

1926.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 33.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 24TH MARCH, 1926.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Charlton (Leader of the Opposition) rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The necessity for the appointment of local Boards to expedite the settlement of industrial disputes in the Coal Mining Industry".
Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—
Mr. Charlton moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Hughes, addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 39—
Suspension of Standing Orders.—Mr. Charlton moved, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the honorable Member to continue his speech.
Question—put and passed, with the concurrence of an absolute majority of the Members of the House.
Mr. Hughes continued and concluded his speech.
Debate continued.
- It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with Standing Order No. 119, and the Business of the Day was called on.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Commonwealth Film Censorship—Report for year 1925.
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
4. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—UNIFORM RAILWAY GAUGE, GRAFTON TO SOUTH BRISBANE.—Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the Uniform Railway Gauge, Grafton—Kyogle—South Brisbane Railway.
5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—
STONEHAVEN,
Governor-General. *Message No. 14.*
Bills intituled:—
"Western Australia Grant Act 1926"
"Power Alcohol Bounty Act 1926",
as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Acts.
Sydney, 22nd March, 1926.
6. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.
Question—put and passed.

24th March, 1926.

7. WAYS AND MEANS [CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See Customs Tariff Amendment, which incorporates the proposed Resolution of 3rd March, 1926 (pages 72 to 87).]

Remainder of Item numbered 105, viz.:—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
By omitting the whole of sub-item (AA) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(AA) Cotton piece goods, Knitted, in tubular form or otherwise— (1) For the manufacture of goods other than Apparel, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - ad val. (2) Other - - - - - ad val.	Free 20 per cent.	5 per cent. 30 per cent.	15 per cent. 35 per cent.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(B) Cotton and Linen Piece Goods defined for cutting up for the manufacture of hemmed or hemstitched Handkerchiefs, Serviettes, Tablecloths, or Window Blinds, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - ad val.	5 per cent.	10 per cent.	20 per cent.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (D) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(D) Silk, or containing Silk or having silk worked thereon, except piece goods enumerated in sub-item (F) - - - - - ad val.	10 per cent.	12½ per cent.	17½ per cent.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (E) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(E) Velvets, Velvetens, Plushes, Sealette and Cloths imitating furs, Astrachans; Lace for Attire; Lace Flouncings; Millinery and Dress Nets; Veilings; Embroideries in the piece; Italians containing wool; Tucked Linens or Cottons - - - - - ad val.	15 per cent.	20 per cent.	25 per cent.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (F) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(F) (1) Piece goods, woollen, or containing wool, (but not including flannel) ordinarily used in the manufacture of outer clothing for human wear and weighing more than 6½ ounces per square yard—the invoice selling price of which does not exceed the equivalent of 3s. 4d. per square yard - - - - - per square yard and ad val. (2) Piece goods, woollen, or containing wool, n.e.i. - - - - - ad val. (3) Piece goods, woollen, or containing wool, n.e.i., of a class or kind not produced in Australia, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - ad val.	Is. 30 per cent. 35 per cent. 15 per cent.	Is. 6d. 40 per cent. 45 per cent. 20 per cent.	2s. 45 per cent. 50 per cent. 25 per cent.
By omitting the whole of sub-item (H) (1) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(H) Waterproofed Cloth, prepared with Rubber, Oil, or Celluloid— (1) Woollen or containing wool - - - - - ad val.	35 per cent.	45 per cent.	50 per cent.”

Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (AA) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“(AA) Piece Goods, Cotton, Silk or containing silk but not containing wool, knitted, in tubular form or otherwise— (1) for the manufacture of goods other than apparel, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - ad val. (2) Other - - - - - ad val.	Free 20 per cent.	5 per cent. 30 per cent.	15 per cent. 35 per cent.”

Amendment agreed to.

Debate on Item ensued.

Mr. Pratten moved, That the Item be further amended by adding the following to sub-item (D) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“(D) Silk, or containing Silk or having Silk worked thereon, except piece goods enumerated in sub-items (AA) and (F) ad val.	10 per cent.	12½ per cent.	20 per cent.”

Amendment agreed to.

Remainder of Item, as amended, agreed to.

