THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. CANBERRA.

PROCEEDINGS VOTES AND

OF THE

REPRESENTATIVES. HOUSE

No. 67.

WEDNESDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER, 1938.

- 1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. J. Bell) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
- 2. Paper.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Audit Act-Transfers of amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council-Financial year 1937-38.

- 3. TRADE AGREEMENT (SWITZERLAND) BILL 1938.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading-Mr. Perkins (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That the Bill be now read a second
 - Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) 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. Ways and Means [Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 5)].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Perkins (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved-

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 5).

That the Schedule to the Customs Tariff 1933–1938 as proposed to be amended by Customs Tariff Proposals be further amended as hereinafter set out, and that on and after a date to be fixed by Proclamation, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Customs Tariff 1933-1938 as so amended.

That in this Resolution" Customs Tariff Proposals" means the Customs Tariff Proposals introduced into the House of Representatives on the following dates, namely :-

> 4th May, 1938; 21st September, 1938; and 17th November, 1938.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Tarlff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.

DIVISION IV.—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND GROCERIES.

41. By omitting the whole of sub-item (A) and inserting in	1	I
its stead the following sub-item :—	i	
"(A) (1) Butter per lb. 6d.	7d.	7d.
(2) Cheese :—		
(a) Cheese having the eye formation		
characteristic of the Swiss or Em-		
menthaler type; and cheese of the		
Gruyere or Émmenthaler processed		Į.
type in containers not exceeding		İ
10 oz. in weight per lb. 6d.	6d.	7d.
(b) Other per lb. 6d.	7d.	7d.''

TEXTILES, FELTS AND FURS, AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF, AND ATTIRE.

105. By omitting the whole of paragraph (2) of sub-item (E)			İ
and inserting in its stead the following paragraph:-			
"(2) Lace for attire; lace flouncings; millinery nets;			
dress nets; veilings; embroideries in the piece;			
tucked linens or cottons - ad val.	15 per cent.	321 per cent.	40 per cent."

IMPORT DUTIES—continued.

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.

Division V.—Textiles, Felts and Furs, and Manufactures thereof, and Attire—continued.

and Attire—contin	ued.		
105—continued.	1	I	ì
By omitting the whole of paragraph (1) of sub-item (K)		1	
and inserting in its stead the following paragraph:-			
"(1) (a) Wholly of silk ad val.	Free	10 per cent.	20 per cent.
(b) In chief part by weight silk; wool or in chief		I	
part by weight wool and admixtures of wool			
and silk ad val.	5 per cent.	15 per cent.	20 per cent."
By adding a new sub-item (o) as follows:	F	F	-
"(o) Piece goods known as organdie, wholly of cotton or			
containing a mixture of fibres in which cotton			
predominates (excepting piece goods enumerated			ł
in sub-items (AA), (D) (1) and (F))—			
(1) Weighing less than one and two-third			
ounces per square yard and manu-			
factured from yarns the average number	1	i	
of which exceeds count number 80—			
the value for duty of which exceeds			
7≹d. per square yard—	·		
(a) Unbleached, not being printed		ĺ	
dyed or coloured		١,,,	0.1
per square yard	<u>₹</u> d.	1 1 d.	2 3 d.
or ad val.	5 per cent.		
whichever rate returns the lower duty.			
(b) Bleached, not being printed dyed or coloured			1
per square yard	₽d.	1 <u>‡</u> d.	3d.
or ad val.	5 per cent.	170.	1
whichever rate returns the lower duty.	o por cone.		
(c) Printed dyed or coloured		İ	
per square yard	₽d.	1 <u>1</u> d.	3 <u>‡</u> d.
or ad val.	5 per cent.]	
whichever rate returns the lower duty.	1		
Provided that the goods covered by		'	
paragraph (1) shall be accompanied by			
a certificate, issued in the country of		l.	1
production by a competent authority			1
approved by the Minister, certifying			
that such goods are organdie, that they			
weigh less than one and two-third		1	
ounces per square yard and have been			
manufactured from yarns the average	1		
number of which exceeds count number 80.			
(2) Other—			
(a) Unbleached, not being printed dyed	,		Ì
or coloured per square yard	1 d.	1 1 d.	2 } d.
or ad val.	5 per cent.		
whichever rate returns the lower duty.			
(b) Bleached, not being printed dyed or		*	
coloured per square yard	∦ d.	l l d.	3d.
or ad val.	5 per cent.		
whichever rate returns the lower duty.	_	1	
(c) Printed dyed or coloured			1
per square yard	<u> </u>	2d.	3 ld.
or ad val.	5 per cent.		
whichever rate returns the lower duty."	١.	1	1

IMPORT DUTIES—continued.

