

1950.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 77.

WEDNESDAY, 29TH NOVEMBER, 1950.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable A. G. Cameron) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Australian National Airlines Act—Australian National Airlines Commission—Fifth Annual Report and Financial Accounts, for year 1949–50.
 Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations—1950—
 No. 65—Australian Theatrical and Amusement Employees' Association.
 No. 66—Printing Industry Employees' Union of Australia.
 No. 67—Non-Official Postmasters' Association of Australia.
 No. 68—Australian Workers' Union.
 Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment—Postmaster-General's Department—L. M. Chambers.
 Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization purposes—Armidale, New South Wales.
3. WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION (REFUND OF CHARGE) BILL 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Payment, through the Australian Wheat Board, to Growers of Wheat of a certain Season of certain Moneys in the Wheat Prices Stabilization Fund.
 Question—put and passed.
4. SUPERPHOSPHATE BOUNTY ACT REPEAL BILL 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to repeal the *Superphosphate Bounty Act 1941*.
 Question—put and passed.
5. WOOL (CONTRIBUTORY CHARGE) BILL (No. 1A) 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool (Contributory Charge) Act (No. 1) 1950*, and for other purposes.
 Question—put and passed.
6. WOOL (CONTRIBUTORY CHARGE) BILL (No. 2A) 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Wool (Contributory Charge) Act (No. 2) 1950*, and for other purposes.
 Question—put and passed.
7. CUSTOMS BILL 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Customs Act 1901–1949*.
 Question—put and passed.
8. SALARIES (STATUTORY OFFICES) ADJUSTMENT BILL 1950.—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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.
 Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr. Spender (Minister for External Affairs), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 215) the Bill was read a third time.

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9. NATIONAL WELFARE FUND BILL 1950.—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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Anthony (Postmaster-General), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 237) the Bill was read a third time.

10. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 3 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4, Government Business.
11. SUPPLY—ESTIMATES 1950-51.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Vote—" Prime Minister's Department, £1,599,000 "—agreed to.

Vote—" Department of External Affairs, £1,315,000 "—debated.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

12. WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION (REFUND OF CHARGE) BILL 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), pursuant to leave given this day, brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to provide for the Payment, through the Australian Wheat Board, to Growers of Wheat of a certain Season of certain Moneys in the Wheat Prices Stabilization Fund*", and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. McEwen moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Pollard 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. SUPERPHOSPHATE BOUNTY ACT REPEAL BILL 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), pursuant to leave given this day, brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act to repeal the ' Superphosphate Bounty Act 1941 ' "*", and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. McEwen moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Pollard 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.

14. NATIONAL SERVICE BILL 1950.—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—

Suspension of Standing Orders.—Mr. Beale (Minister for Supply) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent Mr. Evatt from making his speech without limitation of time.

Question—put and passed.

Debate resumed.

Member ordered to withdraw from House.—Mr. Curtin having been grossly disorderly by continuing to interject after warnings had been given by the Chair, Mr. Speaker ordered the honorable Member to withdraw from the House.

The honorable Member accordingly withdrew.

Debate continued.

Mr. Evatt moved, as an amendment, That all words after " That " be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—" the Government's proposals in the Bill to provide for compulsory national service in the Defence Forces be investigated and reported upon by an appropriate all-Party Committee which should be authorized to examine all the relevant defence, manpower and economic needs and capacities of Australia and to call witnesses including defence personnel and representatives of labour, industry and commerce ".

Member re-admitted to House.—Mr. Curtin, having apologized to the Chair for his earlier conduct, was re-admitted to the House.

Debate continued.

Mr. C. G. W. Anderson 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.

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15. KOREA—RECENT DEVELOPMENTS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Spender (Minister for External Affairs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of recent important developments in the war situation in Korea.
Mr. Evatt, by leave, also made a Statement in connexion with the matter.

16. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—AUSTRALIAN SOLDIERS' REPATRIATION BILL 1950.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 45.

The Senate has passed a Bill for " *An Act to amend the ' Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act 1920-1949', and for other purposes*", and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

The Senate,
Canberra, 29th November, 1950.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

Mr. Spender (Minister for External Affairs) 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.

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

(*In the Committee.*)

[See proposed Resolution for Customs Tariff Amendment of the 8th June, 1950 (pages 126-8).]

Debate resumed on the motion previously moved by Mr. McBride (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs).

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

18. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF (CANADIAN PREFERENCE) 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 Customs Tariff (Canadian Preference) Amendment of the 8th June, 1950 (pages 128-130).]

Debate resumed on the motion previously moved by Mr. McBride (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs).

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

19. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—FLAX CANVAS BOUNTY BILL 1950.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

W. J. MCKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 35.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Payment of a Bounty on the Production of Flax Canvas.

Canberra, 29th November, 1950.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

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

(*In the Committee.*)

Mr. McBride (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the Payment of a Bounty on the Production of Flax Canvas.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Mr. McBride 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.

29th November, 1950.

On the motion of Mr. McBride, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House. Ordered—That Mr. McBride and Mr. Francis do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. McBride then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. McBride moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Pollard 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.

20. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WOOL PRODUCTS BOUNTY BILL 1950.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

W. J. McKELL,
Governor-General.

Message No. 36.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of Bounty on the Production of certain Wool Products.

Canberra, 29th November, 1950.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to provide for the payment of Bounty on the Production of certain Wool Products.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

Mr. McEwen 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.

On the motion of Mr. McEwen, the Resolution reported from the Committee was adopted by the House.

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

Mr. McEwen then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. McEwen moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Pollard 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.

21. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF (EXPORT DUTIES).—The House according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved—

1. That, on and after the thirtieth day of November, One thousand nine hundred and fifty, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, Export Duties of Customs be collected on goods consisting of or containing wool products, or manufactured or derived in whole or in part from wool products.

2. That the amount of the duty on the goods be an amount which, in the opinion of the Collector, represents the amount (if any) of the subsidy or bounty paid or payable in respect of the production of the wool products of which those goods consist or which is contained in those goods, or from which those goods were manufactured or derived.

3. That, in these Proposals, " wool products " have the same meaning as in the *Wool Products Bounty Act 1950*.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Adermann reported accordingly.

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

29th November, 1950.

22. CUSTOMS BILL 1950.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), pursuant to leave given this day, brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Customs Act 1901-1949’*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
 Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
 Mr. McEwen moved, by leave, 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. Adermann reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr. McEwen, the House adopted the Report.
 Ordered—That the third reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

23. 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. 34.

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Loan Act 1950* ”

“ *Post and Telegraph Rates Act 1950* ”

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, 28th November, 1950.

24. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Customs Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1950, No. 79.
 Hospital Benefits Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1950, No. 77.
 Quarantine Act—Regulations—Statutory Rules 1950, No. 78.

25. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. McEwen (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-six minutes past 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. Bowden*, Mr. Chambers, Mr. Chifley, Mr. Edmonds*, Mr. Fadden, Mr. Falkinder*, Mr. Fitzgerald*, Mr. Freeth*, Mr. Graham, Mr. E. James Harrison, Mr. Eric J. Harrison*, Mr. Holloway*, Mr. Holt, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Lazzarini*, Dame Enid Lyons*, Mr. E. H. D. Russell*, Mr. Ryan and Mr. Watkins*.

* On leave.

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