24th March, 1926.

Item numbered 106 debated and agreed to.
 Item numbered 107 debated and agreed to.
 Item numbered 109 debated and agreed to.
 Item numbered 110, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
110. By omitting the whole of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“(A) Apparel (other than knitted), articles of, viz. :—			
(1) Overcoats and Suits :—			
(A) Men’s, i.e., with chest measurement of 34 inches and over - - - - - each	7s. 6d.	10s.	12s. 6d.
(B) Boys’ and Youths’ - - - - - each	5s.	6s. 6d.	7s. 6d.
(2) (A) Trousers or Knickers with waist measurement of 31 inches and over, imported separately - each	3s.	3s. 6d.	4s. 3d.
(B) Trousers or Knickers with waist measurement less than 31 inches, imported separately - each	2s.	3s.	4s.
(C) Coats and Vests, Men’s, i.e., with chest measurement of 34 inches and over, imported separately—			
(1) each Coat - - - - -	4s. 6d.	6s.	7s. 6d.
(2) each Vest - - - - -	1s. 6d.	2s.	2s. 6d.
(D) Coats and Vests, Boys’ and Youths’, i.e., with chest measurement less than 34 inches, imported separately—			
(1) each Coat - - - - -	3s.	5s. 6d.	6s. 6d.
(2) each Vest - - - - -	1s.	1s. 6d.	2s. 6d.
(3) Blouses or Skirts imported separately—			
(A) Cotton, linen, or other material n.e.i. - each	1s.	1s. 6d.	2s.
(B) Wool or containing wool - - - - - each	3s. 6d.	4s. 6d.	5s. 6d.
(C) Silk or containing silk, but not containing wool each	2s.	3s.	4s.
(4) Coats—			
(A) Girls, n.e.i., i.e., measuring 42 inches or less from collar seam to foot of coat, viz. :—			
(1) Cotton, linen, or other material n.e.i. each	2s.	2s. 6d.	3s.
(2) Wool or containing wool - - - - - each	4s. 6d.	5s. 6d.	6s. 6d.
(3) Silk or containing silk but not containing wool - - - - - each	3s.	4s.	5s.
(B) Women’s n.e.i., viz. :—			
(1) Cotton, linen, or other material n.e.i. each	4s.	5s.	6s. 6d.
(2) Wool or containing wool - - - - - each	6s. 6d.	8s.	10s.
(3) Silk or containing silk but not containing wool - - - - - each	5s.	6s. 6d.	8s. 6d.
(5) Costumes, Dresses, or Robes, but not including Dresses or Robes for infants in arms or such articles when not exceeding 22 inches in length, viz. :—			
(a) Cotton, linen, or other material n.e.i. - each	3s.	4s. 6d.	6s.
(b) Wool or containing wool - - - - - each	7s. 6d.	10s.	12s. 6d.
(c) Silk or containing silk but not containing wool each	6s.	8s.	10s.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“(B) Apparel (knitted), articles of, viz. :—			
(1) Blouses, Skirts, Underwear, and Bathing Costumes—			
(a) Cotton or other material n.e.i. - each	1s.	1s. 6d.	2s.
(b) Wool or silk or containing wool or silk - each	2s. 6d.	3s. 6d.	4s. 6d.
(2) Coats, Jumpers, Cardigans, Sweaters, and similar garments—			
(a) Girls’ or Boys’, i.e., with chest measurement under 34 inches - - - - - each	2s.	2s. 6d.	3s.
(b) Women’s or Men’s, i.e., with chest measurement 34 inches and over - - - - - each	4s.	5s.	6s. 6d.
(3) Costumes, Dresses or Robes :—			
(a) Cotton or other material n.e.i. - - - - - each	3s.	4s. 6d.	6s.
(b) Wool or containing wool, but not containing silk each	5s. 6d.	8s.	10s. 6d.
(c) Silk or containing silk - - - - - each	7s. 6d.	1 s.	15s.
and in addition to the rates specified in sub-items (A)(1) to (5) and (B) (1) to (3) - - - - - ad val.	30 per cent.	40 per cent.	45 per cent.
or, as to all the goods covered by sub-items (A) and (B), the following rates if same return a higher duty, viz. - ad val.	45 per cent.	55 per cent.	60 per cent.”
By adding a new sub-item (D) as follows :—			
“(D) Apparel, n.e.i., for the human body, partly or wholly made up, including materials cut into shape therefor ; also material bearing any pattern, design, or marking for the purpose of indicating that it is to be made up into separate articles of apparel ; Boxed Robes ; Second-hand Apparel not imported for sale or trade and not exceeding a total value of £5 - ad val.	45 per cent.	55 per cent.	60 per cent.”

