

1929-30-31.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 200.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST OCTOBER, 1931.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker (Mr. D. C. McGrath) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—SHIPPING STRIKE.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement regarding the present Shipping Strike in Australian Ports, informing the House of the causes of the strike, and announced the Government's attitude thereto.  
Mr. Latham (Deputy Leader of the Opposition) and Mr. Beasley, by leave, also made Statements with reference to the matter.  
Mr. White asked leave to make a Statement with reference to the matter.  
Objection being raised, leave not granted.
3. PETITION.—Mr. Killen presented a Petition from Frederick Watson, a resident of the Federal Capital Territory, praying that Parliament will pass legislation with a view to submitting to a referendum certain Constitutional alterations, and also praying to be heard at the Bar of the House in support of his views.  
Petition received.  
Mr. Killen informed the House that he proposed to take action in connexion with the Petition, and moved, That the Petition be printed.  
Debate ensued.  
Mr. Hughes 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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Export Guarantee Act—Return showing assistance granted to 30th September, 1931.  
Northern Territory Acceptance Act and Northern Territory (Administration) Act—  
Ordinances of 1931—  
No. 6—Workmen's Compensation.  
No. 7—Mortgagors' Interest Reduction.  
No. 8—Firearms Registration.  
No. 9—Workmen's Compensation (No. 2).  
Crown Lands Ordinance—Regulations.  
Firearms Registration Ordinance—Regulations.
5. PRINTING COMMITTEE—EIGHTH REPORT.—Mr. Tully, for the Chairman, brought up the Eighth Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate).  
The Report was read by the Clerk, as follows:—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have met in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, recommend that the following be printed:—

British Phosphate Commission—Reports and Accounts for the years ended 30th June, 1929, and 30th June, 1930.

Northern Australia Act—North Australia Commission—Fourth Annual Report, year ended 31st December, 1930.

Wine Industry of Australia—Report by Honorable John Gunn, Commonwealth Director of Development, and R. McK. Gollan, Department of Trade and Customs.

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Papua—Annual Report for year 1929–30.  
 Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act—Statement *re* Pensions for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1931.  
 River Murray Waters Act—River Murray Commission—Report for the year 1930–31.  
 Railways Act—Report on Commonwealth Railways Operations for the year ended 30th June, 1931.

Senate Committee Room,  
 21st October, 1931.

JAMES T. TULLY,  
 for Chairman.

Mr. Tully moved, by leave, That the Report be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

6. WHEAT BOUNTY BILL.—Mr. Parker Moloney (Minister for Markets) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of a Bounty on the Production of Wheat, and for other purposes.

Question—put and passed.

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

Mr. Latham 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 a later hour this day.

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. Hunter 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 a later hour this day.

8. WHEAT BOUNTY 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—

Debate resumed.

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.*)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Crouch reported accordingly.

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

9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER No. 70.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Standing Order No. 70 (eleven o'clock rule) be suspended for the remainder of this sitting.

Question—put and passed.

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

ISAAC A. ISAACS,  
 Governor-General.

*Message No. 95.*

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General in and over the Commonwealth of Australia 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 provide for the payment of a Bounty on the Production of Wheat, and for other purposes.

Government House,  
 Canberra, 21st October, 1931.

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

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

(*In the Committee.*)

Mr. Parker Moloney (Minister for Markets) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue and moneys be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of a Bounty on the Production of Wheat, and for other purposes.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Crouch reported accordingly.

The said Resolution was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Parker Moloney, by leave, was adopted by the House.

21st October, 1931.

11. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 2 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 3, Government Business.
12. WAYS AND MEANS—WHEAT CHARGES BILL.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Parker Moloney (Minister for Markets) moved, That—

1. A charge at the rate per bushel declared by this resolution be imposed and be levied and paid by every person and organization licensed under the *Wheat Bounty Act 1931*, on all wheat in respect of which the person or organization has issued a certificate under that Act and which the person or organization—

(a) has, on or before the thirty-first day of October One thousand nine hundred and thirty-two, sold for consumption within Australia; or

(b) has, on or before that date, used in the production of flour for consumption within Australia,

or which, not being wheat to which either of the last two preceding paragraphs applies, has not been exported on or before that date.