	1	1	
Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
Division V.—Textiles, Felts and Furs, ar	$\mathbf{Manufac}$	tures there	of,
 106. By omitting the whole of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item:— "(B) Trimmings and ornaments, n.e.i. for hats shoes and other attire, not being partly or wholly of gold or silver; braids n.e.i.; fringes n.e.i.; frillings; rufflings; pleatings; ruchings; galoons n.e.i.; ribbons n.e.i.; tinselled belting n.e.i.; webbings n.e.i.; belting for apparel not elsewhere specified and not being cut to lengths for belts; jabots and toxtile bows (not including bow ties), being articles of women's apparel - ad val. 110. By adding a new sub-item (G) as follows:— "(G) Articles of women's apparel, made from textile fabrics and having embroidered work or lace work thereon or made wholly or in chief part from 	Free	20 per cent.	25 per cent."
lace, viz.:— Collars; collars with jabots attached; collar and cuff sets; cuffs; modesty vests for outerwear; and vestees with or without collars attached - ad val. And in respect of sub-item (a)— For each £1 by which the equivalent in Australian currency of £100 sterling is less than £125 at the date of exportation—	30 per cent.	50 per cent.	65 per cent.
An additional duty of - ad val. 120. By omitting the whole of paragraph (1) of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph:— "(1) Handkerchiefs, cotton or linen or cotton and linen, viz.:— (a) Wholly or in part of machine-made lace or embroidered on the multiple needle	.6 per cent.	.6 per cent.	.6 per cent."
embroidery machines finished off with machine-made scalloped edge, machine-made hems or other machine-made fancy finishing edges, containing no hand-made lace and not embroidered or tamboured in any part by hand— (1) the value for duty of which does not exceed 1s. 4d. per dozen - ad val. per dozen	22½ per cent.	 1s.	i. ls.
And in respect of clause (1)— For each £1 by which the equivalent in Australian currency of £100 sterling is less than £125 at the date of ex- portation— An additional duty of—			
ad val. per dozen	.3 per cent.	.08d.	.08d.

30th November, 1938.

IMPORT DUTIES—continued.

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.

Division V.—Textiles, Felts and Furs, and Manufactures thereof, and Attire—continued.

120—continued. (B)—continued. (1)—continued. (a)—continued.			
(2) the value for duty of which exceeds ls. 4d. per dozen ad val. or per dozen whichever rate returns the higher duty.	$22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	42½ per cent. 9d.	50 per cent. 1s.
And in respect of clause (2)— For each £1 by which the equivalent in			
Australian currency of £100 sterling is less than £125 at the date of exportation—		-	
An additional duty of— ad val. or per dozen	.3 per cent.	.3 per cent.	.3 per cent. .08d.
whichever is applicable. Provided that the goods covered by clause (2) of sub-paragraph (a) shall prior to admission under the Intermediate Tariff, be accompanied by a			
certificate, issued in the country of production by a competent authority approved by the Minister, certifying that the goods are of the description in, or			
have been manufactured by the process or processes described in, subparagraph (a). (b) Other ad val.	$22\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	$42\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.	50 per cent.
or per dozen whichever rate returns the higher duty. And in respect of sub-paragraph (b)— For each £1 by which the equivalent in Australian currency of £100 sterling is less than £125 at the		ls.	ls.
date of exportation— An additional duty of— ad val. or per dozen whichever is applicable."	.3 per cent.	.3 per cent. .08d.	.3 per cent. .08d.

DIVISION XI.—JEWELLERY AND FANCY GOODS.

318. By omitting the whole of sub-paragraph (b) of (4) of sub-item (a) and inserting in its stee				
lowing sub-paragraph:—				
"(b) (1) Watches and chronometers, n.e.i.	- ad val.	10 per cent.	20 per cent.	30 per cent.
(2) Time registers and detectors, n.e.i.	- ad val.	10 per cent.	30 per cent.	30 per cent."

30th November and 1st December, 1938.

Tariff Items. | British Preferential Tariff. | Intermediate Tariff. | | DIVISION XIII.—PAPER AND STATIONERY. | | 338. By adding a new sub-item (F) as follows:— | "(F) Trade catalogues, price lists and other printed advertising matter, not designed to advertise the sale of goods by any person, firm or company in Australia, when imported into Australia in single copies addressed to hospitals, medical practitioners or dentists, and not exceeding one copy to each hospital, medical practitioner or dentist, and not being for distribution - - | Free | Free."

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

The House resumed; Mr. Nairn reported accordingly.