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by inserting the following after line 6 of sub-item (B) (3) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 25th March, 1926 - ad val.	20 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.”

24th March, 1926.

Amendment negatived.
 Item agreed to.
 Item numbered 114 postponed.
 Item numbered 115 agreed to.
 Item numbered 118, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
118. By omitting the whole item (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following item :— "118. (A) Carpets, Carpeting, Floor Cloths, n.e.i., Floor and Carriage Mats of any textile material except coir; and Floor Rugs and Coverings not being of rubber and not being Furs or other Skins (including Felts and Pads but not including Carpet Felt Paper); Saddlebag in the piece or otherwise - ad val.	Free	10 per cent.	15 per cent.
(B) Linoleums and floor coverings having a similar surface - ad val.	10 per cent.	15 per cent.	25 per cent."

Mr. Pratten moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
118. (A) Carpets, Carpeting, Floor Cloths, n.e.i., Floor and Carriage Mats of any textile material except coir; and Floor Rugs and Coverings not being of rubber and not being furs or other skins or Carpet Felt, Under-carpet Felt, or Carpet Felt Paper; Saddlebag in the piece or otherwise - ad val.	Free	10 per cent.	15 per cent.
(B) Linoleums and floor coverings having a similar surface - ad val.	10 per cent.	15 per cent.	25 per cent.
(C) Carpet Felt and Under-carpet Felt - ad val.	20 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent."

Amendment agreed to.
 Item, as amended, agreed to.
 Item numbered 120, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
120. By omitting the whole of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— " (A) Articles, Textile, as under, not being piece goods, viz. :— Articles of Furnishing Drapery and Napery, including Quilts, Table-covers, Doyleys, Tray Cloths, Sheets, Pillowcases and Covers, Bolster Cases, Counter-panes, Bed Spreads, Table Mats, Splashes, Tablecloths, Runners, Mantel Borders, Toilet Sets, Bags for Linen, Brush and Comb Bags, Nightdress Cases, Antimacassars, Handkerchief Sachets, and the like, Cosies and Cushions in part or wholly made up— (1) When not containing wool - ad val.	20 per cent.	25 per cent.	35 per cent.
(2) When containing wool - ad val.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.	50 per cent."
By omitting the whole of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— " (B) (1) Cotton or Linen Handkerchiefs - ad val.	25 per cent.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.
(2) Cotton or Linen Serviettes - ad val.	20 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent."
By adding a new sub-item (C) as follows :— " (C) Towels, cut or uncut, Towelling in the piece whether defined or not for cutting up - ad val.	20 per cent.	25 per cent.	35 per cent."

Mr. Pratten moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (A) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
" And on and after 25th March, 1926 (A) Articles, Textile, as under, not being piece goods, viz. :— Articles of Furnishing Drapery and Napery, including Quilts n.e.i., Table-covers, Doyleys, Tray cloths, Sheets, Pillowcases and Covers, Bolster Cases, Counter-panes, Bed Spreads, Table Mats, Splashes, Tablecloths, Runners, Mantel Borders, Toilet Sets, Bags for Linen, Brush and Comb Bags, Nightdress Cases, Antimacassars, Handkerchief Sachets, and the like, Cosies and Cushions in part or wholly made up— (1) When not containing wool - ad val.	20 per cent.	25 per cent.	35 per cent.
(2) When containing wool - ad val.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.	50 per cent.
(AA) Feather or Down Quilts - ad val.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.	50 per cent."

24th March, 1926.

Amendment agreed to.

