

1926-27.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

No. 142.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 1927.

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. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—REPORTS.—Mr. Mackay, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, brought up the following Reports from the Committee:—

Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed establishment of an Automatic Telephone Exchange at Maroubra, New South Wales

Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed extension of the Installation of Mail-handling Appliances at the General Post Office, Sydney.

Severally ordered to be printed.

3. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Canberra National Memorials Committee—Report (with Plan) in regard to the naming of Canberra's Streets and Suburbs.  
Ordered to lie on the Table, and that the Report be printed.

The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Defence Act—

Australian Junior Cadet Regulations—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 138.

Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 139.

Naval Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 137.

New Guinea Act—Ordinances of 1927—

No. 36—Supply (No. 4) 1927-28.

No. 37—Stamp Duties.

No. 38—Succession Duties.

No. 39—Appropriation (No. 4) 1926-27.

Norfolk Island Act—Ordinance of 1927—No. 5—Executive Council.

Northern Australia Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 134.

Papua Act—Ordinance of 1927—No. 10—Land.

4. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS TO-MORROW.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business to-morrow.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—FINANCIAL AGREEMENT BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

STONEHAVEN,

Governor-General.

Message No. 84.

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue and moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to approve an agreement between the Commonwealth of Australia of the First Part and the States of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania of the Second, Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Parts respectively and for other purposes.

Canberra, 13th December, 1927.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House forthwith.

Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.



14th December, 1927.

Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That the Item be amended by omitting from sub-item (AA) "1st July", and inserting "15th January".

Debate ensued.

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment upon the amendment, That "15th January" be omitted from the proposed amendment, and "15th December" inserted.

*Chairman's Ruling.*—The Chairman (Mr Bayley) stated that the amendment upon the proposed amendment would involve the imposition of a duty on a date sooner than required by the Government, and would therefore produce an additional sum from customs duties. He also informed the Committee that the precedents of the House of Commons and of this House have clearly determined that no motion or amendment can be made to impose or increase a tax or duty, except by a Minister of the Crown, and that it is not competent for a private Member to propose an increase on any rate or duty in excess of such rate or duty proposed in the Resolutions of the Government. He therefore ruled the amendment upon the proposed amendment out of order.

*Dissent from Chairman's Ruling.*—Mr. Scullin having handed in, in writing, an objection to the Ruling of the Chairman, moved, That the Ruling be dissented from.

Debate ensued.

Question—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 18.		Noes, 43.	
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Edward Riley	Mr. Aubrey Abbott	Mr. Lister
Mr. Brennan	Mr. E. C. Riley	Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Scullin	Mr. Bell	Mr. Mann
Mr. Corser	Mr. Theodore	Mr. Bruce	Mr. Marks
Mr. Forde	Mr. Watkins	Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Marr
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. West	Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Lacey		Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Nott
Mr. Lazzarini	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. McGrath	Mr. Coleman	Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. Fenton	Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Parsons
		Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Thomas Paterson
		Mr. Gardner	Mr. Perkins
		Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. Pratten
		Mr. Gibson	Mr. Prowse
		Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Rodgers
		Mr. Gregory	Mr. Stewart
		Mr. Hill	Mr. Thompson
		Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Yates
		Mr. Hughes	
		Mr. Hurry	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Jackson	Mr. Hunter
		Mr. Killen	Mr. Manning
		Mr. Latham	

And so it was negatived.

Original amendment, by leave, withdrawn, and the following amendment substituted in place thereof :—  
That the Item be amended by omitting from sub-item (AA) "1st July", and inserting "1st January".

Amendment agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the Item was further amended by omitting from paragraph (2) of sub-item (F) "1st July", and inserting "1st January".

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item numbered 106 agreed to.

Item numbered 107, viz. :—

—	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
107. By omitting the whole of Item 107 (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following item :— "107. (A) Woven materials in the piece or otherwise :— Badges, Hat and Cap Fronts (Badged), Medal Ribbons, Looping for Boots and Shoes ; Labels and Hangers for all purposes including plain Hanger material ; Tubular Tie material in the piece ; Galoons bands or bandings tapes and the like having printed woven or embroidered lettering badge trade name mark or design thereon ad val.	35 per cent.	45 per cent.	60 per cent.
(B) Ribbons and Galoons having not more than 48 ribs to the lineal inch and being not more than three and a half inches in width - - ad val.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.	50 per cent."

14th and 15th December, 1927.

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the Item was amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
107. (A) Woven and Embroidered Materials in the piece or otherwise :—Badges, Hat and Cap Fronts (Badged), Medal Ribbons, Looping for Boots and Shoes; Labels and Hangers for all purposes including plain Hanger material; Tubular Tie Material in the piece; Galoons Bands or Bandings Tapes and the like having printed woven or embroidered lettering badge trade name mark or design thereon; Slipper, Shoe, and Blazer Bindings — ad val.	35 per cent.	45 per cent.	60 per cent.
(B) Ribbons and Galoons having not more than 48 ribs to the lineal inch and being not more than three and a half inches in width — ad val.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.	50 per cent.”

