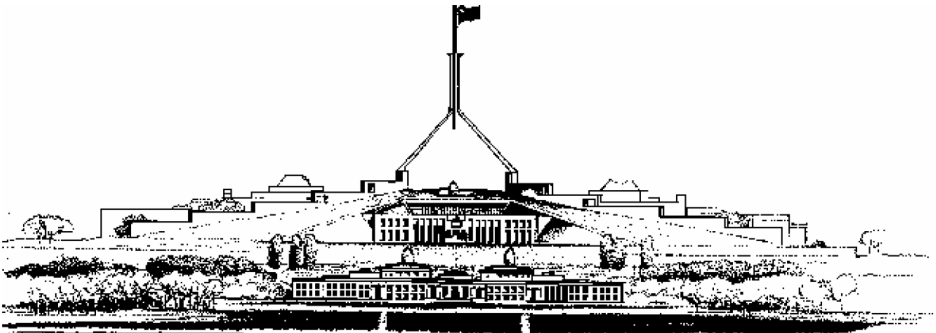




COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



Senate

Official Hansard

No. 47, 1913
Friday, 21 November 1913

FIFTH PARLIAMENT
FIRST SESSION

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

His Excellency the Right Honorable THOMAS, BARON DENMAN, P.C., Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia.

COOK ADMINISTRATION.

(From 24th June, 1913.)

Prime Minister and Minister of Home Affairs ...	The Honorable Joseph Cook.
Treasurer	The Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., G.C.M.G.
Attorney-General	The Honorable William Hill Irvine, K.C.
Minister of Defence	The Honorable Edward Davis Millen.
Minister of External Affairs ...	The Honorable Patrick McMahon Glynn, K.C.
Minister of Trade and Customs ...	The Honorable Littleton Ernest Groom.
Postmaster-General	The Honorable Agar Wynne.
Vice-President of the Executive Council ...	The Honorable James Hiers McColl.
Honorary Minister	The Honorable William Henry Kelly.
Honorary Minister	The Honorable John Singleton Clemons.

MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

FIFTH PARLIAMENT.—FIRST SESSION.

President—Senator the Honorable Thomas Givens.

Chairman of Committees—Senator the Honorable David John O'Keefe.

Bakhap, Thomas Jerome Kingston	...	...	...	Tasmania.
Barker, Stephen	...	...	...	Victoria.
Barnes, John	...	...	...	Victoria.
Blakey, Albert Edward Howarth	...	...	...	Victoria.
Buzacott, Richard	...	...	...	Western Australia
Clemons, Hon. John Singleton	...	...	...	Tasmania.
de Largie, Hon. Hugh	...	...	...	Western Australia.
¹ Ferricks, Myles Aloysius	...	...	...	Queensland.
Findley, Hon. Edward	...	...	...	Victoria.
Gardiner, Albert	...	...	...	New South Wales.
Givens, Hon. Thomas	...	...	...	Queensland.
Gould, Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. Sir Albert John, V.D.	...	...	...	New South Wales.
Guthrie, Robert Storrie	...	...	...	South Australia.
² Henderson, George	...	...	...	Western Australia.
Keating, Hon. John Henry	...	...	...	Tasmania.
Long, James Joseph	...	...	...	Tasmania.
Lynch, Patrick Joseph	...	...	...	Western Australia.
Maughan, William John Ryott	...	...	...	Queensland.
McColl, Hon. James Hiers	...	...	...	Victoria.
² McDougall, Allan	...	...	...	New South Wales.
McGregor, Hon. Gregor	...	...	...	South Australia.
Millen, Hon. Edward Davis	...	...	...	New South Wales.
Mullan, John	...	...	...	Queensland.
Needham, Edward	...	...	...	Western Australia.
Newland, John	...	...	...	South Australia.
Oakes, Charles William	...	...	...	New South Wales.
O'Keefe, Hon. David John	...	...	...	Tasmania.
O'Loghlin, Lt.-Colonel the Hon. James Vincent, V.D.	...	...	...	South Australia.
Pearce, Hon. George Foster	...	...	...	Western Australia.
Rae, Arthur	...	...	...	New South Wales.
Ready, Rudolph Keith	...	...	...	Tasmania.
² Russell, Edward John	...	...	...	Victoria.
Senior, William	...	...	...	South Australia.
Stewart, Hon. James Charles	...	...	...	Queensland.
Story, William Harrison	...	...	...	South Australia.
Turley, Henry	...	...	...	Queensland.

