

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 127.

THURSDAY, 16TH APRIL, 1931.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Norman J. O. Makin) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—WAR INDEBTEDNESS.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing recent arrangements made between the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the Commonwealth with regard to the War Indebtedness of the Commonwealth.
Mr. Latham (Leader of the Opposition), by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
3. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—CUSTOMS DUTY ON PETROL.—Mr. Forde (Minister for Trade and Customs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement regarding the Customs Duties recently imposed upon Petrol. Mr. Lazzarini, by leave, also made a Statement with reference to the matter.
4. WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Mr. Nairn, by leave, withdrew the Notice of Motion standing in his name with reference to Ordinance No. 18 of 1930, made under the *Northern Australia Act*.
5. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Earle Page 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 position in which residents of New South Wales and taxpayers of other States find themselves owing to the proposed action of the New South Wales Government in respect to its future financial obligations".
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. Earle Page moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

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 Orders of the Day were called on.

6. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister), moved, by leave, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable Questions upon Notice to be answered.
Question—put and passed.
7. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Commonwealth and State Ministers—Conference held at Canberra and Melbourne, February, 1931—Report of Proceedings and Decisions (*in substitution for the Report tabled on the 11th March last*).

Ordered to lie on the Table.

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8. WHEAT BILL.—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—*And on the Amendment moved thereto by Mr. Gregory, viz. :—That all the words after "Bill" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"be withdrawn with a view to the proclamation of the Wheat Advances Act 1930, and the further amendment of the said Act so that effect may be given to the guarantee of three shillings per bushel f.o.b."*—

Debate resumed.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 32.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Long
Mr. Brennan	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Culley	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Tully
Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
Mr. Frost	
Mr. Gibbons	
Mr. Albert Green	
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Keane	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lacey	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Yates

Noes, 15.

Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Gardner	
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Hawker	
Mr. Hill	
Mr. Maxwell	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Morgan	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Earle Page	Mr. Mackay

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 47.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Lacey
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Long
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Lyons
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Martens
Mr. Culley	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Forde	Mr. Price
Mr. Frost	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Gibbons	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Guy	Mr. Tully
Mr. Hill	Mr. Ward
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Hunter	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Keane	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Killen	Mr. Yates

Noes, 16.

Mr. Bell	Mr. Marr
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. White
Mr. Gullett	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hawker	Mr. Bayley
Mr. Latham	Mr. Gardner
Mr. Mackay	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 debated and agreed to.

Clause 2 debated—

Question—That the clause be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. McGrath, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 34.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Long
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Makin
Mr. Chifley	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Marks
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Martens
Mr. Culley	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Forde	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Frost	Mr. Tully
Mr. Gibbons	Mr. Ward
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Jones	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Keane	Mr. Lacey
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Yates

Noes, 17.

Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Hawker	
Mr. Hill	
Mr. Hughes	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Mackay	Mr. Gardner
Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Hunter

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Clause 3 agreed to.

Clause 4—

Mr. Hill proposed to move, as an amendment, That all the words after "payable" (page 2, line 1) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"upon all wheat of the season 1930-31, sold or delivered for sale before the thirty-first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and thirty-one, but shall not be payable upon wheat sold for seed purposes or used for seed."

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman (Mr. McGrath) ruled that such an amendment would be out of order, on the ground that it would increase the appropriation of money required under the Bill.

Debate on clause ensued.

Mr. Nairn moved, as an amendment, That after the word "sold" (first occurring) (page 2, line 4) the words "for export" be inserted.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. Hawker moved, as an amendment, That the word "Australia" (page 2, line 10) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the words "the State in which the wheat was grown" in place thereof.

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 5 agreed to.

Clause 6—

Mr. Parker Moloney (Minister for Markets) moved, as an amendment, That all the words after "Commonwealth," (page 2, line 25) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"in payment of bounty under this Act, shall not be assets available to any creditor of the grower in payment of the debts or liabilities of the grower, and the proceeds thereof, if kept in a separate account, shall not for a period of six months after receipt by the grower, be such assets"

Mr. Latham moved, That the Chairman do report progress and ask leave to sit again.

Question—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. McGrath, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 20.

Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Marr
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Gullett	Mr. White
Mr. Hawker	
Mr. Hill	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hunter	Mr. Bayley
Mr. Latham	Mr. Gardner

Noes, 32.

Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Long
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Makin
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Martens
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Culley	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Forde	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Frost	Mr. Tully
Mr. Gibbons	Mr. Ward
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Jones	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Keane	Mr. Lacey
Mr. Lazzarini	Mr. Yates

And so it was negatived.

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Proposed amendment further considered.
Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. McGrath reported accordingly.

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

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (JOINT).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 113.

The Senate acquaints the House of Representatives that, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, Senator J. J. Daly has been appointed a member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works in the place of Senator J. B. Dooley, resigned.

WALTER KINGSMILL,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 16th April, 1931.

10. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at sixteen minutes to twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Beasley, Mr. Curtin, Mr. James, Mr. Mathews*, Mr. Prowse, Mr. Edward Riley, and Mr. E. C. Riley.

* On leave.

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