

1946-47-48.

## THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 111.

THURSDAY, 19TH FEBRUARY, 1948.

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. PAPER.—Mr. Speaker presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Audit Act—Finance—Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for year 1946-47, accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.  
Ordered to be printed.
3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the Right Honorable Member for Yarra (Mr. Scullin), on the ground of ill-health.  
Question—put and passed.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Postmaster-General's Department—  
W. A. Austin, J. H. Barnes, M. F. Elliott, E. G. Francome, J. L. Hoare.  
Defence Act—Royal Military College—Report for 1946.  
Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act—Ordinance—1947—No. 16—Ordinances  
Reprint and Revision.
5. CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL 1948.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—  
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

*(In the Committee.)*

Schedule—

Items 3 and 19 further debated and agreed to.

Item 180 agreed to.

Item 229 debated and agreed to.

Item 266 debated and agreed to.

Item 277 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 464) the Bill was read a third time.

6. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF (SOUTHERN RHODESIAN PREFERENCE) AMENDMENT (No. 1).—  
The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)*

[*See* proposed Resolution for Customs Tariff (Southern Rhodesian Preference) Amendment of the 14th November, 1946 (page 24).]

The motion previously moved by Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) was agreed to, after debate.

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.

19th February, 1948.

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard, was adopted by the House.

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

7. CUSTOMS TARIFF (SOUTHERN RHODESIAN PREFERENCE) BILL 1948.—Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Customs Tariff (Southern Rhodesian Preference) 1941’* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

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

(*In the Committee.*)

[See proposed Resolution for Excise Tariff Amendment of the 14th November, 1946 (page 23).]

Items I and II taken together and agreed to, after debate.

Preliminary paragraph—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the preliminary paragraph was omitted, and the following preliminary paragraph inserted in place thereof :—

“ That the Schedule to the *Excise Tariff 1921–1939* be amended as hereinafter set out, and that on and after the fifteenth day of November, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, or such later date as may be specified in the Schedule to this Resolution, 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.”

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehan reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard, was adopted by the House.

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

9. EXCISE TARIFF BILL 1948.—Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Excise* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Sheehan reported accordingly.

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

10. WAYS AND MEANS—EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (NO. 2).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

[See proposed Resolution for Excise Tariff Amendment of the 4th June, 1947 (page 228).]

The motion previously moved by Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) was agreed to, after debate.

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

19th February, 1948.

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehan reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard, was adopted by the House.

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

11. EXCISE TARIFF BILL (No. 2) 1948.—Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Excise*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Sheehan reported accordingly.

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

12. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 2).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

[See proposed Resolution for Customs Tariff Amendment of the 14th November, 1947 (pages 340–81).]

First Schedule—

Item 2 debated and agreed to.

Items 4 to 49 agreed to.

Items 50 to 121 taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 122, sub-item (A) omitted, after debate.

Item 122, sub-item (B) omitted.

Item 122, sub-item (C) to Item 136, sub-item (F), paragraph (1) taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 136, sub-item (F), paragraph (2) omitted, after debate.

Item 136, sub-item (G) to Item 146 taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 147 omitted, after debate.

Item 148 to Item 174, sub-item (M), paragraph (92), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 174, sub-item (M), paragraph (93) omitted, after debate.

Item 174, sub-item (M), paragraph (94) to Item 174, sub-item (M), paragraph (149), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 174, sub-item (M), paragraph (150) omitted, after debate.

Item 174, sub-item (M), paragraph (151) to Item 176, sub-item (N), paragraph (2), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 176, sub-item (O) omitted, after debate.

Item 176, sub-item (Q) to Item 181, sub-item (A), paragraph (1), sub-paragraph (b), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 181, sub-item (A), paragraph (2) omitted, after debate.

Item 181, sub-item (AA), paragraph (1) to Item 208, sub-item (E), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 208, sub-item (F) omitted, after debate.

Item 208, sub-item (G) to Item 393, sub-item (A), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 393, sub-item (B) omitted, after debate.

Item 393, sub-item (C), paragraph (1) to Item 418, sub-item (B), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 418, sub-item (C), paragraph (1) omitted, after debate.

Item 418, sub-item (C), paragraph (2) to Item 443, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Second Schedule—

Items 44 to 120 taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 122—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 122. By omitting the whole of sub-item (A) (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (A) Textile articles n.e.i., including materials cut into shape therefor . . . . . ad val.	20 per cent.	37½ per cent.	42½ per cent.”

