

1940.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 7.

THURSDAY, 2ND MAY, 1940.

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. PETITION.—Mr. Beasley presented a Petition from certain pioneers and other citizens of the Commonwealth, praying that sympathetic consideration be given to the question of increasing the weekly rate of old-age pension from One pound to One pound ten shillings.  
Petition received and read.
3. NON-COMMUNIST BRANCH OF THE LABOUR PARTY—STATEMENT BY MEMBER.—Mr. Beasley, by leave, made a Statement regarding the membership of certain other honorable Members and himself of the New South Wales Non-Communist Branch of the Australian Labour Party. He informed the House that he had been appointed Leader of the new Party and that Mr. Rosevear had been appointed Deputy Leader.
4. INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS—TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION—REPORTS—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for External Affairs) laid upon the Table, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, the following Paper:—  
International Labour Organization of the League of Nations—Twenty-fifth Session, Geneva, June, 1939—Reports of the Australian Delegates—  
and moved, That the Reports be printed.  
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.
5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Tariff Board—Reports and Recommendations—  
Imitation gut.  
Mercerised cotton yarn.  
Metal leaf and metal foil. Foil paper. Foil board.  
Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.  
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired—  
For Defence purposes—Fremantle, Western Australia.  
For Road purposes—Darwin, Northern Territory.
6. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:—  
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—  
We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—  
Debate resumed.  
Mr. Spender (Treasurer) 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.

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7. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS.**—Mr. Spender (Treasurer) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent, before the Address in Reply is adopted, a Financial Statement being delivered by the Treasurer, the Committee of Ways and Means being appointed, and Resolutions being moved in the Committee of Ways and Means.  
Question—put and passed.
8. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.**—Mr. Spender (Treasurer) delivered a Financial Statement, and, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—  
Financial Statement by the Honorable P. C. Spender, K.C., M.P., Treasurer,  
and moved, That the Paper be printed.  
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.
9. **WAYS AND MEANS.**—Mr. Spender (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now resolve itself into a Committee to consider the Ways and Means for raising the Supply to be granted to His Majesty.  
Question—put and passed.
10. **WAYS AND MEANS—SALES TAX.**—The House then resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Spender (Treasurer) moved the following motions :—

1. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 1) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods manufactured in Australia by a taxpayer and on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty sold by him or treated by him as stock for sale by retail or applied to his own use.

2. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 2) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods manufactured in Australia and sold on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty by a taxpayer who purchased them from the manufacturer.

3. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 3) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods manufactured in Australia and sold on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty by a taxpayer, not being either the manufacturer of those goods or a purchaser of those goods from the manufacturer.

4. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 4) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods manufactured in Australia and sold to a taxpayer who has, on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty, applied those goods to his own use.

5. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 5) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods imported into Australia by a taxpayer on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty.

6. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 6) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods imported into Australia by a taxpayer and, on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty, sold by him or applied by him to his own use.

7. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 7) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods imported into Australia and sold on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty, by a taxpayer not being the importer of the goods.

8. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 8) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods imported into Australia and sold to a taxpayer who has, on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty, applied those goods to his own use.

9. That in lieu of the rate of tax imposed by the *Sales Tax Act (No. 9) 1930–1939* there be imposed sales tax at the rate of eight and one-third per centum upon the sale value of goods in Australia, including goods which have gone into use or consumption in Australia, leased by a taxpayer to a lessee on or after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty.

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.

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11. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (NO. 1), EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (NO. 1), AND CUSTOMS TARIFF (SPECIAL WAR DUTY).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Spender (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) moved—

CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (NO. 1).

That the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff* 1933–1939 be amended as hereinafter set out, and that, on and after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty, 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* 1933–1939 as so amended.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
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DIVISION VII.—OILS, PAINTS, AND VARNISHES.

229. By omitting the whole of sub-paragraph (b) of paragraph (4) of sub-item (b) and inserting in its stead the following sub-paragraph :— “(b) Having a recoverable petrol content* exceeding 70 per cent. . . . . per gallon	11d.	11d.	11d.”
By omitting the whole of paragraph (5) of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— “(5) Once-run distillate from crude petroleum n.e.i. . . . . per gallon	11d.	11d.	11d.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (c) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— “(c) Petroleum and shale products, viz. :— Naphtha, benzine, benzoline, gasoline, pentane, petrol and any other petroleum or shale spirit . . . . . per gallon	11d.	11d.	11d.”
By omitting the whole of paragraph (2) of sub-item (D) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— “(2) N.E.I. . . . . per gallon	11d.	11d.	11d.”

DIVISION IX.—DRUGS AND CHEMICALS.

266. By omitting the whole of sub-items (A) and (B) and inserting in their stead the following sub-items :— “(A) Benzol . . . . . per gallon (B) Naphtha . . . . . per gallon	9d. 9d.	1s. 1s.	1s. 1s.”
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EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (NO. 1).

That the Schedule to the *Excise Tariff* 1921–1939 be amended as hereinafter set out, and that on and after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, Duties of Excise be collected in pursuance of the *Excise Tariff* 1921–1939 as so amended.

EXCISE DUTIES.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
11. By omitting the whole of paragraph (2) of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— “(2) N.E.I. . . . . per gallon	9½d.”
By omitting the whole of paragraph (3) of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— “(3) Produced by National Oil Proprietary Limited from shale mined on the land described in the First Part of the Fourth Schedule to the Agreement (a copy of which is set forth in the Schedule to the <i>National Oil Proprietary Limited Agreement Act</i> 1937) as read and construed in the manner provided by the Agreement made on the 25th October, 1939, between the parties to the first-mentioned Agreement— (a) For each gallon not exceeding 10,000,000 gallons in each year commencing on the first day of January . . . . . (b) For each gallon exceeding 10,000,000 gallons in each year commencing on the first day of January . . . . .	4d. 9½d.”
By omitting the whole of paragraph (2) of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— “(2) N.E.I. . . . . per gallon	9½d.”
By omitting the whole of paragraphs (2) and (3) of sub-item (C) and inserting in their stead the following paragraphs :— “(2) Benzol . . . . . per gallon (3) N.E.I. . . . . per gallon	5½d. 9½d.”

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## CUSTOMS TARIFF (SPECIAL WAR DUTY).

That, in addition to the Duties of Customs collected otherwise than in accordance with the Act passed to give effect to this resolution, there be imposed on and after the third day of May, One thousand nine hundred and forty, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, on all goods (other than goods covered by Item 229 (c) in the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff* 1933-1939) entered for home consumption on or after that date, a special war duty of Customs at the rate of ten per centum of the amount of the Duties of Customs so collected on such goods.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Nairn reported accordingly.

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

12. ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—That the following Address in Reply to the Speech of His Excellency the Governor-General be agreed to:—

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY—

We, the House of Representatives of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech which you have been pleased to address to Parliament—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Beasley addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—

Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.

Mr. Beasley continuing to address the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the further time allowed—

Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.

Mr. Lazzarini addressing the House and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257B—

Ordered—That the honorable Member have leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Mr. Spurr 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.

13. TIME OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Fairbairn (Minister for Air) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

Question—put and passed.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Fairbairn (Minister for Air) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fourteen minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Clark, Mr. Conelan, Mr. Forde, Sir Henry Gullett, Mr. Hunter, Mr. John Lawson, Mr. Perkins, Mr. Prowse, Mr. Riordan, Mr. Scholfield, and Mr. White\*.

\* On leave.

F. C. GREEN,  
Clerk of the House of Representatives.