1 Sworn 13th August 1913.—2 Appointed Temporary Chairman of Committees 13th August, 1913.

MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FIFTH PARLIAMENT.—FIRST SESSION.

Speaker—The Honorable William Elliot Johnson.

Chairman of Committees—The Honorable James Mackinnon Fowler.

Abbott, Percy Phipps ...	...	New England. (N.S.W.)
Ahern, Cornelius Joseph ...	...	Indi. (V.)
Anstey, Frank ...	...	Bourke. (V.)
Archibald, William Oliver ...	...	Hindmarsh. (S.A.)
Arthur, John Andrew ...	...	Bendigo. (V.)
¹ Atkinson, Llewelyn ...	...	Wilmot. (T.)
Bamford, Hon. Frederick William ...	...	Herbert. (Q.)
Bennett, James ...	...	Gippsland. (V.)
Best, Hon. Sir Robert Wallace, K.C.M.G. ...	...	Kooyong. (V.)
Boyd, Hon. James Arthur ...	...	Henty. (V.)
Brennan, Frank ...	...	Batman. (V.)
Burchell, Reginald John ...	...	Fremantle. (W.A.)
Burns, George Mason ...	...	Illawarra. (N.S.W.)
Carr, Ernest Shoobridge ...	...	Macquarie. (N.S.W.)
Catts, James Howard ...	...	Cook. (N.S.W.)
Chapman, Hon. Austin ...	...	Eden-Monaro. (N.S.W.)
¹ Charlton, Matthew ...	...	Hunter. (N.S.W.)
Conroy, Hon. Alfred Hugh Beresford ...	...	Werrima. (N.S.W.)
Cook, Hon. Joseph ...	...	Parramatta. (N.S.W.)
Dankel, George ...	...	Boothby. (S.A.)
Falkiner, Franc Brereton Sadleir ...	...	Riverina. (N.S.W.)
Fenton, James Edward ...	...	Maribyrnong. (V.)
Finlayson, William Fyfe ...	...	Brisbane. (Q.)
Fisher, Right Hon. Andrew, P.C. ...	...	Wide Bay. (Q.)
Fleming, William Montgomerie ...	...	Robertson. (N.S.W.)
Forrest, Right Hon. Sir John, P.C., G.C.M.G. ...	...	Swan. (W.A.)
Foster, Hon. Richard Witty ...	...	Wakefield. (S.A.)
Fowler, Hon. James Mackinnon ...	...	Perth. (W.A.)
² Frazer, Hon. Charles Edward ...	...	Kalgoorlie. (W.A.)
Glynn, Hon. Patrick McMahon, K.C. ...	...	Angas. (S.A.)
Greene, Walter Massy ...	...	Richmond. (N.S.W.)
Gregory, Hon. Henry ...	...	Dampier. (W.A.)
Groom, Hon. Littleton Ernest ...	...	Darling Downs. (Q.)
Hannan, James Francis ...	...	Fawkner. (V.)
Higgs, Hon. William Guy ...	...	Capricornia. (Q.)
Howe, Robert ...	...	Dalley. (N.S.W.)
Hughes, Hon. William Morris ...	...	West Sydney. (N.S.W.)
Irvine, Hans William Henry ...	...	Grampians. (V.)
Irvine, Hon. William Hill, K.C. ...	...	Flinders. (V.)
Jensen, Hon. Jens August ...	...	Bass. (T.)
Johnson, Hon. William Elliot ...	...	Lang. (N.S.W.)
Kelly, Hon. William Henry ...	...	Wentworth. (N.S.W.)
Kendell, William ...	...	Corio. (V.)
Livingston, John ...	...	Barker. (S.A.)
¹ Maloney, William ...	...	Melbourne. (V.)
Manifold, Hon. James Chester ...	...	Corangamite. (V.)
Mathews, James ...	...	Melbourne Ports. (V.)
McDonald, Hon. Charles ...	...	Kennedy. (Q.)
McGrath, David Charles ...	...	Ballarat. (V.)
McWilliams, William James ...	...	Franklin. (T.)
O'Malley, Hon. King ...	...	Darwin. (T.)
Orchard, Richard Beaumont ...	...	Nepean. (N.S.W.)
Page, Hon. James ...	...	Marañon. (Q.)
Palmer, Albert Clayton ...	...	Echuca. (V.)
Patten, Robert ...	...	Hume. (N.S.W.)
Pigott, Henry Robert Maguire ...	...	Calare. (N.S.W.)
Poynton, Hon. Alexander ...	...	Grey. (S.A.)
Riley, Edward ...	...	South Sydney. (N.S.W.)
³ Roberts, Hon. Ernest Alfred ...	...	Adelaide. (S.A.)

