

1926-27.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

No. 143.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> 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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
  - Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Report of the Repatriation Commission for the year ended 30th June, 1927.
  - Public Service Act—Fourth Annual Report on the Commonwealth Public Service by the Board of Commissioners dated 7th November, 1927.
 Severally ordered to be printed.
  - Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, Nos. 115, 116, 127.
  - Public Service Act—
    - Appointment of H. Anderson, Department of Works and Railways.
    - Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1927, No. 141.
3. CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL (No. 2) (1927).—Mr. Latham (Attorney-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1927*.
  - Question—put and passed.
  - Mr. Latham then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
  - Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
  - Mr. Latham moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.
  - Mr. Latham not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A, the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.
  - Mr. Charlton moved, That the debate be now adjourned.
  - Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.
  - Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
4. SUPPLY ["GRIEVANCE DAY"].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—
  - Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.
  - Question—put and negatived.
  - Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, resolve itself into the said Committee.
5. 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 proposed Resolution for Customs and Excise Tariff Amendment (pages 422 to 432), which includes Items in the proposed Customs Tariff Resolutions of the 11th August, 1926 (page 275), the 23rd March, 1927 (page 331), and the 28th September, 1927 (page 358).

15th December, 1927.

Item numbered 291, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
291. By omitting the whole of sub-item (f) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“(f) Timber, undressed, in sizes of 12 in. x 6 in. (or its equivalent) and over—			
(1) Oregon ( <i>Pseudotsuga Douglasii</i> )			
per 100 super. feet	8s.	8s.	8s.
(2) Oregon ( <i>Pseudotsuga Douglasii</i> ) for use underground for mining purposes as prescribed by Departmental By-laws	Free	Free	Free
(3) N.E.I. - - - per 100 super. feet	3s.	3s.	4s.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (g) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“(g) Timber, undressed, in sizes of 7 inches x 2½ inches (or its equivalent) and upwards, and less than 12 inches x 6 inches (or its equivalent)—			
(1) Oregon ( <i>Pseudotsuga Douglasii</i> )			
per 100 super. feet	9s. 6d.	9s. 6d.	9s. 6d.
(2) N.E.I. - - - per 100 super. feet	3s.	4s. 6d.	5s. 6d.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (h) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“(h) Timber, undressed, in sizes less than 7 inches x 2½ inches (or its equivalent)—			
(1) Oregon ( <i>Pseudotsuga Douglasii</i> )			
per 100 super. feet	11s.	11s.	11s.
(2) N.E.I. - - - per 100 super. feet	5s.	6s.	7s.”

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

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 16th December, 1927			
(f) Timber, undressed, n.e.i., in sizes of 12 inches x 6 inches (or its equivalent) and over—			
(1) Oregon, Hemlock, Spruce, Fir, and Pine, except Redwood and Baltic			
per 100 super. feet	8s.	8s.	8s.
(2) Oregon for use underground for mining purposes as prescribed by Departmental By-laws	Free	Free	Free
(3) Other - - - per 100 super. feet	3s.	3s.	4s.”

Debate ensued.

Mr. Gardner moved, That the Item be postponed.

Debate continued.

Question—That the Item be postponed—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 29.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Lister
Mr. Bell	Mr. Makin
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Nott
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Corser	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Forde	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Watkins
Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. West
Mr. Albert Green	
Mr. Roland Green	
Mr. Hurry	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Gardner

Noes, 16.

Mr. Bruce	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Parsons
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Pratten
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Hill	<i>Tellers:</i>
Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Latham	Mr. Manning

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Items numbered 293 and 308 agreed to.

15th December, 1927.

