

## COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## JOURNALS OF THE SENATE.

No. 90.

THURSDAY, 17TH SEPTEMBER, 1953.

1. MEETING OF SENATE.—The Senate met at half-past eleven a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The President (Senator the Honorable A. M. McMullin) took the Chair.
2. PRAYERS.
3. QUESTIONS.—Questions on notice were answered.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
National Debt Sinking Fund Act—National Debt Commission—Thirtieth Annual Report, for year 1952–53.  
Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—  
National Development—P. E. Goodeve.  
Repatriation—T. E. McGuire.
5. PEARL FISHERIES BILL (No. 2) 1953.—Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the Question—That the Bill be now read a second time.  
Debate resumed.  
Question—put and passed.  
Bill read a second time.  
The Senate, according to Order, resolved itself into Committee for the consideration of the Bill.

In the Committee.

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.  
 Clause 3 debated and agreed to.  
 Clauses 4 to 6 agreed to.  
 Title agreed to.  
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The President resumed the Chair; and the Temporary Chairman of Committees (Senator McCallum) reported accordingly.  
 On the motion of the Attorney-General (Senator Spicer) the Report from the Committee was adopted, and the Bill read a third time.

6. ESTIMATES AND BUDGET PAPERS 1953–54.—Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion by the Minister for National Development (Senator Spooner), viz.—That the Papers be printed.  
Debate resumed.

*And General Business taking precedence of Government Business after 8 p.m.—*

7. COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL LAWS—JOINT COMMITTEE.—Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion by Senator Guy, viz. :—
  - (1) That a Joint Committee be appointed to consider and report upon the electoral laws of the Commonwealth.
  - (2) That five Members of the Senate be appointed to serve on such Committee.
  - (3) That a report on its deliberations be submitted by the Committee to both Houses of the Parliament within four months after its appointment.
  - (4) That, notwithstanding anything contained in the Standing Orders—
    - (a) the Committee have power to send for persons, papers and records, to adjourn from place to place, and to sit during any adjournment of the Parliament; and have leave to report from time to time the evidence taken;
    - (b) the Committee have leave to report from time to time its proceedings, and any member of the Committee have power to add a protest or dissent to any report;
    - (c) five members of the Committee constitute a quorum of the Committee;
    - (d) the Chairman of the Committee have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of voting, have a casting vote;
    - (e) a Message be sent to the House of Representatives requesting its concurrence and asking that six Members of the House of Representatives be appointed to serve on such Committee.

Debate resumed.

On the motion of the Minister for Trade and Customs (Senator O'Sullivan) the debate was adjourned.  
 Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be an Order of the Day for the 22nd October next.

*And consideration of Government Business being resumed—*

8. ESTIMATES AND BUDGET PAPERS 1953-54.—Order of the Day read for the adjourned debate on the motion by the Minister for National Development (Senator Spooner), viz.—That the Papers be printed.  
Debate resumed.

*And it being 10.30 p.m.—*

9. ADJOURNMENT.—The President, under Sessional Order, put the Question—That the Senate do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

The Senate adjourned at twenty-three minutes to eleven p.m. till Tuesday next at three p.m.

10. ATTENDANCE.—Present, all the Members except Senator Devlin.

JOHN EDWARDS,

*Clerk of the Senate.*