¹ Appointed Temporary Chairman of Committees, 5th September, 1913.

² Decease reported, 25th November, 1913.

³ Decease reported, 2nd December, 1913.

FIFTH PARLIAMENT.—FIRST SESSION—*continued.*

Rodgers, Arthur Stanislaus	...	...	...	Wannon. (V.)
Ryrie, Colonel Granville de Laune	...	...	...	North Sydney. (N.S.W.)
Sampson, Sydney...	...	...	...	Wimmera. (V.)
Sharpe, James Benjamin	...	...	...	Oxley. (Q.)
Sinclair, Hugh	...	...	...	Moreton. (Q.)
Smith, Hon. Bruce, K.C.	...	...	...	Parkes. (N.S.W.)
Smith, William Henry Laird	...	...	...	Denison. (T.)
Spence, Hon. William Guthrie	...	...	...	Darling. (N.S.W.)
Stumm, Jacob	...	...	...	Lilley. (Q.)
Thomas, Hon. Josiah	...	...	...	Barrier. (N.S.W.)
¹ Thomson, John	...	...	...	Cowper. (N.S.W.)
Tudor, Hon. Frank Gwynne	...	...	...	Yarra. (V.)
Watkins, Hon. David	...	...	...	Newcastle. (N.S.W.)
Webster, William	...	...	...	Gwydir. (N.S.W.)
West, John Edward	...	...	...	East Sydney. (N.S.W.);
Wynne, Hon. Agar	...	...	...	Balaclava. (V.)

¹ Appointed Temporary Chairman of Committees, 5th September, 1913.

COMMITTEES OF THE SESSION.

SENATE.

COMMITTEE OF DISPUTED RETURNS AND QUALIFICATIONS.—Senator de Largie, Senator Lt.-Colonel Sir Albert Gould, Senator Keating, Senator Long, Senator Lynch, Senator Oakes, Senator Turley.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.—The President, the Chairman of Committees, Senator Clemons, Senator Lt.-Colonel Sir Albert Gould, Senator Guthrie, Senator McGregor, Senator Pearce, Senator Russell, and Senator Turley.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—The President, Senator Buzacott, Senator Lt.-Colonel Sir Albert Gould, Senator Keating, Senator Lynch, Senator Needham, and Senator Stewart.

HOUSE COMMITTEE.—The President, Senator Bakhap, Senator de Largie, Senator Long, Senator McColl, Senator McDougall, and Senator Story.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.—Senator Barker, Senator Blakey, Senator Gardiner, Senator Henderson, Senator Oakes, Senator Rae, and Senator Ready.

SELECT COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE AND REPORT *re* DISMISSAL, ETC., OF MR. HENRY CHINN.—Senator Bakhap, Senator Blakey, Senator Henderson, Senator Maughan, Senator Story, Senator Rue, and Senator de Largie.

FITZROY DOCK : SELECT COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE AND REPORT *re* PARTIAL CLOSING DOWN.—Senator Bakhap, Senator Guthrie, Senator Long, Senator Maughan, Senator Mullen, Senator Rae, and Senator McDougall.

