

between a diplomatic service and a consular service. The performance of consular acts by Australian officials abroad is not confined to consuls as such. For this reason, honorable members will observe that the bill covers the performance of consular acts by both the diplomatic and consular officers of the External Affairs service, and by members of the Trade Commissioner service of the Department of Commerce and Agriculture.

The bill does not, in itself, purport to prescribe the fees which will be payable. It leaves these to be prescribed by regulations, which will list in detail the charges for each particular act. There is already provision under existing legislation for fees to be levied for the performance of certain specified consular acts. For example, the Passports Act and the regulations made under it lay down the fees for the issue of passports. For most normal consular acts, however, there is at present no fee charged, particularly for those acts which are of a quasi-legal nature. The bill provides that a fee under this measure is not chargeable in respect of an act for which a fee is chargeable under another act. Finally, the bill provides that a list of fees payable for the performance of consular acts shall be displayed in a conspicuous position at all overseas posts. I commend the bill to honorable members.

Debate (on motion by Mr. CALWELL) adjourned.

METEOROLOGY BILL 1955.

Motion (by Mr. KENT HUGHES) agreed to—

That leave be given to bring in a bill for an act relating to the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology.

Bill presented, and read a first time.

SECOND READING.

Mr. KENT HUGHES (Chisholm—Minister for the Interior) [3.53].—*by leave*—I move—

That the bill be now read a second time. This bill provides for the setting up of a Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology with appropriate and necessary functions for the up-to-date application of meteorology to civil aviation,

shipping, primary production, industry, trade, and commerce. There has been practically no amendment of the original measure, which was enacted in 1906. It is now out of date in respect of quite a large number of things in the extended sphere of meteorology for which, perhaps, there is some tentative authority. The bill repeals the original act by substituting an entirely new measure.

It proposes the repeal of the Meteorology Act 1906, a short measure which provides for the establishment of observatories, the appointment of a Commonwealth meteorologist, and the making of arrangements in respect of meteorological matters with State governments and the governments of other countries. The original legislation was designed to cover the taking over by the Commonwealth of the meteorological services that were previously conducted by the States. The provisions of the 1906 act are now quite out of date, and actually serve no useful purpose. The activities of the Commonwealth in the sphere of meteorology have necessarily developed beyond the usages and practices in relation to weather information that were foreseen 50 years ago. Since that time, the availability of diverse and complicated meteorological information has become essential to the success of operations of the armed services, particularly the air services, and civil aviation, and is of increasing importance for the protection of life and property, as well as for the convenience of everyday life.

Honorable members will recall that recently the Government established two radar stations—I think a third is in the course of being established—on the coast of Queensland for the purpose of trying to plot more accurately the course of cyclones, and to give warning in advance of their arrival. I received a letter recently from one of the chambers of commerce in Queensland, which stated that the new service was very much more effective than that which was previously in operation. I refer to that as an example of the expanding services that are undertaken by meteorologists to-day. It is also desirable that the meteorological authority of the Commonwealth should be brought into line with the functions of agencies of the United Nations to which

Australia is a signatory. The principal commitments in this regard are membership of the World Meteorological Organization and the International Civil Aviation Organization. Furthermore, it has become incumbent upon the Government to make proper arrangements for the specialized application of meteorology to many fields which in the past were beyond practical limitations. Those fields involve the training of staff and the carrying out of investigations to take advantage of development in meteorological science. In addition, the growth and development of modern telecommunications have presented completely new concepts of the means of collecting and distributing meteorological reports and information which form the raw material and the product of the bureau.

In particular, therefore, the bill seeks to provide legislative authority for the Bureau of Meteorology to undertake such functions as (a) the provision of meteorological services for civil aviation and the armed services, upon which it is already engaged; (b) the provision of educational facilities for the training of observers and professional meteorologists; (c) the promotion of the use of meteorological information and the advance of meteorological science; and (d) the carrying out of investigations and research in relation to any of the matters already specified. There are certain other minor matters to which reference is made in the bill such as the change of name from the Meteorological Branch of the Department of the Interior to the Commonwealth Bureau of Meteorology.

Debate (on motion by Mr. CALWELL) adjourned.

NATIONALITY AND CITIZENSHIP BILL 1955.

Motion (by Mr. HOLT) agreed to—

That leave be given to bring in a bill for an act to amend the Nationality and Citizenship Act 1943-1953.

