

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 131.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 1916.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Wool Scheme—Papers *re* Sale to Imperial Government of Australian Wool Clip, Season 1916-17.
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Inter-State Commission Act—Third Annual Report of the Inter-State Commission.
Ordered to be printed.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired under, at—
Abbotsford, New South Wales—For Quarantine purposes.
Kensington, New South Wales—For Postal purposes.
Public Service Act—Promotion of R. J. Mair, Department of the Treasury.
3. THE WAR—MESSAGE FROM BRITISH PRIME MINISTER.—Mr. Hughes read to the House a cablegram giving a message from Mr. Lloyd George on his assuming office as Prime Minister, expressing on behalf of the people of the Old Country their determination and assurance of pushing to a triumphant issue the fight they are now waging and of their confidence of the support of the Dominions.
4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1916) (No. 2).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 148.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Income Tax Assessment Acts 1915,' as amended by the 'Income Tax Assessment Act 1916,'*" to which it has agreed with the amendments indicated in the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 20th December, 1916.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

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

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

20th December, 1916.

(In the Committee.)

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

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS MADE BY THE SENATE.

No. 1, page 2, clause 4, line 40, leave out "a Commonwealth War Loan", insert "Commonwealth War Loans authorized up to the first day of January One thousand nine hundred and seventeen".

No. 2, page 6, leave out clause 11 and insert the following new clause:—

11. Section nineteen of the Principal Act is repealed and the following section inserted in its stead:—

"19.—(1.) In the case of a person (other than a company, an absentee, or a person without a dependant) there shall be deducted, in addition to the sums set forth in the last preceding section, the following sums:—

(a) in respect of the income derived from personal exertion, the sum of One hundred and fifty-six pounds less One pound for every Four pounds by which the income exceeds One hundred and fifty-six pounds;

(b) in respect of income derived from property, the sum of One hundred and fifty-six pounds less Five pounds for every Eleven pounds by which the income exceeds One hundred and fifty-six pounds.

"(2.) When the total taxable income consists partly of income from personal exertion and partly of income from property the deduction under this section shall be apportioned *pro ratâ* between the income from each source.

"(3.) In the case of a person (not being an absentee) without a dependant there shall be deducted, in addition to the sums set forth in the last preceding section, the sum of One hundred pounds less One pound for every Four pounds by which the income exceeds One hundred pounds."

On the motion of Mr. Poynton, Amendment No. 1 was agreed to.

Mr. Poynton moved, That Amendment No. 2 be agreed to.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Resolutions to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Poynton, the House adopted the Report.

5. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Hughes moved, by leave, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until three p.m. on a date to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, which day of meeting shall be notified by Mr. Speaker to each Member by telegram or letter.

Question—put and passed.

6. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO ALL MEMBERS.—Mr. Hughes moved, by leave, That leave of absence be granted 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.

7. ADJOURNMENT—COUNT OUT.—Mr. Hughes moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Boyd called the attention of Mr. Speaker to the fact that a quorum of Members was not present.

The Bells having been rung, and a quorum not having been obtained within the prescribed time, Mr. Speaker thereupon, at eight minutes to eight o'clock p.m., adjourned the House until three o'clock p.m., on a day to be fixed by Mr. Speaker, and to be notified by him to each Member by telegram or letter as fixed by resolution of the House this day.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—General Abbott*, Mr. Atkinson, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Burns, Mr. Catts*, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Corser, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Mahon, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McGrath*, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Orchard, Mr. Ozanne*, Mr. Page, Mr. Riley, General Ryrie*, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watt, Mr. West, and Mr. Yates*.

* On leave.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.