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Items numbered 108, 112, and 113 agreed to.

Item numbered 115, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
115. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ 115. Socks and Stockings for human attire, viz. :—			
(A) Cotton — ad val.	30 per cent.	40 per cent.	45 per cent.
And on and after 1st July, 1928			
(A) Cotton — per dozen pairs or ad val.	6s.	8s.	10s.
whichever rate returns the higher duty	30 per cent.	40 per cent.	45 per cent.
On and after 25th November, 1927			
b) Woollen or containing wool — per dozen pairs or ad val.	8s.	10s.	12s.
whichever rate returns the higher duty	45 per cent.	55 per cent.	60 per cent.
On and after 25th November, 1927			
(c) Silk or containing silk, but not containing wool, and n.e.i. — per dozen pairs or ad val.	7s.	9s.	11s.
whichever rate returns the higher duty.”	35 per cent.	45 per cent.	50 per cent.

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the Item was amended by omitting from sub-item (A) “ 1st July ”, and inserting “ 15th January ”.

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item numbered 118 agreed to.

Item numbered 136 debated.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

THURSDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 1927.

Debate continued.

Mr. Rodgers moved, That the Item be postponed.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

Ayes, 19.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Gullett	Mr. West
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Yates
Mr. Lacey	
Mr. Lister	
Mr. McGrath	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Perkins	Mr. Coleman
Mr. E. C. Riley	Mr. Fenton

Noes, 28.

Mr. Aubrey Abbott	Mr. Hurry
Mr. Bell	Mr. Marks
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Marr
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Nott
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Parsons
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Pratten
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Seabrook
Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Gibson	
Mr. Roland Green	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hill	Mr. Hunter
Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Manning

And so it was negatived.

Item agreed to.

Items numbered 152, 154, 155, 157, 158, 159, 164, 175, 176, and 179 agreed to.

14th and 15th December, 1927.

Item numbered 180, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
180. By omitting the whole of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(A) Telephones, Telephone Switchboards, Telephone Distributing Boards, and Appliances - - ad val.	Free	15 per cent.	20 per cent.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (E) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(E) Wireless Receiving Sets ; Headphones - ad val.	35 per cent.	50 per cent.	55 per cent.”
By adding a new sub-item (G) as follows :— “(G) Storage Batteries suitable for use in motor cars otherwise than for propulsion purposes - - ad val.	35 per cent.	47½ per cent.	60 per cent.”

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the Item was amended by adding to sub-item (G) the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“(G) Storage Batteries suitable for use in motor cars otherwise than for propulsion purposes - - - - ad val.	40 per cent.	47½ per cent.	60 per cent.”

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item 197 agreed to.

Item numbered 204, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
204. By omitting the whole item (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following item :— “204. (A) Kettles and Cooking Utensils (but not including Stoves) of cast iron (tinned or plain) - ad val. (B) Aluminiumware and Enamelledware, n.e.i., but not including Stoves and Baths - - ad val.	Free 35 per cent.	15 per cent. 45 per cent.	25 per cent. 60 per cent.”

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the Item was amended, after debate, by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“And on and after 15th December, 1927 204 (A) Cooking Utensils, cast iron (tinned or plain), viz. :— Kettles, Saucepans, and Oval Boilers - ad val. (B) Aluminiumware and Enamelledware, n.e.i., but not including Stoves and Baths - - - - ad val.	Free 40 per cent.	15 per cent. 45 per cent.	25 per cent. 60 per cent.”

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item numbered 208 debated and agreed to.

Items numbered 242, 243, and 278 agreed to.

Item numbered 291—

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

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

8. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[Commonwealth Bank (Savings Bank) Bill]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 111.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “An Act to amend the ‘Commonwealth Bank Act 1911–1925’”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Amendment of the House of Representatives upon the Amendment of the Senate.

JOHN NEWLANDS,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 14th December, 1927.

14th and 15th December, 1927.

[*Land Tax Assessment Bill (1927)*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 112.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to amend the Land Tax Assessment Act 1910-1926*”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 14th December, 1927.

JOHN NEWLANDS,  
President.

[*Wireless Agreement Bill (1927)*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 113.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “*An Act to approve the Agreement made between His Majesty's Government of the Commonwealth of Australia and Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Limited,*” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 14th December, 1927.

JOHN NEWLANDS,  
President.

9. IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS BOUNTY BILL (1927).—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—  
Debate resumed.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.  
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(*In the Committee.*)

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

On the motion of Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs), the following amendment was made :—

Page 2, line 19, omit “*thirty*”, insert “*forty*”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 debated and agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Duncan-Hughes reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having been previously suspended, see page 459) the Bill was read a third time.

10. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until eleven o'clock a.m. this day.  
Question—put and passed.
11. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-three minutes to three o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—  
Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bowden\*, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Ley\*, Mr. Makin, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Watt.

\* On leave.

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