Bill presented, and read a first time.

SECOND READING.

Mr. HOLT (Higgins—Minister for Labour and National Service and Minister for Immigration) [4.1].—*by leave*
—I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

The clauses of the bill now before the House are aimed chiefly at removing unnecessary obstacles in the way of the achievement of Australian citizenship by new settlers in this country. As the House is well aware, nearly a million migrants have come here since the war. It has been the aim of the Government, as it was that of our predecessors in office, to encourage our new settlers to become true Australians as soon as they possibly could, both in fact and in law. With this aim in view, and having in mind that great numbers of our new settlers are becoming eligible for naturalization, the fifth Australian Citizenship Convention, which met in Canberra last year, was asked to consider at length the existing requirements for the grant of citizenship, both to British immigrants through the process of registration, and to aliens through naturalization. The convention made a number of recommendations for alteration of the requirements. Certain further proposals arose from further review of the requirements by the Commonwealth Immigration Advisory Council and by the Department of Immigration. All of the proposals that could be adopted have been combined in this bill, which also makes some other minor amendments of a drafting nature.

The major proposed alterations to the requirements for citizenship may be summarized as follows:—It is proposed, first of all, that the Declaration of Intention to Apply for Naturalization, which at present must be made at least two years before the final application for naturalization is lodged with the department, should no longer be compulsory, but voluntary only. It is then proposed that another procedure, less troublesome to applicants and more effective administratively, should be adopted to serve the purposes which the compulsory Declaration of Intention served. The new procedure will permit applications for naturalization to be lodged six months before the new settler completes his residence qualification, which is usually five years. That period obtains, generally speaking, throughout the British Commonwealth. The complement of this is a provision that, generally, applicants will not be granted their Certificate of Naturalization until at least six months

assist this industry—it has had every opportunity to do so during the 30 years it has been in office—let it use some of the loan moneys raised for it by the Commonwealth, as well as some of the money found for it from sources other than loan funds, on irrigation projects which would substantially increase the production of cotton in that State. I do not want to cover ground which has been covered over and over again to-night. It is temerity on the part of the honorable member for Melbourne to come in at the closing stages of the debate, pick up two or three little threads, and try to hammer the Government with them. The record of this Government is far better than that of any Federal or State Labour government in relation to consideration of the cotton industry in Queensland.

In my opinion, there is only one thing wrong with this bill, and that is that the three-year term of the guarantee has not been extended. What we want in Queensland is sufficient encouragement to those who produce cotton to undertake the purchase of the necessary plant. The honorable member for Capricornia (Mr. Pearce) referred to cotton-growers in Queensland who had purchased their own mechanical harvesters and tractors at a cost of approximately £10,000 each. We should encourage that type of thing. The Government should give serious consideration to extending the term of the guarantee beyond this three-year period. It may be that the guaranteed price will not be sufficient. In this respect, I disagree with the honorable member for Melbourne. It may be necessary to increase the guaranteed price, and that can be done more readily by regulation than by amendment of the act. Some consideration should be given to a long-term proposition, because it is the long term which will determine whether we have a cotton industry in Queensland which will go somewhere near meeting the requirements of its secondary industry, cotton-weaving, in Australia.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time, and passed through its remaining stages without amendment or debate.

R.—[22]

RABBIT SKINS EXPORT CHARGES LEGISLATION REPEAL BILL 1955.

SECOND READING.

Debate resumed from the 21st April (*vide* page 100), on motion by Mr. HOLT—

That the bill be now read a second time.

Mr. ALLAN FRASER (Eden-Monaro) [10.14].—I am happy to say that the Opposition will offer no obstacle to the passage of this bill.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time, and reported from committee without amendment or debate; report adopted.

Bill—*by leave*—read a third time.

CONSULAR FEES BILL 1955.

SECOND READING.

Debate resumed from the 21st April (*vide* page 101), on motion by Mr. CASEY—

That the bill be now read a second time.

Mr. ALLAN FRASER (Eden-Monaro) [10.15].—The Opposition has carefully examined this bill, is satisfied that it serves a useful purpose, and has no objection to its passage.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time, and reported from committee without amendment or debate; report adopted.

Bill—*by leave*—read a third time.

METEOROLOGY BILL 1955.

SECOND READING.