GENERAL ELECTIONS 1913 : SELECT COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE INTO AND REPORT.—Senator Lt.-Colonel Sir Albert Gould, Senator Keating*, Senator Needham, Senator Oakes, Senator Lt.-Colonel O'Loughlin, Senator Russell, Senator Ready†, and Senator Gardiner.

* Discharged from attendance, 30th October, 1913.

† Appointed 30th October, 1913.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.—Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister, the Chairman of Committees, Mr. Fisher, Mr. Poynton, and Mr. Sampson.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—Mr. Speaker, Mr. Glynn, Mr. Groom, Mr. Hughes, Dr. W. Maloney, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. Spence.

HOUSE COMMITTEE.—Mr. Speaker, Mr. Ahern, Mr. Anstey, Mr. Archibald, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Higgs, Mr. Mathews, and Colonel Ryrie.

PRINTING COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bamford, Mr. Jensen, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Patten, Mr. Stumm, and Mr. Watkins.

TIMBER CONTRACTS : POWELLISING.—SELECT COMMITTEE ON.—Mr. Bamford*, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Burchell†, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. King O'Malley, Mr. Poynton, Mr. Sinclair, and Mr. Gregory.

* Discharged from attendance, 18th November, 1913.

† Appointed 18th November, 1913.

ACTS OF THE SESSION.

APPROPRIATION ACT 1913-14 (No. 14 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen, and to appropriate the Supplies granted for such year in this session of the Parliament. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 16th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) ACT 1913-14 (No. 8 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen, for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 21st October, 1913. Assented to 6th November, 1913.]

COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS ACT (No. 19 of 1913)—

An Act to provide for a Joint Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. W. H. Irvine, 16th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

DEFENCE LANDS PURCHASE ACT (No. 18 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue a sum for the purchase of land for Defence purposes. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 17th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

EXCISE TARIFF (No. 6 of 1913)—

An Act to impose a Duty of Excise upon certain Sugar. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Groom, 30th September, 1913. Assented to 30th October, 1913.]

INSCRIBED STOCK ACT (No. 16 of 1913)—

An Act to amend the Commonwealth Inscribed Stock Act 1911-1912. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 11th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

LOAN ACT (No. 24 of 1913)—

An Act to authorize the raising and expending of the sum of Two million seven hundred and eighty thousand pounds for certain purposes. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir Sir John Forrest, 8th October, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

NAVIGATION ACT (No. 4 of 1913)—

An Act relating to Navigation and Shipping. [Initiated in Senate by Senator McGregor for Senator Pearce, 6th July, 1910. Assent reserved 24th December, 1912, Assent proclaimed 24th October, 1913.]

NORFOLK ISLAND ACT (No. 15 of 1913)—

An Act to provide for the acceptance of Norfolk Island as a Territory under the authority of the Commonwealth and for the government thereof. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Glynn, 11th September, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

PINE CREEK TO KATHERINE RIVER RAILWAY ACT (No. 21 of 1913)—

An Act to provide for the Construction of a Railway in the Northern Territory from Pine Creek to the Katherine River, the Appointment of Officers, the Making of Charges, and the Appropriation of Money in connexion with such Railway. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Glynn, 21st November, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

POST AND TELEGRAPH ACT (No. 23 of 1913)—

An Act to amend the Post and Telegraph Act 1901-1912 and the Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1902-1911. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Agar Wynne, 21st November, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

PUBLIC SERVICE ACT (No. 17 of 1913)—

An Act to amend the provisions of the Commonwealth Public Service Act 1902-1911 in relation to eligibility for appointment to the Public Service of the Commonwealth by reason of State service. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 17th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE ACT (No. 20 of 1913)—

An Act to provide for the establishment of a Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works and for other purposes. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 11th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

SUGAR BOUNTY ACT (No. 7 of 1913)—

An Act to provide for a Bounty to growers of Sugar-cane and Beet. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Groom, 30th September, 1913. Assented to 30th October, 1913.]