Item numbered 319, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
319. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ (A) Records for Gramophones, Phonographs, and other Talking Machines—			
(1) Disc, 6 inches and under in diameter - ad val.	Free	15 per cent.	25 per cent.
(2) Disc, over 6 inches in diameter - each	9d.	1s.	1s. 3d.
(3) N.E.I. - - - - - ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	10 per cent.
(B) (1) Gramophones, Phonographs, and other Talking Machines, n.e.i., including cases (but not horns) imported with machines - ad val.	25 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.
(2) Dictating machines and blank record cylinders, Transcribing Machines and Shaving Machines for use therewith, except Cabinets and Rubber Covers, but including Pedestals when an integral part of the machines - - - ad val.	Free	10 per cent.	10 per cent.”

On the motion of Mr. Pratten the Item was amended, after debate, by inserting in sub-item (A) after “ Disc ” (twice occurring) the words “ (excepting records manufactured by the hill and dale process) ”. Item, as amended, agreed to.  
 Item numbered 321 agreed to.  
 Item numbered 334 debated and agreed to.  
 Items numbered 348, 352, and 354 agreed to.  
 Item numbered 359, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
359. By omitting from sub-item (b) the whole of paragraph (4) (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :—			
“ (4) Chassis, but not including Rubber Tyres or Storage Batteries—			
(a) Unassembled - - - - - ad val.	Free	12½ per cent.	17½ per cent.
(b) Assembled - - - - - ad val.	5 per cent.	20 per cent.	25 per cent.”

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

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 16th December, 1927			
(4) Chassis, but not including Rubber Tyres, Storage Batteries, Shock Absorbers, or Bumper Bars—			
(a) Unassembled - - - - - ad val.	Free	12½ per cent.	17½ per cent.
(b) Assembled - - - - - ad val.	5 per cent.	20 per cent.	25 per cent.”

Item, as amended, agreed to.  
 Items numbered 365, 373, 376, and 380 agreed to.  
 Item numbered 384, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
384. By omitting the whole item (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ 384. (A) (1) (a) Photographic and X-Ray Dry Plates and Flat Films, Sensitized, except Panchromatic Plates for Process Engravers - - - ad val.	25 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.
or per square foot whichever rate returns the higher duty.	5d.	6½d.	8d.
(b) Panchromatic Plates for process engravers ad val.	Free	15 per cent.	20 per cent.
(2) Photographic Sensitized Films n.e.i. - ad val.	25 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.
or per square foot whichever rate returns the higher duty.	8d.	10d.	12d.
(3) Photographic Sensitized Papers and Cards also Linen and other Sensitized Materials, n.e.i.; Postcards (sensitized with or without letterpress) - - - ad val.	25 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.
or per square foot whichever rate returns the higher duty.	1d.	1½d.	1½d.
(4) Lantern Slides; Photographic Backgrounds (mounted or unmounted); Photographs of Australian Subjects; Stereoscopic Views ad val.	25 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.
(5) Sensitized Blue Print and Heliographic Papers and Fabrics - - - - - ad val.	25 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.
(B) Photographic Materials, viz. :—			
Platinotype Paper, Autotype Paper - ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	10 per cent.”

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the Item was omitted.

15th December, 1927.

Items numbered 417, 418, 427, 430 and 431 agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the following new Item was included :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 381. By omitting the whole of sub-item (F) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “ On and after 16th December, 1927 (F) (1) Hair and Cloth Brushes - - - - - ad val. or per doz. whichever rate returns the higher duty. (2) Tooth, Scrubbing, Paint, and Varnish Brushes ad val. or per doz. whichever rate returns the higher duty. (3) Nail Brushes - - - - - ad val. or per doz. whichever rate returns the higher duty. (4) Brushes, n.e.i. - - - - - ad val.	40 per cent. 5s.  40 per cent. 2s.  40 per cent. 1s. 6d.  40 per cent.	50 per cent. 6s.  50 per cent. 3s.  50 per cent. 1s. 9d.  50 per cent.	55 per cent. 7s.  55 per cent. 4s.  55 per cent. 2s.  55 per cent.”

Postponed Item numbered 58, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
58. By omitting the whole of sub-item (c) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “ (c) Cornflour - - - - - per lb.	2d.	2½d.	3d.”

