

1940-41.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 63.

WEDNESDAY, 17TH DECEMBER, 1941.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable W. M. Nairn) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. VISIT TO DARWIN OF MINISTER FOR LABOUR AND NATIONAL SERVICE—INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the purpose of the visit being made to Darwin by Mr. Ward (Minister for Labour and National Service). Mr. Evatt also announced that Mr. Ward would preside at the Conference called to consider means for achieving and maintaining maximum production in industry, and that the opening of the Conference had been postponed to Saturday, the 27th December.
3. DISCHARGE OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—On the motion of Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister), by leave, the following Order of the Day, Government Business, was discharged :—  
International Affairs—Ministerial Statement—Motion for Printing Paper—Resumption of debate upon the motion, That the Paper be printed.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Eighteenth Report on the Commonwealth Public Service by Board of Commissioners, dated 11th December, 1941.  
National Security Act—  
National Security (Exchange Control) Regulations—Order—Sterling area.  
National Security (Shipping Requisition) Regulations—Resolutions by Shipping Control Board (2).
5. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (No. 2) 1941.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936-1940*, as amended by the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1941*, and for other purposes.  
Question—put and passed.
6. WAYS AND MEANS—WAR TAX.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Consideration resumed of the motion moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), on the 16th December, 1941, viz. :—

- (1) That a war tax be levied and paid on the war tax income of every person (other than a company) whose war tax income as ascertained in accordance with Part IIIb. of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936-1941* exceeds One hundred and fifty-six pounds.
- (2) That the rates of war tax be as follows :—

If the war tax income—	The rate payable on every One pound of war tax income shall be—
Exceeds £156 but does not exceed £162 .. .. .	Six pence
Exceeds £162 but does not exceed £168 .. .. .	Six and one-quarter pence
Exceeds £168 but does not exceed £174 .. .. .	Six and one-half pence
Exceeds £174 but does not exceed £180 .. .. .	Six and three-quarters pence
Exceeds £180 but does not exceed £186 .. .. .	Seven pence
Exceeds £186 but does not exceed £192 .. .. .	Seven and one-quarter pence
Exceeds £192 but does not exceed £198 .. .. .	Seven and one-half pence
Exceeds £198 but does not exceed £204 .. .. .	Seven and three-quarters pence
Exceeds £204 but does not exceed £210 .. .. .	Eight pence
Exceeds £210 but does not exceed £216 .. .. .	Eight and one-quarter pence
Exceeds £216 but does not exceed £222 .. .. .	Eight and one-half pence
Exceeds £222 but does not exceed £228 .. .. .	Eight and three-quarters pence
Exceeds £228 but does not exceed £234 .. .. .	Nine pence
Exceeds £234 but does not exceed £240 .. .. .	Nine and one-quarter pence
Exceeds £240 but does not exceed £246 .. .. .	Nine and one-half pence
Exceeds £246 but does not exceed £252 .. .. .	Nine and three-quarters pence
Exceeds £252 but does not exceed £258 .. .. .	Ten pence
Exceeds £258 but does not exceed £264 .. .. .	Ten and one-quarter pence
Exceeds £264 but does not exceed £270 .. .. .	Ten and one-half pence
Exceeds £270 but does not exceed £276 .. .. .	Ten and three-quarters pence
Exceeds £276 but does not exceed £282 .. .. .	Eleven pence
Exceeds £282 but does not exceed £288 .. .. .	Eleven and one-quarter pence
Exceeds £288 but does not exceed £294 .. .. .	Eleven and one-half pence
Exceeds £294 but does not exceed £300 .. .. .	Eleven and three-quarters pence
Exceeds £300 .. .. .	Twelve pence

17th December, 1941.

- (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in the last preceding paragraph of this Resolution, the war tax payable by any person, after deducting the rebates of tax allowable under Part IIIB. of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936-1941*, shall not exceed one-half of the amount by which the war tax income of that person exceeds One hundred and fifty-six pounds.
- (4) Notwithstanding anything contained in the preceding paragraphs of this Resolution, where the amount of war tax which a person would, apart from this paragraph, be liable to pay is less than Ten shillings, the war tax payable by that person shall be Ten shillings.
- (5) That war tax in accordance with the preceding paragraphs of this Resolution be levied and paid for the financial year which commenced on the first day of July, One thousand nine hundred and forty-one and all subsequent financial years :

Provided that the rates of war tax imposed for the financial year which commenced on the first day of July, One thousand nine hundred and forty-one shall be one-half of the rates declared in this Resolution.

Motion amended by Mr. Chifley, by leave—

- (a) by adding at the end of paragraph (1) the words “, or, in the case of a member of the Defence Force having a war tax income which includes pay and allowances earned by him as a member of that Force, exceeds Two hundred pounds ” ;
- (b) by inserting after “ person ” (first occurring) in paragraph (3) the words “ for any financial year ” ;
- (c) by adding at the end of paragraph (3) the words “, or, in the case of a member of the Defence Force having a war tax income which includes pay and allowances earned by him as a member of that Force, exceeds Two hundred pounds ” ; and
- (d) by inserting after “ pay ” in paragraph (4) the words “ for any financial year ” .

Debate ensued.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Chifley moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

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

7. WAR TAX BILL 1941.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to impose a War Tax* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Chifley 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, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

8. WAYS AND MEANS—INCOME TAX.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

Debate resumed on the motion moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) on the 16th December, 1941 (*see page 269*).

Motion agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Chifley moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

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

17th December, 1941.

9. INCOME TAX BILL (No. 2) 1941.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Income Tax Act 1941 ’* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Chifley 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, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

10. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (No. 2) 1941.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), pursuant to leave given this day, brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Income Tax Assessment Act 1936–1940 ’, as amended by the ‘ Income Tax Assessment Act 1941 ’, and for other purposes* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Chifley moved, by leave, 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.*)

Clauses 1 to 4 agreed to.

Clause 5 debated and agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Prowse reported accordingly.

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

11. WAR EXPENDITURE—JOINT COMMITTEE—SECOND AND THIRD PROGRESS REPORTS.—Mr. Johnson, Deputy-Chairman, brought up the Second and Third Progress Reports from the Joint Committee on War Expenditure, and moved, That the Papers be printed.

Question—put and passed.

*Suspension of Sitting.*—At sixteen minutes to nine o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

*Resumption of Sitting.*—At twenty-seven minutes past nine o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

12. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*War Tax Bill 1941*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 102.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to impose a War Tax* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

JAS. CUNNINGHAM,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 17th December, 1941.

[*Income Tax Bill (No. 2) 1941*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 103.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Income Tax Act 1941 ’* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

JAS. CUNNINGHAM,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 17th December, 1941.

[*Income Tax Assessment Bill (No. 2) 1941*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

*Message No. 104.*

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Income Tax Assessment Act 1936–1940 ’, as amended by the ‘ Income Tax Assessment Act 1941 ’, and for other purposes* ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

JAS. CUNNINGHAM,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 17th December, 1941.

17th December, 1941.

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13. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which time of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

14. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) moved, That leave of absence be given to every Member of the House of Representatives from the determination of this sitting of the House to the date of its next sitting.

Question—put and passed.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at ten minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until a date and hour to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as determined by Resolution of the House at this sitting.

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Blain, Mr. Clark, Sir Earle Page\*, Mr. Ward, and Mr. White.

\* On leave.

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