Debate resumed from the 21st April (*vide* page 102), on motion by Mr. KENT HUGHES—

That the bill be now read a second time.

Mr. ALLAN FRASER (Eden-Monaro) [10.17].—The Opposition is in general agreement with the purpose of this quite important measure and will offer no obstacle to its passage.

Mr. DAVIDSON (Dawson) [10.18].—I rise to compliment the Minister and the department not only on the presentation of this bill, which, as the Minister stated in his second-reading speech, sets out to bring into line with present-day practice the legislation governing the development

of meteorology in Australia, but also on the work which has been done in recent years, particularly in recent months, in carrying out one of the main functions of the Meteorological Branch. That function, as stated in the bill, is the forecasting of weather and the state of the atmosphere, and particularly, the issuing of warnings of gales, storms and other weather conditions likely to endanger life or property, including weather conditions likely to give rise to floods or bushfires.

It will not be necessary to remind honorable members of the very great risks which are run, particularly on the eastern coast of Australia, of hazards such as cyclones and floods. Events of the last year or two have shown how important it is to develop a very extensive and efficient system, so that the utmost warning can be given to all people, particularly those in country areas, of the approach of any of these visitations. Having lived on the Queensland coast, from Cairns south, ever since my boyhood, I have very vivid memories of the conditions which prevailed years ago. Then, the first warning of a cyclone would be when the wind actually started to howl. The result would be that a district would be suddenly hit, and the damage would be very great. We have travelled a long way from those days, due to the work of the Meteorological Branch. We now receive what can be described, I think, as fairly accurate information, which is of considerable value. In the recent cyclones on the Queensland and New South Wales coasts, for instance, there were two or three days' warning of the visitation. That was the result of extensive meteorological services and greater provision for the giving of information by radio stations. That fact is appreciated greatly by the people who suffer these devastations. Stations are proposed for Townsville and Gladstone, but as they will have a range of only about 150 miles a gap will be left in the central Queensland coast so far as the warning system is concerned. The area from Bowen or Proserpine to just north of Rockhampton is prone to cyclones. In the last two or three years especially it has suffered heavily. Although last year we got fairly adequate warnings it is possible for a

Mr. Davidson.

cyclone coming down the coast to switch suddenly inland and strike without warning. If stations were set up at Mackay and Cairns there would be a network of stations down the coast, each with a radius of 150 miles, and the warning system would be complete. That would be of great advantage to the people on the eastern seaboard of Australia. As honorable members know, these cyclones develop in the north and come down as far as northern New South Wales. The Minister realizes that there is still much to be done. One appreciates what has already been accomplished but must stress the need for the extension of the warning system. I have pleasure in supporting the bill.

Mr. COUTTS (Griffith) [10.23].—I am very glad that the bill has been introduced and I agree with the honorable member for Dawson (Mr. Davidson) that it will be of advantage to the Commonwealth generally, and to Queensland in particular. Queensland is subject to extreme weather changes and frequently experiences cyclones, which wander about in such a fashion that their movement is difficult to plot. Earlier in the year great damage was suffered in this area.

The bill is certainly wide in scope. It proposes that complete investigations into all matters concerning the weather shall be made, and that the results shall be supplied to the public. If it improves the system of weather forecasting for Brisbane it will have served its purpose. I do not wish to ascribe to any individual or organization any blame for the weather forecasts for the metropolitan area of Brisbane. Usually they are no more reliable than is the average racing tipster, and one can take little notice of them. Some time ago a prominent officer of the Brisbane City Council Electricity Supply said, with a smile, that his organization was supplied with the forecast that was not, of course, that which the ordinary public received. I do not know what to make of that statement, but I hope that the work of the Meteorological Branch will result in the feeling that one can depend upon the weather forecast. I am happy to support the bill and hope that it will be to the advantage of the public generally.

Mr. JEFF BATE (Macarthur) [10.26].—In Australia, weather forecasting poses a difficult problem. In the older countries of Europe, the North Atlantic and America, there are many more weather forecasting stations and better methods of gathering information than we have in Australia. Weather ships, permanently anchored in the North Atlantic, wireless information to the shore. Also, the weather people of other countries have at their command the results of research over many years. This enables them to make more accurate forecasts than are possible in Australia, which has been settled for little more than 150 years. There are great distances between our warning stations. Australia has on either side large expanses of ocean, from which it cannot gain information about upper air currents. Some work of this type has been carried on at Macquarie Island and Kerguelen Island, but so far our weather men do not know enough about such reports to draw from them conclusions as to future weather. A great deal of patient research into such reports must be undertaken before accurate forecasts will be possible.

