

1929-30-31.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 199.

TUESDAY, 20TH OCTOBER, 1931.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker (Mr. D. C. McGrath) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
2. WIMMERA ELECTORAL DIVISION—ISSUE OF WRIT.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced to the House that it was the intention of Mr. Speaker to issue a Writ, on Thursday, the 29th instant, for the Election of a Member to serve for the Electoral Division of Wimmera, in the State of Victoria, in the place of the Honorable Percy Gerald Stewart, deceased. The dates in connexion with the Election would be fixed as follows :—

Date of Issue of Writ	..	..	..	Thursday, 29th October, 1931.
Date of Nomination	..	..	..	Monday, 9th November, 1931.
Date of Polling	..	..	..	Saturday, 28th November, 1931.
Date of Return of Writ	..	..	..	On or before Tuesday, 15th December, 1931.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Customs Act and Commerce (Trade Descriptions) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1931, No. 125.
 Judiciary Act—Rule of Court—Dated 1st October, 1931.
4. CUSTOMS BILL (1931).—Mr. Forde (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Act 1901-1930*.
 Question—put and passed.
 Mr. Forde 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.
 Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
5. WAYS AND MEANS—EXCISE TARIFF BILL (1931).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolutions for Excise Tariff Amendments of the 26th March, 1931 (pages 566-569), and of the 29th July, 1931 (page 781).]

20th October, 1931.

Item numbered 2, as amended, viz. :—

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
* * * * *	*
By omitting the whole of sub-item (D) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—	
“ (D) Whisky, distilled wholly from barley malt by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be pure malt whisky—	
(1) If bottled under Customs or Excise supervision subject to such conditions as to the bottling and as to the strength of the spirits as are prescribed by Departmental By-laws	per proof gallon 28s.
(2) If not bottled under Customs or Excise supervision	per proof gallon 33s.
And on and after 17th October, 1931	
(D) Whisky, distilled wholly from barley malt by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than three years, and certified by an officer to be pure malt whisky—	
(1) If bottled under Customs or Excise supervision subject to such conditions as to the bottling and as to the strength of the spirits as are prescribed by Departmental By-laws	per proof gallon 28s.
(2) If not bottled under Customs or Excise supervision	per proof gallon 33s.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (E) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—	
“ (E) Blended Whisky, distilled partly from barley malt and partly from other grain, containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure barley malt spirit (which has been separately distilled by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof), the whole being matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be whisky so blended and matured—	
(1) If bottled under Customs or Excise supervision subject to such conditions as to the bottling and as to the strength of the spirits as are prescribed by Departmental By-laws	per proof gallon 30s.
(2) If not bottled under Customs or Excise supervision	per proof gallon 35s.”
* * * * *	*

Sub-item (D)—

Mr. Nairn moved, That the sub-item be further amended by adding the following :—

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
“ And on and after 21st October, 1931	
(D) Whisky, distilled wholly from barley malt by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than three years, and certified by an officer to be pure malt whisky - - - - -	per proof gallon 28s.”

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 18.

Mr. Beasley	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Bell	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Hawker	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Killen	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Latham	Mr. White

Noes, 29.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Keane
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Long
Mr. Chifley	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Martens
Mr. Crouch	Mr. McNeill
Mr. Culley	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Forde	Mr. Tully
Mr. Frost	
Mr. Gabb	
Mr. Gibbons	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Jones
Mr. Holloway	Mr. E. C. Riley

And so it was negatived.

Sub-item, as amended, agreed to.

20th October, 1931.

Sub-item (E)—

On the motion of Mr. Bernard Corser, after debate, the sub-item was amended by adding the following :—

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
<p>“ And on and after 21st October, 1931</p> <p>(E) Blended Whisky, distilled partly from barley malt and partly from other grain, containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure barley malt spirit (which has been separately distilled by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof), the whole being matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than three years, and certified by an officer to be whisky so blended and matured—</p> <p>(1) If bottled under Customs or Excise supervision subject to such conditions as to the bottling and as to the strength of the spirits as are prescribed by Departmental By-laws</p> <p style="text-align: right;">per proof gallon</p> <p>(2) If not bottled under Customs or Excise supervision</p> <p style="text-align: right;">per proof gallon</p>	<p>28s.</p> <p>33s.”</p>

Sub-item, as amended, agreed to.