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

5. Wheat Industry Assistance Bill 1938.—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 by Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) who moved, as an amendment, That all the words after "That" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—
"the Bill be withdrawn and re-drafted to provide grants for the States to enable a home consumption price for wheat of 4s. 8d. at country sidings, and to permit of adequate relief being given to wheat growers suffering seasonal adversity, the financial provision to be effected out of the Consolidated Fund of the Commonwealth".

Debate continued.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight-

THURSDAY, 1ST DECEMBER, 1938.

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put. The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Bell, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 31.		Noes	s, 21.
Mr. Anthony Mr. Cameron Mr. Corser Mr. Fadden Mr. Fairbairn Mr. Francis Mr. Gregory	Mr. Nairn Sir Earle Page Mr. Paterson Mr. Perkins Mr. Price Mr. Prowse Mr. Rankin Mr. Scholfield	Mr. Baker Mr. Beasley Mr. Blackburn Mr. Brennan Mr. Clark Mr. Drakeford Mr. Forde Mr. Green	Mr. Mulcahy Mr. Pollard Mr. Riordan Mr. Rosevear Mr. Scully Mr. Sheehan Mr. Ward
Mr. Harrison Mr. Holt Mr. Hutchinson Mr. Jennings Mr. Jolly Mr. John Lawson Sir Charles Marr Mr. McCall Mr. McEwen Mr. Menzies	Sir Frederick Stewart Mr. Street Mr. Thorby Mr. Wilson Tellers: Mr. Gardner Mr. Nock	Sir Henry Gullett Mr. Holloway Mr. James Mr. Lazzarini	Tellers: Mr. Gander Mr. George Lawson

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2-

On the motion of Sir Earle Page (Minister for Commerce), the following amendment was made:—Page 2, lines 9-10, omit "a date to be fixed by Proclamation", insert "the day on which it receives the Royal Assent".

Mr. Curtin moved, as a further amendment, That the following words be added to the clause:—
"and shall cease to operate on the thirtieth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine".

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. Prowse, in the Chair)-

Noes, 27.	•
Cameron Sir Corser Mr. Fadden Mr. Fairbairn Mr. Francis Mr. Gregory Mr. Harrison Mr. Holt Mr. Hutchinson Mr. Jennings Jolly John Lawson Charles Marr Mr.	Nairn Earle Page Paterson Perkins Price Rankin Scholfield Street Thorby Wilson Tellers: Gardner Nock
	Anthony Mr. Cameron Sir Corser Mr. Fadden Mr. Fairbairn Mr. Francis Mr. Gregory Mr. Harrison Mr. Hutchinson Mr. Jennings Jolly John Lawson Charles Marr

And so it was negatived.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 3 agreed to.

Clause 4-

On the motion of Sir Earle Page, the following amendment was made, after debate :- Page 2, line 29,

omit "three", insert "five

On the motion of Mr. Curtin, the following further amendment was made: -Page 2, line 29, after "members", insert "one of whom shall be a representative of the consumers'

Mr. Wilson moved, as a further amendment, That the following sub-clause be inserted:-

"(2A.) One member of the Committee shall be a person appointed on the nomination of the body known as the Council of the Australian Wheat-growers' Federation.".

Debate ensued.

Question—That the sub-clause proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put. The Committee divided (The Temporary Chairman, Mr. Nairn, in the Chair)-

	Ayes, 17.	No	es, 24.
Mr. Baker Mr. Beasley Mr. Blackburn Mr. Brennan Mr. Clark Mr. James Mr. Mulcahy Mr. Pollard Mr. Rankin Mr. Riordan	Mr. Rosevear Mr. Scully Mr. Sheehan Mr. Ward Mr. Wilson Tellers: Mr. Gander Mr. George Lawson	Mr. Anthony Mr. Cameron Mr. Corser Mr. Fadden Mr. Fairbairn Mr. Francis Mr. Harrison Mr. Holt Mr. Hutchinson Mr. Jennings Mr. John Lawson Mr. McCall Mr. McEwen	Sir Earle Page Mr. Paterson Mr. Perkins Mr. Prowse Mr. Scholfield Sir Frederick Stewart Mr. Street Mr. Thorby Tellers: Mr. Gardner Mr. Nock

And so it was negatived.

On the motion of Sir Earle Page, the following further amendment was made :- Page 2, at the end of the clause add the following sub-clauses:-

"(4.) At any meeting of the Committee three members shall form a quorum.

"(5.) The Governor-General may appoint persons to be deputies of the members of the

"(6.) A person appointed to be the deputy of a member of the Committee shall, during the illness or absence of that member, have all the powers and exercise all the functions of that member.".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 5 agreed to.