We have in the weather forecasting service some very brilliant men, whose work is of immense value to shipping, to the Royal Australian Air Force and to the civil airlines that operate in Australia and along the air routes to America and England. They are also of assistance to those who live in flood areas or areas that are subject to bush fires. For some five years I have had the privilege of representing the Commonwealth on the flood and bush fire relief committees of New South Wales. With great respect to the honorable member for Mackellar (Mr. Wentworth), who has told us what may happen if an atomic bomb fell here, one has only to see the ravages of the weather to realize that the natural elements are an even more terrible force. Many fine wealthy towns have suffered huge losses in floods. Whole streets of houses have been wrecked and all the possessions of the inhabitants lost. Such occurrences are a tremendous shock to the people, but no one likes to leave his home, and there is a natural urge to return to it when the danger has passed.

It is a distressing sight to see houses and shops many feet deep in water, and furniture, floor coverings, bedding, haberdashery, groceries and boots and shoes being carried away. Any one who has seen the devastation that flood waters can cause to residences and businesses alike will agree that weather can be a dreadful thing, particularly if there has been inaccurate forecasting.

I propose to read to the House a passage from the Stretton report on the bush fires in Victoria in 1939. The report states—

Seventy-one lives were lost. Sixty-nine mills were burned. Millions of acres of fine forest, of almost incalculable value, were destroyed or badly damaged. Townships were obliterated in a few minutes. Mills, houses, bridges, tramways, machinery were burned to the ground; men, cattle, horses, sheep were devoured by the fires or asphyxiated by the scorching debilitated air.

As most honorable members probably know, when a bush fire is raging, the heating of foliage produces an explosive mixture, and the air itself is heated to such a degree that people exposed to it are burned, although their skin has not been touched by the flames. I have seen this happen to many people as well as to hundreds of horses and many head of cattle. The Stretton report continues—

Generally, the numerous fires which during December, in many parts of Victoria, had been burning separately, as they do in any summer, either "under control", as it is falsely and dangerously called, or entirely untended, reached the climax of their intensity and joined forces in a devastating confluence of flame on Friday, the 13th January.

On that day it appeared that the whole State was alight. At midday, in many places, it was dark as night. Men carrying hurricane lamps worked to make safe their families and belongings. Travellers on the highways were trapped by fires or blazing fallen trees, and perished. Throughout the land there was daytime darkness. At one mill, desperate but futile efforts were made to clear of inflammable scrub the borders of the mill and mill settlement. All but one person, at that mill, were burned to death, many of them while trying to burrow to imagined safety in the sawdust heap. Horses were found, still harnessed, in their stalls, dead, their limbs fantastically contorted. The full story of the killing of this small community is one of unpreparedness, because of apathy and ignorance, and perhaps of something worse.

The report goes on at great length to describe what can happen in a bush fire. Some years ago, there was a fire in the Bega district of New South Wales, as

the honorable member for Eden-Monaro (Mr. Allan Fraser) will recall. After the fire had passed, there was complete devastation over an area of 50 square miles. Where fences and trees had been, there were only little heaps of grey ash. Where fences still stood, cattle and horses had been driven into the corners and burnt to death. This Parliament now has before it certain proposals to deal with the menace of atomic warfare. We have not yet experienced the atomic bomb, and perhaps that catastrophe will never befall us, but bush fires are with us now, and so are floods, and in the prevention or mitigation of these disasters the work of the weather forecasters is of the greatest importance. From my long observation of forecasting, I believe that our weather reports are not accurate enough. A forecast made in Sydney may be adequate within a radius of perhaps 10 or 20 miles of that city, but it is virtually impossible to forecast on information available in Sydney the weather that may be expected in areas perhaps 200 to 300 miles away.