Mr. Pratten moved, That the Item be further amended by adding the following to sub-item (c):—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<p>“ And on and after 25th March, 1926</p> <p>(c) (1) Towels, cut or uncut ; Towelling in the piece whether defined or not for cutting up, n.e.i. - - - - - ad val.</p> <p>(2) Towelling in the piece defined for cutting up, of a class or kind not manufactured in Australia, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - ad val.</p> <p>(3) Towelling in the piece not defined for cutting up, of a class or kind not manufactured in Australia, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - ad val.</p>	<p>20 per cent.</p> <p>5 per cent.</p> <p>Free</p>	<p>25 per cent.</p> <p>10 per cent.</p> <p>5 per cent.</p>	<p>35 per cent.</p> <p>20 per cent.</p> <p>15 per cent.”</p>

Amendment agreed to.

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Items numbered 121, 128 and 135, agreed to.

Item numbered 143, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<p>143. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—</p> <p>“ 143. Scrap Iron and Steel ; Materials for use as scrap iron, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - per ton</p>	<p>20s.</p>	<p>30s.</p>	<p>40s.”</p>

Debate ensued.

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<p>“ And on and after 25th March, 1926</p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>Free”</p>

Amendment negatived.

Item agreed to.

Items numbered 144 and 145 agreed to.

Item numbered 152 debated and agreed to.

Item numbered 155 debated and agreed to.

Item numbered 160, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<p>160. By omitting the whole of sub-item (b) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—</p> <p>“ (b) (1) Cream Separators - - - - -</p> <p>(2) Sheep Shearing Machines, but not including the overhead gearing or motive power plant - - - - - ad val.</p>	<p>Free</p> <p>Free</p>	<p>Free</p> <p>5 per cent.</p>	<p>Free</p> <p>10 per cent.”</p>

Mr. Pratten moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (b) (2) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<p>“ And on and after 25th March, 1926</p> <p>(b) (2) Sheep Shearing Machines, viz. :—</p> <p>Hand Pieces - - - - - ad val.</p>	<p>Free</p>	<p>5 per cent.</p>	<p>10 per cent.”</p>

Amendment agreed to.

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item numbered 170 debated and negatived.

Item numbered 174 debated and postponed.

Item numbered 175 agreed to.

24th March, 1926.

Item numbered 176, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
176. By omitting the whole of sub-items (B) and (C) and inserting in their stead the following sub-items :—			
“(B) Log Band Sawing Machines and Band Resawing Machines, but not including Carriages for either — — — ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	10 per cent.
(C) Cylindrical Cement Driers and Coolers and similar cylindrical containers — — — — — ad val.	27½ per cent.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.
(D) Cement making Machines, n.e.i.; Road making Machines; Stone crushing Machines with jaws up to and including 30 inches by 12 inches in size; Aerial Ropeways exclusive of cable; Hand operated, Travelling and Portable Cranes; Coal Conveyors and Ash Handling Plants exclusive of motive power equipment — — — — — ad val.	35 per cent.	45 per cent.	50 per cent.
(E) Mining Machinery n.e.i. — — — — — ad val.	40 per cent.	50 per cent.	55 per cent.
(F) Machines and Machinery n.e.i. — — — — — ad val.	45 per cent.	55 per cent.	60 per cent.”

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (D) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 25th March, 1926 ad val.	27½ per cent.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Pratten moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (D) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 25th March, 1926			
(D) (1) Cement making Machines, n.e.i.; Aerial Ropeways exclusive of cable; Travelling and Portable Cranes, hand operated; Coal Conveyors and Ash Handling Plant exclusive of motive power equipment — — — ad val.	35 per cent.	45 per cent.	50 per cent.
(2) Road making Machines, n.e.i.; Stone crushing Machines ad val.	30 per cent.	45 per cent.	50 per cent.”

Debate ensued.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Sir Granville Ryrie reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—No. 1 of 1926—
Arms, Explosives, and Munition Workers' Federation of Australia; Amalgamated Engineering Union; Australasian Society of Engineers.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at two minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bell, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. West.

WALTER A. GALE,
Clerk of the House of Representatives