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT 1911-12 (No. 12 of 1913)—

An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twelve. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 17th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION ACT 1912-13 (No. 13 of 1913)—

An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and thirteen. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 17th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) ACT 1911-12 (No. 10 of 1913)—

An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twelve for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 17th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (WORKS AND BUILDINGS) ACT 1912-13 (No. 11 of 1913)—

An Act to appropriate a further sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ended the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and thirteen, for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 17th December, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

SUPPLY ACT (No. 1) (No. 1 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and supply a sum out out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 9th July, 1913. Assented to 10th July, 1914.]

SUPPLY ACT (No. 2) (No. 2 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and supply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 26th August, 1913. Assented to 29th August, 1913.]

SUPPLY ACT (No. 3) (No. 3 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 25th September, 1913. Assented to 29th September, 1913.]

SUPPLY ACT (No. 4) (No. 5 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 28th October, 1913. Assented to 30th October, 1913.]

SUPPLY ACT (No. 5) (No. 9 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and fourteen. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 26th November, 1913. Assented to 28th November, 1913.]

TASMANIA GRANT ACT (No. 22 of 1913)—

An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of Four hundred thousand pounds for the purposes of further financial assistance to the State of Tasmania. [Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 8th October, 1913. Assented to 19th December, 1913.]

BILLS OF THE SESSION.

AUDIT BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 4th September, 1913. Laid aside 12th December, 1913.]

AUSTRALIAN NOTES BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 21st November, 1913; 2nd reading negatived in Senate.]

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURE BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 9th July, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 31st October, 1913; laid aside 16th December, 1913.]

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (CORPORATIONS) BILL—

[Initiated in Senate by Senator McGregor, 10th September, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (INDUSTRIAL MATTERS) BILL—

[Initiated in Senate by Senator McGregor, 10th September, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (NATIONALIZATION OF MONOPOLIES) BILL—

[Initiated in Senate by Senator McGregor, 10th September, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (RAILWAY DISPUTES) BILL—

[Initiated in Senate by Senator McGregor, 10th September, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (TRADE AND COMMERCE) BILL—

[Initiated in Senate by Senator McGregor, 10th September, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (TRUSTS) BILL—

[Initiated in Senate by Senator McGregor, 10th September, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

CRIMES BILL—

[Leave to introduce given in Senate to Senator Clemons, 28th August, 1913. No further action taken.]

DEFENCE BILL—

[Initiated in Senate by Senator Millen, 9th December, 1913; progress reported, but no leave given to Committee to sit again, 12th December, 1913.]

ELECTORAL BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Kelly, 10th September, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

ELECTORAL BILL—

[Leave to introduce in Senate given to Senator Rae, 23rd October, 1913. No further action taken.]

GOVERNMENT PREFERENCE PROHIBITION BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. W. H. Irvine, 31st October, 1913; 2nd reading negatived in Senate.]

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Sir John Forrest, 8th October, 1913; lapsed at prorogation.]

POSTAL VOTING RESTORATION BILL—

[Initiated in House of Representatives by Mr. Joseph Cook, 31st October, 1913; laid aside 17th December, 1913.]

PUBLIC DEBTS BILL—

[Message recommending appropriation received from Governor-General, 7th October, 1913; Order of the Day for its consideration discharged, 17th December, 1913.]

PARLIAMENT CONVENED.

FIFTH PARLIAMENT—FIRST SESSION.

(*Gazette No. 47, 1913.*)

Parliament was convened by the following Proclamation :—

PROCLAMATION

COMMONWEALTH OF
AUSTRALIA TO WIT.

DENMAN,
Governor-General.

By His Excellency the Right Honorable THOMAS, BARON DENMAN, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia.

WHEREAS by the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act it is, amongst other things, enacted that the Governor-General may appoint such times for holding the Sessions of the Parliament as he thinks fit : Now therefore I, THOMAS, BARON DENMAN, the Governor-General aforesaid, in exercise of the power conferred by the said Act, do by this my Proclamation appoint Wednesday, the ninth day of July, One thousand nine hundred and thirteen, as the day for the said Parliament to assemble and be holden for the despatch of divers urgent and important affairs. And all Senators and Members of the House of Representatives are hereby required to give their attendance accordingly, in the building known as the Houses of Parliament, situate in Spring-street, in the City of Melbourne, at the hour of half-past Ten o'clock a.m. on the said Wednesday, the ninth day of July, One thousand nine hundred and thirteen.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Commonwealth of Australia aforesaid, this twenty-sixth day of June, in the year of our Lord One thousand nine hundred and thirteen, in the fourth year of His Majesty's reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

(L.S.)