A serious aspect of the matter is that, when a wrong forecast is made, weather forecasts generally are liable to fall into contempt. People lose their confidence in the forecasts and tend to ignore them. For instance, suppose a farmer receives a warning over the air that he must leave his home. He gets all his most valuable chattels together, musters his stock and moves out, perhaps at night. Next day, there is bright sunshine, and he is able to return home in safety. The next time he receives a warning he may not bother about it. Inaccurate forecasting, therefore, can be a grave danger. However, inaccuracy is not the fault of the weather man. He does the best he can with the information at his disposal, but he is not given enough information. Australia is a huge continent and there are areas of perhaps 1,000 square miles in which no weather observations are made and from which, therefore, no reports are obtained. Then there is the huge area of the Indian Ocean. Knowledge of the weather in that area is most important to accurate weather forecasting on the Australian continent.

Mr. Jeff Bate.

On the meagre information available to our meteorologists at present, it is dangerous to forecast floods or fires in any given area. The long-range solution to the problem, I believe, lies in training meteorologists for work in decentralized areas such as the Bega district, the Macleay district, the Richmond River district, and out west in New South Wales. In all those areas there should be men at work collecting weather information, watching the overall weather plans, studying weather maps and trying to compile an accurate picture of the weather probabilities. However, it will be a long time before we reach the stage when we can have regional forecasts. Nevertheless, I believe that there are now men available in most districts who could be formed into committees or who, by themselves, could assume the task of making weather forecasts, particularly in times of great emergency. For instance, if in January there is a heavy growth of vegetation, low humidity, and high temperatures and winds, there is an acute danger of bush fires, and it should be the responsibility of somebody in each district to see that fire fighting equipment is in order, relief services organized, and preparations made to evacuate certain localities if necessary. Some one must have the authority to give a warning, and I believe that there are men available who could be entrusted with this responsibility. They are ready and willing to undertake this work. Surely, if it is necessary to have a civil defence committee to organize defence against atomic bombs, it is equally essential that there should be a widespread organization assisting in the vital work of weather forecasting.

It is necessary that forecasts should be worded cautiously. I believe it is wrong for a forecaster to say that there will be light showers, high winds, or something of that sort. The people should be told that, from the meagre information available, there is a possibility of such and such a kind of weather. Dogmatic forecasts can only bring weather forecasters into disrepute. You, Mr. Speaker, as a farmer from South Australia, will appreciate the necessity for long-range weather forecasting. Many of us have been greatly interested in the long-range

forecasting of the late Inigo Jones. Those who are farmers have found on many occasions that his accurate forecasting of the weather has enabled them to sow and harvest crops, and carry out other farming activities at the right time. I suggest that the Minister should consider that it is of importance to investigate weather forecasting in this country, and to ascertain whether it is possible to decentralize our forecasting services. I suggest that he should work out regions of not more than about 100 miles in diameter, for which the weather could be forecast with regard to flood dangers and other hazards of nature.

It is interesting to note that the Royal Australian Navy has a separate system of weather forecasting wherever there is a unit the size of an aircraft carrier stationed. A ship like an aircraft carrier cannot operate on weather information received from Sydney or Melbourne, because it might be 500 miles away from those cities. An aircraft carrier needs accurate meteorological information about the weather in its immediate vicinity, or the weather which it is likely to encounter within a short time, in order that it may operate its aircraft in safety.

I understand that the Royal Australian Air Force is also greatly dependent on weather forecasting, and that during the last war members of that force were given a very short course of training in weather forecasts. That training enabled them to forecast weather with such accuracy that the pilots developed a great deal of confidence in their ability. If such a system were possible during war-time, surely during peace-time men can be trained to forecast the weather in country districts. I appeal to the Government to take this matter seriously, and to ensure that sufficient money is allocated to train the right type of men to do this work accurately. Indeed, I suggest that the Government should also investigate the desirability of instituting a long-range forecasting service. Such an action would take us out of the primitive state that we are now in with regard to meteorological activities.

I understand that Australia has now joined a world meteorological association.

After that organization has carried out all the research that it intends to carry out, and has obtained all the data that it requires, I have no doubt that it will be of great benefit to us. However, we must remember that the object of meteorological organizations is to make accurate forecasts of the weather. They should not become bogged down with all sorts of bureaucratic influences and controls. We require accurate forecasting in this country, and the Minister should realize that we all are intensely interested in the weather and that accurate forecasting will be of great benefit to the whole of the country.

