

THIS Bill originated in the House of Representatives; and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the Senate for its concurrence.

E. W. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.

House of Representatives,
Canberra, 13th October, 1931.

A BILL

FOR

AN ACT

To amend the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*.

BE it enacted by the King's Most Excellent Majesty, the Senate, and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Australia, as follows :—

1.—(1.) This Act may be cited as the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1931*. Short title and citation

(2.) The *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921** is in this Act referred to as the Principal Act.

(3.) The Principal Act, as amended by this Act, may be cited as the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1931*.

2. Section three of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section inserted in its stead :—

“ 3.—(1.) As soon as conveniently practicable after the commencement of this section, and thereafter at the commencement of the first session of every Parliament, a Joint Committee of seven members of Parliament, to be called the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (in this Act referred to as ‘ the Committee ’), shall be appointed according to the practice of the Parliament with reference to the appointment of members to serve on Joint Select Committees of both Houses of the Parliament. Constitution of Committee.

“(2.) Two

* Act No. 20, 1913; as amended by No. 32, 1914 and No. 19, 1921.

“(2.) Two of the members of the Committee shall be members of and appointed by the Senate, and five of the members of the Committee shall be members of and appointed by the House of Representatives.

“(3.) No Minister of State shall be a member of the Committee. 5
No President of the Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, or Chairman of Committees of either House of Parliament shall be a member of the Committee.

“(4.) The members of the Committee shall hold office as a Joint Committee for the duration of the Parliament for the time being, but 10
shall cease to hold office as soon as the House of Representatives expires by dissolution or effluxion of time; and shall have and may exercise such powers and authorities, perform such duties, and be liable to such obligations as are by this Act vested in or imposed upon the Committee.”. 15

Quorum.

3. Section seven of the Principal Act is amended by omitting the word “five” and inserting in its stead the word “four”.

Conditions precedent to commencing public works.

4. Section fifteen of the Principal Act is amended—

(a) by inserting in sub-section (1.) after the word “except” the letter “—(a)” ; and 20

(b) by inserting in sub-section (1.) after the word “Act” the words “; and (b) works exempted by resolution passed by both Houses of the Parliament from the operation of the Act”.

Members holding office at commencement of this Act.

5. The members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on 25
Public Works holding office under the Principal Act immediately prior to the commencement of this Act shall, upon such commencement, cease to hold office as members of the Committee.