JOSEPH COOK.

GOD SAVE THE KING !

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Senate.

Friday, 21 November, 1913.

The PRESIDENT took the chair at 11 a.m., and read prayers.

PAPERS.

Senator MILLEN laid upon the table the following papers:—

Quarantine.—Report of the Commonwealth and States of Australia Quarantine Conference, 1913.

Public Service Act 1902-1911.—Postmaster-General's Department.—Promotion of W. Herbert, as Postmaster, Grade IV., 3rd Class, Bega, New South Wales.

AUDIT BILL.

Bill returned from the House of Representatives with the message that the House had disagreed to the amendment of the Senate.

NO-CONFIDENCE MOTIONS: PRACTICE.

Senator Lt.-Colonel O'LOGHLIN.—I desire, sir, to ask you a question. As a new senator, I should like to know, first, what has been the practice of the Senate when a no-confidence motion has been pending against the Government, and, second, what has been the practice of second Chambers throughout the British Dominions on similar occasions? If you are not prepared to answer on the spur of the moment, I shall repeat the questions or give notice of them.

The PRESIDENT.—It must be obvious to the honorable senator that I cannot be expected to say what has been the procedure of the Senate until I have looked up the records. It must be equally obvious to him that I cannot be acquainted with what has been the practice in Houses of Parliament in various parts of the British Empire until I have looked up the records. I ask the honorable senator to give notice of the questions.

Senator Lt.-Colonel O'LOGHLIN.—I give notice, sir, for the next day of sitting.

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE SENATE.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.

Senator MCGREGOR (South Australia) [11.3].—In view of the invariable practice of the Senate since the inception of

the Commonwealth of adjourning when a no-confidence motion was pending, is it still the opinion of the Minister representing the Government here that we should go on with business?

Senator MILLEN.—I have only one word to say in answer to that question—Yes.

Senator MCGREGOR.—In the circumstances, I move—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent him moving that the Senate do now adjourn.

Senator BAKHAP (Tasmania) [11.4].—Whether Ministers deem it their duty to protest or not, so long as I have the honour of a seat here, I shall protest against being subjected to the effects of the childish political lunacy which is being indulged in by honorable senators on the opposite side. It is degrading to the Senate.

The PRESIDENT.—Order! The honorable senator is not in order in stating that any act of an honorable senator is an act of political lunacy.

Senator MCGREGOR.—Is it in order, sir, for Senator Bakhap to say that the action of any honorable senator on this side is childish?

The PRESIDENT.—If any honorable senator deems the expression offensive to him, I ask Senator Bakhap to withdraw it.

Senator BAKHAP.—If honorable senators opposite consider that it is a reflection upon them to characterize any act of theirs as an act of political lunacy or as childish, and you, sir, deem it necessary on my part to withdraw the expression, I am sensible of what is owing to you, and I withdraw it. At the same time, I must remark that an honorable senator's vocabulary will be very much limited in regard to the criticism of improper parliamentary actions. I will say now, in substitution of the remark I made, that I protest against the Chamber being made the arena for the indulgence in legislative *sabotage*, for that is exactly what has been done. The Chamber is being brought into contempt, and simply because honorable senators on the other side think that they have the right of interference in the affairs of another place. We, as a Chamber, are actually arrogating to ourselves the right, whether it is conceded to us or not, of dictating to another place how they shall arrange their notice-paper. If the affection of honorable members for

the Chambers which they respectively represent was not altogether subordinated to the spirit of party, I would expect honorable members in another place, irrespective of the political opinions they hold, to protest in a body against the actions of the Senate.

Senator RAE.—They are interfering with us.