Mr. COSTA (Banks) [10.44].—Our weather forecasting has not been as accurate or as up to date in the past as it should have been, because our meteorological services have been run on cheap-jack lines. Most of the information that goes into our central meteorological organizations goes through the Postal Department. When I was an officer of that department I noticed that the governments of the day tried to run that data-gathering service as cheaply as possible. The men who were appointed to gather the meteorological information and make certain observations, were always grossly underpaid. Therefore, I suggest that if the proper encouragement were given to the officers of the Postal Department who carry out the important functions of gathering the meteorological observations, we should benefit by much more accurate forecasting. For the information of the honorable member for Macarthur (Mr. Jeff Bate), perhaps I could point out that about 80 per cent. of our weather forecasts are accurate at present, and that if proper and adequate remuneration were given to those responsible for gathering the information, perhaps 100 per cent. of the forecasts would turn out to be accurate.

Dr. EVATT.—Past governments have treated weather forecasting as an unimportant sideline of other jobs.

Mr. COSTA.—That is so. Men who were called upon to read the heights of rivers and obtain other information were expected to do it for practically nothing. I am glad that the Government now intends to set up a proper meteorological

service, and I hope that the Minister will ensure that the officers required to do the work and obtain the information for the service will receive adequate training and remuneration. I hope that the Minister will also assume responsibility for the cost of transmitting the information from outlying areas to the weather officers. In the past the Postal Department has had to bear the cost of the meteorological telegrams that have to be sent from all parts of the Commonwealth. I hope that this measure will set up a proper organization, and that the head of that organization will be given power to spend sufficient money to make our weather forecasting services efficient.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

In committee:

The bill.

Mr. JEFF BATE (Macarthur) [10.48].

—I should like the Minister to agree to the insertion, in clause 7 (1.), of a new paragraph, to read—

and (e) arrange for local forecasts in all country areas to be made on the spot.

I suggest that such an addition will provide a means of carrying out the forecasting activities that I mentioned in my second-reading speech on this measure.

Mr. KENT HUGHES.—Paragraph (a) of clause 7 covers that matter, I understand.

Bill agreed to.

Bill reported without amendment; report adopted.

Bill—*by leave*—read a third time.

ADJOURNMENT.

ELECTORAL.

Motion (by Sir ERIC HARRISON) proposed—

That the House do now adjourn.

Mr. KEON (Yarra) [10.50].—I do not desire to detain the House at length, but there is a matter that should be brought to the attention of the Government, upon which it should take some action. I refer to the making public of the details of the redistribution scheme which was recently completed in the various States before

those details ought to have been made public. I refer specifically to the position in Victoria. I am unaware of what happens in New South Wales or in Sydney. That is completely beyond me.

Dr. EVATT.—It is not even easy for the honorable member to understand what is happening in Richmond.

Mr. KEON.—What is happening in Richmond is well within my understanding. The first redistribution of electoral boundaries was completed in New South Wales and for some reason the Commonwealth Electoral Officer in New South Wales made information available before the statutory date for its publication. I am not arguing whether he should or should not have done so, but as a result of the controversy that followed his action definite and specific instructions were issued in Victoria by the commissioners responsible for the drawing up of the map showing the boundaries of the new electorate that no details whatever were to be given to anybody. The matter was confidential and the commissioners were asked to complete their report under the statute on a confidential basis. The Government Printer of Victoria, who was to print the maps, was instructed not to make any information available to any person until the commissioners themselves decided to publish it.

I am not arguing whether it was good or bad for the matter to be kept confidential or whether that ought or ought not to have been done. The simple position is that highly paid public servants who had taken an oath to preserve confidence in relation to matters that come to their notice by virtue of their positions were expected to take notice of their direction to keep these matters confidential, but that instruction was not observed by them. Every member from Victoria well knows that the Premier of that State was able to tell a favoured few, prior to the date of the official announcement of the new boundaries, just where they were likely to be—not merely in a general way but specifically, street by street and boundary by boundary. Inevitably, in a party like the Labour party, where many decisions depend on who wins a selection ballot, there was quite

BILLS—continued.