Remainder of Item agreed to.

Item numbered 6 debated and agreed to.

Item numbered 7, viz. :—

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
<p>7. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—</p> <p>“ 7. Cigars—</p> <p>(A) † Hand-made - - - - - per lb.</p> <p>† HAND-MADE CIGARS.—“ Hand-made Cigars ” shall mean cigars in the manufacture of which every operation is performed by hand, provided that moulds may be used.</p> <p>(B) Machine-made - - - - - per lb.</p>	<p>3d.</p> <p>1s. 3d.”</p>

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by omitting “ 3d.”

Debate ensued.

Question— That the rate proposed to be omitted stand part of the Item—put.

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

Ayes, 33.

Noes, 15.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Holloway
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Keane
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Long
Mr. Chifley	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Martens
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. McNeill
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Culley	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Eldridge	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Tully
Mr. Forde	
Mr. Frost	
Mr. Gabb	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Gibbons	Mr. Jones
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. E. C. Riley

Mr. Bell	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Gregory	Mr. White
Mr. Hawker	
Mr. Killen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Latham	
Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Bayley
Mr. Nairn	Mr. Hunter

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Item agreed to.

Item 8 agreed to.

20th October, 1931.

Item numbered 11—

On the motion of Mr. Forde (Minister for Trade and Customs), the Item was omitted and the following Item inserted in place thereof :—

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
By adding a new item as follows :—	
" 11. (A) Petroleum or Shale Products, viz. :—	
Petrol, Benzine, Benzol, Benzoline, Gasoline, Naphtha, Pentane and any other petroleum or shale spirit, having a flash point of under 73 degrees fahrenheit when tested in an Abel Pensky closed test apparatus—	
(1) As prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - -	Free
(2) N.E.I. - - - - - per gallon	4d.
(B) Coal Tar and Coke Oven Distillates suitable for use as petrol substitutes having a flash point of under 73 degrees fahrenheit when tested in an Abel Pensky closed test apparatus—	
(1) As prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - -	Free
(2) N.E.I. - - - - - per gallon	4d.
And on and after 30th July, 1931	
11. (A) Petroleum or Shale Products, viz. :—	
Petrol, Benzine, Benzol, Benzoline, Gasoline, Naphtha, Pentane and any other petroleum or shale spirit, having a flash point of under 73 degrees fahrenheit when tested in an Abel Pensky closed test apparatus—	
(1) As prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - -	Free
(2) N.E.I. - - - - - per gallon	4d.
(B) Petroleum or Shale Distillates, viz. :—Turpentine Substitutes—	
(1) As prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - -	Free
(2) N.E.I. - - - - - per gallon	4d.
(C) Coal Tar and Coke Oven Distillates suitable for use as petrol substitutes having a flash point of under 73 degrees fahrenheit when tested in an Abel Pensky closed test apparatus—	
(1) As prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - -	Free
(2) N.E.I. - - - - - per gallon	4d."

Debate ensued.

Mr. Nairn moved, That the Item be further amended by omitting " 4d." (wherever occurring).

Debate continued.

Amendment negatived.

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Items 12 and 13 agreed to.

Preliminary matter agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Keane reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Forde 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 Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Forde, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Forde and Mr. McNeill do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

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

Debate ensued.

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

Mr. Deputy-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. Keane reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Forde, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—FLAX AND LINSEED BOUNTIES BILL (1931).—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 162.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for " *An Act to amend the ' Flax and Linseed Bounties Act 1930 '*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

WALTER KINGSMILL,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 20th October, 1931.

20th October, 1931.

7. DEBT CONVERSION AGREEMENT BILL (No. 2) (1931).—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.
Mr. Crouch 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. ADJOURNMENT—COUNT-OUT.—Mr. Theodore (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Morgan called the attention of Mr. Deputy-Speaker to the fact that a quorum of Members was not present.
The Bells having been rung, and a quorum not having been obtained within the prescribed time, Mr. Deputy-Speaker thereupon, at eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned the House until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.
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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Malcolm Cameron, Mr. Curtin, Mr. Josiah Francis, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Gullett, Mr. Guy, Mr. Hill, Mr. James, Mr. Lacey*, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Makin, Mr. Marks, Mr. Marr, Mr. Mathews*, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Price, Mr. Riordan, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Ward, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates.

* On leave.

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