Senator BAKHAP.—Because, undoubtedly, we are placing ourselves in antagonistic association with the proceedings of another place. I want the public to understand that honorable senators opposite are absolutely abrogating their functions. It may be denied, but it is notorious that this action is being dictated to them by members of the same party in another place.

Senator DE LARGIE.—That is not true.

Senator NEEDHAM.—That is wrong.

Senator RAE.—You have no right to say it, even if it is true.

Senator CLEMONS.—That is a sensible objection.

Senator BAKHAP.—Senator Rae says that, even if the statement is true, I have no right to make it.

Senator NEEDHAM.—It is an incorrect statement, anyhow.

Senator BAKHAP.—Unless our legislative proceedings are to be reduced to the level of the prattle of children, the honorable senator will not deny that it is true—

Senator RAE.—Oh, yes, I would.

Senator BAKHAP.—The honorable senator will not deny that the proceedings of his party here are, to a very large extent, governed by the opinions of members of the same party in another place.

Senator MILLEN.—You underrate the capacity of the honorable senator if you say that he will not deny it.

Senator BAKHAP.—With admirable generosity, I will pretend not to recognise the honorable senator's efficiency in that respect.

Senator RAE.—I highly appreciate it.

Senator BAKHAP.—This is the situation: The Senate is altogether abrogating its powers as a Chamber of review by placing itself in such association with members of another place. We are also dictating to them, by our action, what they shall do with the business on their notice-paper.

Senator RAE.—No; what we do with our own.

Senator BAKHAP.—All the time we are holding up the business of the coun-

try. What particularly concerns me at this juncture—and I appeal to my colleagues in the representation of Tasmania—is that, by adopting this action, we are holding up measures for an indefinite period. We are holding up one measure in particular for which the people of Tasmania long. They are waiting for money, which they are already mortgaging, so to speak, to assist them in prosecuting a policy of internal development which is dear to both parties in the State. I ask my colleagues, if they retain any legislative independence at all, to come over here, or to assist the members of the Liberal party in protesting against an action that may indefinitely prolong the passage of a measure which is absolutely essential to the development of the resources of the little State. It is quite patent that the prolongation of this action will absolutely defeat the intention of the Administration to give to the State what is its due.

Senator READY.—We are here.

Senator RAE.—I will come over and give you a hand.

Senator BAKHAP.—I hope that our association may be a permanent one, in respect to this matter. I certainly call upon the honorable senators who have crossed to this side to dissociate themselves from the action of the Labour party in dragging the proceedings of the Senate, so to speak, in the political mire.

Senator GARDINER.—Is the honorable senator in order, sir, in saying that the action taken by any honorable senators is dragging the Senate in the mire?

The PRESIDENT.—No. I ask the honorable senator to refrain from the use of such terms.

Senator BAKHAP.—Again, in deference to you, sir, I must limit my already somewhat limited vocabulary. It is apparent that if action of this kind is continued—and I suppose honorable senators opposite find themselves in a *cul de sac*, and must continue it or be humiliated in the eyes of their own party—matters of material import to the people of Australia will be relegated to quite a secondary position, and the effort of the Government to place legislative enactments affecting them on the statute-book of this National Parliament will be defeated. I do earnestly and sincerely protest against action by this Chamber which, I feel sure, will materially impair its usefulness in the future.

Question put. The Senate divided.

Ayes 21

Noes 4

Majority 17

AYES.

Harker, S.	O'Keefe, D. J.
Blakey, A. E. H.	O'Loughlin, Lt.-Col.
de Largie, H.	Rae, A.
Findley, E.	Ready, R. K.
Gardiner, A.	Russell, E. J.
Henderson, G.	Senior, W.
Long, J. J.	Stewart, J. C.
Maughan, W. J. R.	Story, W. H.
McGregor, G.	Turley, H.
Needham, E.	<i>Teller:</i>
Newland, J.	Mullan, J.

NOES.

Clemons, J. S.	<i>Teller:</i>
McColl, J. H.	Bakchop, T. J. K.
Millen, E. D.	

PAIRS.

Pearce, G. F.	Keating, J. H.
McDougall, A.	Onkes, C. W.