- Meat Agreement (Deficiency Payments) Bill 1955 (Act No. 32 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res., int., and lr.*, 1373; 2r., 1373, 1544; *com.*, 1560; *ad. rep.*, and 3r., 1561; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1665
- Meat Export (Additional Charge) Bill 1955 (Act No. 33 of 1955):
 Motion in Committee of Ways and Means, 1378; *int.*, and lr., 1379; 2r., 1379, 1561; remaining stages, 1561; returned from the Senate without request, 1665
- Meteorology Bill 1955 (Act No. 6 of 1955):
 Leave, *int.*, and lr., 101; 2r., 101, 593; *com.*, 598; *ad. rep.*, and 3r., 598; returned from the Senate without amendment, 660; assent, 1107
- Nationality and Citizenship Bill 1955 (Act No. 1 of 1955):
 Leave, *int.*, lr., and 2r., 102; remaining stages, 133; returned from the Senate without amendment, 524; assent, 660
- Parliamentary Retiring Allowances Bill 1955 (Act No. 30 of 1955):
 Leave, *int.*, and lr., 1415; 2r., 1415, 1464; *com.*, appropriation message reported, *cons. mes., ad. res., com., ad. rep.* and 3r., 1477; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1665
- Patents Bill 1955 (Act No. 3 of 1955):
 Received from the Senate, and lr., 216; 2r., 578; *com.*, *ad. rep.*, and 3r., 579; assent, 1107
- Public Service Arbitration Bill 1955 (Act No. 2 of 1955):
 Received from the Senate, and lr., 660; 2r., 692, 790; remaining stages, 795; assent, 892
- Public Service Bill 1955:
 Leave, 1529
- Rabbit Skins Export Charges Legislation Repeal Bill 1955 (Act No. 4 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res., int., and lr.*, 99; 2r., 99, 593; remaining stages, 593; returned from the Senate without amendment, 660; assent, 1107
- River Murray Waters Bill 1954 (Act No. 80 of 1954):
 Assent, 5
- Salaries Adjustment Bill 1955 (Act No. 18 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res., int., and lr.*, 842; 2r., 842, 1242; *com.*, 1250; *ad. rep.*, and 3r., 1251; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1414
- Social Services Bill 1955 (Act No. 15 of 1955):
 Leave, *int.*, and lr., 569; 2r., 569, 705; *com.*, 741; *ad. rep.*, and 3r., 744; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1117; assent, 1440
- South-East Asia Collective Defence Treaty Bill 1954 (Act No. 77 of 1954):
 Assent, 5

BILLS—continued.

- States Grants (Universities) Bill 1955 (Act No. 28 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, 1371, *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res., int., and lr.*, 1372; 2r., 1372, 1483; remaining stages, 1486; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1565
- Stevedoring Industry Bill 1954 (Act No. 75 of 1954):
 Assent, 5
- Sulphuric Acid Bounty Bill 1954 (Act No. 78 of 1954):
 Assent, 5
- Superannuation Bill 1955 (Act No. 27 of 1955):
 Leave, *int.*, and lr., 1290; 2r., 1290, 1424; *com.*, appropriation message reported, *cons. mes., ad. res., com., ad. rep.*, and 3r., 1426; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1565
- Supplementary Appropriation (Works and Services) Bill 1953-54 (Act No. 26 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, 850; *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res.*, 851; *int.*, and lr., 852; 2r., 852, 1200; remaining stages, 1200; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1495
- Supplementary Appropriation Bill 1953-54 (Act No. 25 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, 850; *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res., int., and lr.*, 851; 2r., 851, 1200; remaining stages, 1200; returned from the Senate without requests, 1495
- Supply Bill (No. 1) 1955-56 (Act No. 21 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res., int., and lr.*, 847; 2r., 847, 1005, 1061, 1137, 1160; remaining stages, 1199; returned from the Senate without requests, 1495
- Supply (Works and Services) Bill (No. 1) 1955-56 (Act No. 22 of 1955):
 Appropriation message reported, *cons. mes., m.s.o., ad. res., int., and lr.*, 847; 2r., 847, 1199; remaining stages, 1200; returned from the Senate without amendment, 1495
- Trade Marks Bill 1955 (Act No. 20 of 1955):
 Received from the Senate, and lr., 216; 2r., 573, 949; *com.*, 950; *ad. rep.*, and 3r., 951; message received from the Senate intimating that it agreed to the amendment made by the House of Representatives, 1039.
- Wheat Export Charge Bill 1954 (Act No. 71 of 1955):
 Assent, 5
- Wheat Industry Stabilization Bill 1954 (Act No. 70 of 1954):
 Assent, 5
- Wine Research Bill 1955 (Act No. 11 of 1955):
 Received from the Senate, and lr., 660; 2r., 694, 795; remaining stages, 807; assent, 1287