senate, or the Committee, be in Division at the time named, the President or the Chairman shall not put the Question referred to until the result of such Division has been declared; and if the business under discussion shall not have been disposed of at such adjournment it shall appear on the Business Paper for the next sitting day.

Question—put and passed.

10. GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE BUSINESS: PRECEDENCE.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, Government Business shall take precedence of all other business on the Notice Paper, except Questions and Formal Motions, and except that Private Business take precedence of Government Business on Thursday after 8 p.m.; and that, unless otherwise ordered, Private Orders of the Day take precedence of Private Notices of Motion on alternate Thursdays.

Question—put and passed.

11. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That a Standing Orders Committee be appointed, to consist of the President, the Chairman of Committees, Senators Barnes, de Largie, Foll, Guthrie, McDougall, O'Keefe, and Earle, with power to act during the recess, and to confer with a similar Committee of the House of Representatives.

Question—put and passed.

12. HOUSE COMMITTEE.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That a House Committee be appointed, to consist of the President, Senators Bakhap, Buzacott, Guy, Lieutenant-Colonel O'Loughlin, Needham, and Colonel Rowell, with power to act during the recess, and to confer or sit as a Joint Committee with a similar Committee of the House of Representatives.

Question—put and passed.

13. LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That a Library Committee be appointed, to consist of the President, Senators Lieutenant-Colonel Bolton, Gardiner, Keating, Lynch, Maughan, and Pratten, with power to act during the recess, and to confer or sit as a Joint Committee with a similar Committee of the House of Representatives.

Question—put and passed.

14. PRINTING COMMITTEE.—The Minister for Repatriation (Senator Millen), pursuant to notice, moved—That a Printing Committee be appointed, to consist of Senators Barker, Grant, Guy, Newland, Plain, Reid, and Senior, with power to confer or sit as a Joint Committee with a similar Committee of the House of Representatives.

Question—put and passed.

15. GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S OPENING SPEECH—ADDRESS IN REPLY.—Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That the following Address in Reply be agreed to:—

To His Excellency the Governor-General.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the Senate of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

Debate resumed.

On motion of Senator Fairbairn the debate was adjourned.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be an Order of the Day for the next day of sitting.

16. ADJOURNMENT.—The Senate adjourned at twenty minutes past six p.m. till to-morrow at three p.m.
17. ATTENDANCE.—Present, all the Members except Senators Grant, Guy (on leave), Henderson, Lynch, Mulcahy, Needham, and Newland.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the Senate.