

1946-47.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

## VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 53.

THURSDAY, 15TH MAY, 1947.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J.S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Holt rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The need for the Government to institute a public inquiry into the objectives and activities of the Australian Communist Party".
- Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—
- Mr. Holt moved, That the House do now adjourn.
- Ordered—That Mr. Holt be granted an extension of time.
- Debate ensued.
- Suspension of Standing Orders moved.*—Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) moved, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the debate being concluded without limitation of time.
- Question—put.
- The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 27.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Lang
Mr. Adermann	Dame Enid Lyons
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McBride
Mr. Beale	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Davidson	Sir Earle Page
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Hamilton	Mr. White
Mr. Harrison	
Mr. Holt	
Mr. Howse	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Corser
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald

Noes, 37.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Calwell	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Chifley	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Clark	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Russell
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Scully
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Ward
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Williams
Mr. Gaha	
Mr. Hadley	
Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Fuller
Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

Ordered—That Mr. McEwen be granted an extension of time,

15th May, 1947.

Ordered—That Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General) be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

Mr. McEwen moved, That Mr. Anthony be granted an extension of time.

Question—put and negatived

Debate continued.

The debate having been continued for two hours, it was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 257B.

3. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

W. J. MCKELL,  
Governor-General.

Message No. 22.

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ Customs Tariff Validation Act 1947 ”

“ Customs Tariff (Southern Rhodesian Preference) Validation Act 1947 ”

“ Excise Tariff Validation Act 1947 ”

as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Laws.

Government House,  
Canberra, 14th May, 1947.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SEAMEN'S COMPENSATION BILL 1947.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 33.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ An Act to amend the ‘ Seamen's Compensation Act 1911-1938 ’ ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

GORDON BROWN,  
President.

The Senate,  
Canberra, 15th May, 1947.

Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the Bill transmitted by the foregoing Message 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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—

Civil Aviation—M. C. McConville.

Commerce and Agriculture—A. C. B. Maiden, G. P. Phillips, P. A. Reid, E. J. Wood.

Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for—

Defence purposes—Welshpool, Victoria.

Postal purposes—Balaclava, Victoria.

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

(In the Committee.)

Debate resumed on the motion moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) on the 27th March, 1947 (see pages 140-2).

Mr. Fadden moved, That paragraph 1 be postponed.

Debate continued.

Question—That paragraph 1 be postponed—put and negatived.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark 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. Riordan do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

7. INCOME TAX BILL 1947.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “ A Bill for an Act to impose a Tax upon Incomes ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time,

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

15th May, 1947.

Mr. Chifley moved, 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, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Clark 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—SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Consideration resumed of the motion moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) on the 27th March, 1947 (see page 142).

Motion agreed to.

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

The House resumed: Mr. Clark 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. Riordan do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

9. SOCIAL SERVICES CONTRIBUTION BILL 1947.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘Social Services Contribution Act 1945-1946’”, 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.

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. Clark reported accordingly.

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

10. GIFT DUTY ASSESSMENT BILL 1947.—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. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 to 6 agreed to.

Proposed new clause—

Mr. Fadden moved, That the following new clause be inserted in the Bill:—

“2A. Section fourteen of the Principal Act is amended by inserting after paragraph (c) the following paragraph:—

(ca) gifts, the value of which does not exceed Two thousand pounds, made in good faith by the donor since the 29th October, 1941, to a member of the Forces as defined by the *Re-establishment and Employment Act 1945* for his rehabilitation and/or re-establishment in civil life in Australia.

Any gift duty paid in respect thereof since the above-mentioned date shall be refunded:—

Debate ensued,

15th May, 1947.

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

Ayes, 25.		Noes, 37.	
Mr. Abbott	Dame Enid Lyons	Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Adermann	Mr. McBride	Mr. Beazley	Mr. Lawson
Mr. Anthony	Mr. McEwen	Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Beale	Mr. Menzies	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Cameron	Sir Earle Page	Mr. Burke	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Davidson	Mr. Rankin	Mr. Chambers	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Ryan	Mr. Chifley	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Falkinder	Mr. Turnbull	Mr. Conelan	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Gullett	Mr. White	Mr. Dedman	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Hamilton		Mr. Duthie	Mr. Russell
Mr. Harrison		Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Scully
Mr. Holt	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Evatt	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Howse	Mr. Corser	Mr. Falstein	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald	Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward
		Mr. Gaha	Mr. Williams
		Mr. Hadley	
		Mr. Haylen	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. Fuller
		Mr. James	Mr. Sheehan
		Mr. Lang	

And so it was negatived.  
Title agreed to.  
Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed : Mr. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

11. WAYS AND MEANS— GIFT DUTY.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

Consideration resumed of the motion moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) on the 27th March, 1947 (*see* pages 142-3).

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark 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.

12. GIFT DUTY BILL 1947.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Gift Duty 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.  
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. Clark reported accordingly.  
On the motion of Mr. Chifley, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

13. ESTATE DUTY ASSESSMENT BILL 1947.—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. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

15th May, 1947.

*(In the Committee.)*

Clauses 1 to 4 agreed to.

Clause 5--

On the motion of Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), the following amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 3, line 7, after " death " insert " and Federal income taxes assessed in respect of any amount which is included in the assessable income of the trust estate of the deceased person in accordance with the provisions of section one hundred and one A of the *Income Tax Assessment Act* 1936-1941, or of that Act as amended at any time, and which is included in the estate for the purposes of this Act ".

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 6 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

14. COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL 1947.—SENATE'S AMENDMENTS.—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of the Amendments made by the Senate in this Bill -

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

*(In the Committee.)*

The Committee proceeded to consider the Amendments, which are as follows :—

## SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1. -Page 23, clause 18, lines 16 and 17, leave out " a Bureau of Research and Statistics ", insert " an Office of Economic and Industrial Research ".

No. 2. -Page 23, clause 18, line 18, leave out " Bureau ", insert " Office ".

Amendment No. 1 debated and agreed to.

Amendment No. 2 agreed to.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Evatt (Attorney-General), the House adopted the Report.

15. COMMONWEALTH AID ROADS AND WORKS BILL 1947. -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. Williams 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.

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

Question- put and passed.

And then the House, at two 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. Blain, Mr. Daly, Mr. Drakeford, Mr. Francis, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Spender and Mr. Watkins.

F. C. GREEN,

*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*