Question so resolved in the affirmative.

ADJOURNMENT.

Motion (by Senator Mcgregor) proposed—

That the Senate do now adjourn.

Senator MILLEN (New South Wales—Minister of Defence) [11.16].—A very few words will be sufficient for me on this occasion. I repeat the request which I submitted to the Leader of the Opposition yesterday, inviting him to state, for the guidance of the Senate and the Government, and for the information of the country, whether it is his intention, speaking for his party, that the procedure repeated for the third time to-day is to be continued indefinitely until the Government and the other branch of this Legislature are willing to accept direction from this Chamber as to the methods by which they shall conduct their business. I have told the Senate, and I repeat the statement to-day, that the Government, having adopted their course of action, and that course of action having been approved by the other branch of the Legislature, refuse to be coerced by any resolution adopted at the instance of my honorable friends opposite. There is a clear statement of the position the Government take up. We are entitled, in return, to ask the Opposition an equally clear statement as to their intention. I should like to say, in addition, that if the course taken so far by my honorable friends opposite has been taken with a view to make a protest

against what they consider an irregularity in the conduct of public business, there was a very simple method by which such a protest might have been placed on record without bringing public business to a standstill. The protest would have been equally effective, but much less destructive of the public interest, if a motion had been passed here expressing the views of my honorable friends opposite. Instead of adopting that course, which I venture to say would have met the requirements of their case, as stated by themselves, they have thought fit to adopt an entirely different course, which means that the whole of the public business for which this Chamber has been brought together, and for which the Parliament exists, is to be brought to a standstill. Why? Simply because the Government, acting with the authority of a majority in another place, will not arrange their business according to the ideas of my honorable friends opposite. I venture to say that no more preposterous and outrageous proposition was ever put forward in any other second Chamber anywhere. It would be impossible for men having any idea of what is implied in the term "responsible government" to listen to such a suggestion, much less to be influenced by such a threat.

Senator DE LARGIE.—Responsible government!

Senator MILLEN.—Yes, responsible to the other House. Let me repeat that. With a full understanding of what the Senate stands for, and a due recognition and appreciation of the responsibilities intrusted to it, I say that responsible government, as I understand it, means that the Government are responsible to one branch of the Legislature, and in our case that must be to the House of Representatives. The attempt made by the dominant party in this Chamber is a stretching out to take control, not merely of the Executive, but of the other House as well. I should like very much indeed to hear Mr. Fisher and other leaders of the party opposite stand up before the country as those who justify a Government taking their orders and instructions from this branch of the Legislature rather than from the other. That is the position with which we are faced to-day. So far as the present Government are concerned, they will be no party to it, nor will they depart in the slightest degree from the course which they have mapped out for themselves, and which

has the approval of a majority in another place, by any action of the kind proposed to be taken here to-day.

Senator MCGREGOR (South Australia) [11.20].—I have been asked a direct question as to the intentions of the Opposition in the Senate in connexion with the future. When manna came down from heaven it was not supposed to be safe to take more than one day's supply. "Sufficient for the day is the evil thereof."

Senator MILLEN.—You are quite right; it is the evil thereof.

Question put. The Senate divided.

Ayes	22
Noes	4

Majority	18
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AYES.

Barker, S.	O'Keefe, D. J.
Blakey, A. E. H.	O'Loughlin, Lt.-Col.
de Largie, H.	Rae, A.
Findley, E.	Ready, R. K.
Gardiner, A.	Russell, E. J.
Guthrie, R. S.	Senior, W.
Henderson, G.	Stewart, J. C.
Long, J. J.	Story, W. H.
McGregor, G.	Turley, H.
Mullan, J.	
Needham, E.	<i>Teller:</i>
Newland, J.	Maughan, W. J. R.

NOES.

Clemons, J. S.	<i>Teller:</i>
McColl, J. H.	Bakhap, T. J. K.
Millen, E. D.	

PAIRS.

Pearce, C. F.	Keating, J. H.
McDougall, A.	Oakes, C. W.

Question so resolved in the affirmative.

Senate adjourned at 11.25 a.m.