Clause 6-

Mr. Scully moved, as an amendment, That paragraph (b) of sub-clause (3.) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

On the motion of Mr. Nock, the following amendment was made :-Page 3, line 7, omit "subsequent year", insert "year of the period of four years next succeeding that first year'

On the motion of Sir Earle Page, the following further amendment was made, after debate:—
Page 3, lines 35-37, omit "harvested by each wheat-grower and sold or delivered for sale during the year in respect of which the payment is made to the State", insert "sold or delivered for sale by each wheat-grower during the year in respect of which the payment is made to the

Provided that, in calculating the amount to be paid to any wheat-grower, account shall only be taken of wheat which was harvested by him on or after the first day of October, One

thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight.".

On the motion of Mr. Curtin, the following further amendment was made: -Page 3, after sub-clause (7.) add the following sub-clause:--

"(8.) Any amount which a wheat-grower is entitled to be paid under the last preceding sub-section shall be paid to that wheat-grower notwithstanding any provision in any contract or agreement made prior to the commencement of this Act whereby he has assigned or transferred his right to that amount or has transferred his property or interest in the wheat in respect of which the amount is payable."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 7-

On the motion of Mr. Nock, the following amendment was made :-Page 4, line 2, omit " of the years subsequent to ", insert " year of the period of four years next succeeding

Mr. Scully moved, as a further amendment, That sub-clause (5.) be omitted.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

On the motion of Mr. Nock, the following further amendment was made:—Page 4, line 18, after "the" insert "companie" the" insert "economic

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 8 and 9 agreed to.

Clause 10-

On the motion of Mr. Jennings, the clause was omitted, and the following clause inserted in place thereof, after debate:

10. Where the Governor-General is satisfied that—

(a) the legislation of a State providing for the fixing of the prices at which flour or other wheat products may be sold has been so amended, or that such action has been taken thereunder, as to affect prejudicially the position of wheat-growers in that State in respect of wheat sold for home consumption in Australia; or

(b) a State has not taken steps adequately to protect consumers of flour and other wheat products against excessive prices in respect of those commodities,

the Governor-General may, by notice in the Gazette, suspend payments to that State under this

Act during or in respect of such period as, in his opinion-(c) the position of those wheat-growers is so prejudicially affected; or

(d) those consumers are not protected against such excessive prices, as the case may be, and, thereupon, that State shall not be entitled to receive payments under this Act during or in respect of that period.".

Clauses 11 to 13 agreed to.

On the motion of Sir Earle Page, the following amendment was made, after debate:-Page 6, lines 15-18, omit "State in that year under the Flour Tax (Wheat Industry Assistance) Assessment Act 1938 (other than moneys collected as tax upon wheat exported from Australia or upon wheat produced and sold in Australia)", insert "year under the Flour Tax (Wheat Industry Assistance) Assessment Act 1938 in respect of flour consumed in that State (whether as flour or as goods manufactured from flour) '

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 15 agreed to.

Preamble debated and agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Nairn reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Earle Page (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, see page 270), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

6. FLOUR TAX (WHEAT INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE) ASSESSMENT BILL 1938.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Casey (Treasurer) moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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.

On the motion of Mr. Casey, the following amendments were made:—Clause 19, page 9, line 22, omit "flour", insert "wheat".

Clause 37, page 17, lines 39-42, omit the proviso.

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

7. FLOUR TAX BILL 1938.-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-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.)

30th November and 1st December, 1938.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (Treasurer), the following amendment was made:—Clause 5, page 2, at the end of the clause add the following words:—"and 'price', when used in relation to wheat, means value for export".

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, see page 271), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

8. FLOUR TAX (STOCKS) BILL 1938.—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—

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.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (Treasurer), the following amendment was made:—Clause 5, page 2, at the end of the clause add the following words:—"and 'price', when used in relation to wheat, means value for export".

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, see page 271), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

9. FLOUR TAX (IMPORTS AND EXPORTS) BILL 1938.—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—

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.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (Treasurer), the following amendment was made:—Clause 5, page 2, at the end of the clause add the following words:—"and 'price', when used in relation to wheat, means value for export".

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, see page 271), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

10. Wheat Tax Bill 1938.—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—

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.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (Treasurer), the following amendment was made:—Clause 5, page 2, at the end of the clause add the following words:—"and 'price', when used in relation to wheat, means value for export".

Bill, as amended, agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Casey (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, see page 271), the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

- 11. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until this day at half-past four o'clock p.m. Question—put and passed.
- 12. Adjournment.—Mr. Menzies (Attorney-General) moved, That the House do now adjourn. Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-three minutes past five o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past four o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Badman, Mr. Frost, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Maloney, Mr. Martens, Mr. Spender, Mr. Stacey, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Watkins.

F. C. GREEN.

Clerk of the House of Representatives.