2. The rate per bushel of the charge imposed by this resolution in respect of any wheat shall be the amount per bushel of the bounty payable under the *Wheat Bounty Act 1931* in respect of that wheat.

3. For the purposes of this resolution—

“Consumption within Australia” in relation to wheat, means use in the production of flour for consumption within Australia;

“Wheat” means wheat produced in Australia during the period commencing on the first day of October One thousand nine hundred and thirty-one, and ending on the thirty-first day of March One thousand nine hundred and thirty-two.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Crouch reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee. Mr. Parker Moloney 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. Parker Moloney, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Parker Moloney and Mr. Scullin do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Parker Moloney then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to impose Charges upon Wheat*”, 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 a later hour this day.

13. WHEAT BOUNTY BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 3 debated and agreed to.

Clauses 4 and 5 agreed to.

Clause 6 debated—

On the motion of Mr. Parker Moloney (Minister for Markets), the clause was amended by inserting the following sub-clause :—

(2A.) Where the free-on-board equivalent of the price per bushel realized upon the sale of any wheat in respect of which a certificate has been issued under the last preceding sub-section by a prescribed co-operative organization varies from the free-on-board equivalent of the estimated price stated in the certificate, the organization shall issue to the grower of the wheat a further certificate in duplicate stating the free-on-board equivalent of the price so realized and specifying the amount of bounty payable in respect of the wheat.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 7—

On the motion of Mr. Parker Moloney, after debate, the following amendments were made :—

Page 3, line 9, omit “price specified”, insert “free-on-board equivalent of the price per bushel as stated”.

At the end of the clause add the following new sub-clause :—

(2.) Where a further certificate has been issued under sub-section (2A.) of the last preceding section in respect of any wheat, the price specified in the further certificate shall, for the purposes of this section, be deemed to be in substitution for the price specified in any prior certificate issued in respect of that wheat and the rate of bounty on that wheat shall be increased or reduced accordingly.

21st and 22nd October, 1931.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 8 to 16 agreed to.

Clause 17—

On the motion of Mr. Parker Moloney, the following amendment was made:—

Page 5, line 8, omit "and flour on hand on the", insert "in respect of which the licensee has issued a certificate and flour produced from such wheat (not being wheat or flour to which either of the last two sub-paragraphs applies) which has not been exported on or before the".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 18 to 24 agreed to.

*New clause—*

On the motion of Mr. Parker Moloney, the following new clause was inserted in the Bill:—

"9A. It shall be a condition of any licence granted under this Act to any prescribed co-operative organization and of the payment of any bounty under this Act to any wheat-grower in respect of wheat delivered by him to the organization, that, in the event of the free-on-board equivalent of the estimated price stated in any certificate issued by the organization to the grower in respect of any wheat being exceeded by the price realized upon the sale of the wheat, the organization shall withhold from the grower and pay to the Commonwealth, out of the proceeds of the sale of the wheat, such amount as represents the amount (if any) of bounty overpaid to the grower in respect of that wheat, and any amount required to be paid to the Commonwealth under this section shall be a debt due by the organization to the Commonwealth and may be sued for and recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction by the Minister or by any person thereto authorized in writing by the Minister."

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Crouch reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Parker Moloney, the House, by leave, adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14. WHEAT CHARGES BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Parker Moloney (Minister for Markets) 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.*)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3 debated—

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

THURSDAY, 22ND OCTOBER, 1931.

Debate continued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 4 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Crouch reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Parker Moloney, the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 923) the Bill was read a third time.

15. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until half-past ten o'clock a.m. this day.

Question—put and passed.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at six minutes past twelve o'clock midnight, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

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. Guy, Mr. Lacey\*, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Lyons, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Makin, 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.