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## Item 122—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 122. By omitting the whole of sub-item (B) (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— ' (B) Felt articles n.e.i., including materials cut into shape therefor - - - - - ad val.	27½ per cent.	52½ per cent.	52½ per cent.' ”

Item 122, sub-item (D) to Item 136, sub-item (D), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

## Item 136—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 136. By omitting the whole of paragraph (2) (twice occurring) of sub-item (F) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— ' (2) Hoop n.e.i. - - - - - ad val. and in respect of paragraph (2)—a deferred duty as follows :— on and after 1st April, 1948 (2) Hoop n.e.i. - - - - - ad val. and per ton	Free  10 per cent.	12½ per cent.  10 per cent. 70s.	12½ per cent.  20 per cent. 70s.' ”

## Item 147—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 147. By omitting the whole item (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following item :— ' 147. Iron and steel, viz :— Plates and sheets, plain tinned - - - - - ad val. and a deferred duty as follows :— on and after 1st January, 1949 147. Iron and steel, viz :— Plates and sheets, plain tinned - - - - - per ton	Free  57s.	12½ per cent.  115s.	12½ per cent.  115s.' ”

## Item 174—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 174. By omitting the whole of paragraph (93) of sub-item (M) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— ' (93) Drilling Machines, vertical, equipped with feeds operated by mechanical as distinct from hand power, exceeding nine-sixteenths inch drilling capacity in mild steel or with maximum speed in excess of 5,000 r.p.m. - - - - - ad val.	Free	12½ per cent.	12½ per cent.' ”

## Item 174—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 174. By omitting the whole of paragraph (150) of sub-item (M) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— ' (150) Sawing Machines, hot ; Sawing Machines, friction ad val.	Free	12½ per cent.	12½ per cent.' ”

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Item 176, sub-item (e), paragraph (2) to Item 176, sub-item (m), paragraph (3), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 176—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 176. By omitting the whole of sub-item (o) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (o) Lifting jacks - - - - - each - - - - - or ad val. whichever rate returns the higher duty.”	5s. 6d. 22½ per cent.	6s. 6d. 40 per cent.	7s. 6d. 57½ per cent.

Item 176—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, paragraph (2) of sub-item (p) was amended :—

- (a) by omitting after “ each—” the words “ for each £1 by which the value for duty exceeds £28 10s.” and
- (b) by inserting after “ (General Tariff) ” the words “ for each £1 by which the value for duty exceeds £28 10s.”

Item 176, sub-item (p), as amended, agreed to.

Item 177 to Item 181, sub-item (A), paragraph (1), sub-paragraph (c), taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 181—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 181. By omitting the whole of paragraph (2) (twice occurring) of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— (2) Valves for wireless telegraphy and telephony including rectifying valves - - - each - - - - - or ad val. whichever rate returns the higher duty.”	4s. 3d. 17½ per cent.	5s. 6d. 35 per cent.	6s. 35 per cent.

Item 186 agreed to.

Item 208—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 208. By omitting the whole of sub-item (F) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (F) Slide fasteners of the progressive interlocking type - - - - - ad val.	17½ per cent.	45 per cent.	50 per cent.”

Item 208, sub-item (K) to Item 390 taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 393—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ 393. By omitting the whole of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (B) Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting and Embroidery Silks and Artificial Silks : Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting and Embroidery Silk Twists : Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting and Embroidery Artificial Silk Twists - - - - - ad val.	Free	12½ per cent.	12½ per cent.”

Item 409 agreed to.

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Item 418—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, the following was inserted :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<p>“ 418. By omitting the whole of paragraph (1) of sub-item (c) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :—</p> <p>(1) Barographs; barometers and barometer movements; calorimeters; cathetometers; dividing engines for graduating bars, tubes and circles; kymographs and time markers; dial micrometers; hygrometers; microtomes; spherometers; thermostats; microscopical, mineralogical and blow pipe cabinets (fitted); mercury vacuum pumps; viscosimeters; vacuum ovens for laboratories; drawing, mathematical and surveying instruments n.c.i. but not including tripods - - - - - ad val.</p>	Free	17½ per cent.	17½ per cent.’ ”

Item 427 agreed to.

Preliminary paragraphs—

On the motion of Mr. Pollard, Paragraph 4. was omitted and the following paragraphs inserted in place thereof :—

“ 4. That on and after the fifteenth day of November, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, or such later date as is specified in the Second Schedule to these Proposals, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, the Duties of Customs be calculated in pursuance of the *Customs Tariff* 1933-1939 as affected by these Proposals.

“ 4A. That, without prejudice to the generality of the preceding paragraph of these Proposals, where, in respect of any goods covered by an item or portion of an item in the Second Schedule to these Proposals, it is provided that rates of duty in respect of those goods shall be imposed on and after a date to be fixed by Proclamation, the Governor-General may, by Proclamation, fix a date on and after which the rates of duty in respect of those goods shall be imposed.”

Preliminary paragraphs, as amended, 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. Pollard 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. Pollard, was adopted by the House.

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

13. CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (NO. 2) 1948.—Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-six 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. Beazley, Mr. Edmonds, Mr. Evatt, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Gaha, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Scullin\* and Mr. Spender.

\* On leave.

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