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the Item was omitted.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—IRON AND STEEL PRODUCTS BOUNTY BILL (1927).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 114.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘Iron and Steel Products Bounty Act 1922’*,” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

JOHN NEWLANDS,  
President.

The Senate,

Canberra, 15th December, 1927.

7. PARLIAMENTARY ALLOWANCES BILL (1927).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend sections four and five of the *Parliamentary Allowances Act 1920*.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Bruce then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Bruce moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Charlton moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

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

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolution for Customs and Excise Tariff Amendment (pages 422 to 432), which includes Items in the proposed Customs Tariff Resolutions of the 11th August, 1926 (page 275), the 23rd March, 1927 (page 331), and the 28th September, 1927 (page 358).

Postponed Item numbered 291—

The amendment previously moved by Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) (see page 486) was, by leave, withdrawn.

15th December, 1927.

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the following amendments were made :—

By adding to sub-item (F) the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
—			
“ And on and after 16th December, 1927			
(F) Timber, undressed, n.e.i., in sizes of 12 in. x 6 in. (or its equivalent) and over—			
(1) Redwood - - - - per 100 super. feet	3s.	3s.	4s.
(2) Oregon for use underground for mining purposes as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - -	Free	Free	Free
(3) Other - - - - per 100 super. feet	8s.	8s.	8s.”

By adding to sub-item (G) the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
—			
“ And on and after 16th December, 1927			
(G) Timber, undressed, n.e.i., in sizes of 7 in. x 2½ in. (or its equivalent) and upwards, and less than 12 in. x 6 in. (or its equivalent)—			
(1) Redwood - - - - per 100 super. feet	3s.	4s. 6d.	5s. 6d.
(2) Other - - - - per 100 super. feet	9s. 6d.	9s. 6d.	9s. 6d.”

By adding to sub-item (H) the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
—			
“ And on and after 16th December, 1927			
(H) Timber, undressed, n.e.i., in sizes less than 7 in. x 2½ in. (or its equivalent)—			
(1) Redwood - - - - per 100 super. feet	5s.	6s.	7s.
(2) Other - - - - per 100 super. feet	11s.	11s.	11s.”

By adding to sub-item (I) (second occurring) the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
—			
“ By adding after sub-item (L) the following :—			
And on and after 16th December, 1927			
(I) Timber, dressed, n.e.i.—			
(1) Redwood - - - - per 100 super. feet.	6s.	7s. 6d.	8s. 6d.
(2) Other - - - - per 100 super. feet.	12s.	14s.	15s.”

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Preliminary paragraphs to Customs Tariff agreed to.

Excise Tariff (see pages 331 and 432)—

Preliminary paragraphs agreed to.

Item numbered 2 agreed to.

Repeal of Item numbered 5 agreed to.

Resolutions 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.

Mr. Pratten moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolutions reported from the Committee, were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Pratten, were adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Pratten and Mr. Bruce do prepare and bring in Bills to carry out the foregoing Resolutions.

9. CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (1927).—Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) then brought up a Bill intitled “ A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs,” and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Pratten moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

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.

15th December, 1927.

*(In the Committee.)*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.  
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

10. EXCISE TARIFF BILL.—Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) also brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Excise,*" and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Mr. Pratten moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
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.)*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.  
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

11. CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL (1927).—Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Tariff Proposals.  
Question—put and passed.  
Mr. Pratten then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.  
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.  
Mr. Pratten moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.  
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.)*

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.  
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

12. SYDNEY GENERAL POST OFFICE—INSTALLATION OF MAIL-HANDLING APPLIANCES AND EXTENSION THEREOF—APPROVAL OF WORK.—Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913–1921*, it is expedient to carry out the following proposed work, which was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and upon which the Committee has duly reported to this House the result of its investigations :—  
Sydney General Post Office—Installation of Mail-Handling Appliances and extension thereof.  
Question—put and passed.
13. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.  
Question—put and passed.
14. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.  
Question—put and passed.
15. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by resolution of the House at this sitting.

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

\*On leave.

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