

1917.
(SECOND SESSION.)

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 14.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 10TH AUGUST, 1917.

1. The House met at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. NAMES OF MEMBERS AND "HANSARD."—Mr. Speaker informed the House, with reference to *Hansard* Reports, that in future where, in the speeches of Honorable Members, other Honorable Members were referred to, the names of the latter, as well as the names of their constituencies, would be shown in the Reports of Parliamentary Debates.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
 - Elections and Referendums—Statistical Returns in relation to the Senate Election and the General Election for the House of Representatives, 1917; and Summaries of Elections and Referendums, 1903–17.
 - Elections, 1917—Statistical Returns showing the Voting within each Subdivision in relation to the Senate Election and the General Election for the House of Representatives, viz.:—
 - New South Wales.
 - Queensland.
 - South Australia.
 - Tasmania.
 - Victoria.
 - Western Australia.
 Severally ordered to lie on the Table.
4. WAR-TIME PROFITS TAX ASSESSMENT BILL.—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—
 - Mr. Tudor moved, as an amendment, That after the word "That" the following words be inserted:—
 - "in the opinion of this House, the Bill is utterly inadequate and signally fails to place upon wealth its due share of the expenses of the war".
 - Debate continued.
 - Sir William Irvine, addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
 - Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for Wednesday next.

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5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—OFFICIAL AUSTRALIAN REPRESENTATIVE IN UNITED STATES.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 9.

The Senate transmits to the House of Representatives the following Resolution which has been agreed to by the Senate, and requests the concurrence of the House of Representatives therein, viz. :—

“That, in the opinion of the Senate, if the consent of the Imperial Government can be obtained to the action being taken, it is desirable that an official representative of Australia should be accredited to the United States Government at Washington.”

THOS. GIVENS,
President.The Senate,
Melbourne, 10th August, 1917.

Ordered—on the motion of Mr. Corser, That the consideration of the foregoing Message, in Committee of the whole House, be made an Order of the Day for Wednesday next.

6. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered, That the intervening Orders of the Day be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 13.
7. WAYS AND MEANS [CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TARIFFS AMENDMENT].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Jensen moved :—

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

That the Tariff proposals as defined in the *Customs Validation Act 1917* be amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the Tenth day of August One thousand nine hundred and seventeen at four o'clock in the afternoon, Victorian time, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Tariff proposals as so amended.

SCHEDULE.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Tariff Items.	Tariff on Goods the Produce or Manufacture of the United Kingdom.	General Tariff.
3. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—		
3. Spirits,† and spirituous liquors, n.e.i. :—		
(A) When not exceeding the strength of proof per gallon	20s.	20s.
(B) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	20s.	20s.
4. By omitting sub-item (B) of the item and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—		
(B) Not denaturated in accordance with Departmental By-laws per gallon	20s.	20s.
9. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—		
9. Spirituous Preparations, viz. :—Essences Fruit Ethers Aromas and Flavours, Fluid Extracts, Sarsaparilla, Tinctures, Medicines, Infusions, Toilet Preparations, Limejuice and other Fruit Juices and Fruit Syrups, containing—		
(A) Not more than 25 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	5s.	5s.
(B) More than 25 per cent., but not more than 50 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	10s.	10s.
(C) More than 50 per cent., but not more than 75 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	15s.	15s.
(D) More than 75 per cent. of proof spirit, but not over proof per gallon	20s.	20s.
(E) Over proof to be charged as spirituous liquors under Item 3 (B)		
10. By omitting sub-item (A) of the item and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—		
(A) Containing 5 per cent. and more of proof spirit per proof gallon	20s.	20s.

† Spirits in cases of two gallons and under, to be charged as two gallons ; over two gallons and not exceeding three gallons, as three gallons ; over three gallons, and not exceeding four gallons, as four gallons ; and so on, provided that small bottles or phials of liquor intended for samples or other special purposes only may be entered at actual measurement.

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IMPORT DUTIES—continued.

Tariff Items.	Tariff on Goods the Produce or Manufacture of the United Kingdom.	General Tariff.
13. By omitting sub-item (D) of the item and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (D) Containing more than 40 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	20s.	20s.
15. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 15. Wine, n.e.i., including Sake, Ginger, and Prune Wines; and Wines (other than Grape); containing :— (A) Not more than 25 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	5s.	5s.
(B) More than 25 per cent. but not more than 50 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	10s.	10s.
(C) More than 50 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	20s.	20s.
54. By omitting sub-item (F) of the item and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (F) When preserved in spirituous liquid additional duty at 20s. per gallon to be paid on the liquid.		
57. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 57. Grain and Pulse, not prepared or manufactured, viz. :— (A) Wheat	Free	Free
(B) Barley per cental	2s.	2s.
(C) N.E.I. per cental	1s. 6d.	1s. 6d.
58. By omitting sub-item (B) of the item and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (B) Wheaten Flour	Free	Free
129. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 129. Hessians and Brattice Cloth; Jute Piece Goods; Bookbinders' Cloth; Bunting	Free	Free
134. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 134. Bags Sacks Packs and Bales for Bran, Chaff, Compressed Fodder, Potato, Onion, Ore, Coal and Wool; also Sugar Mats, and Sugar Corn and Flour Sacks	Free	Free
320. By omitting sub-item (C) of the item and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (C) Films for Kinematographs— (1) Sensitized Films, and Films n.e.i. ..	Free	Free
(2) Exposed or Developed Films representing Dramatic or Australian Subjects per lineal foot	1d	1½d.

And—

EXCISE TARIFF.

That the Tariff proposals as defined in the *Excise Tariff Validation Act 1917* be amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the Tenth day of August One thousand nine hundred and seventeen at four o'clock in the afternoon, Victorian time, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Tariff proposals as amended.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
Beer. —By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— Beer — Ale, Porter, and other Beer containing not less than 2 per cent. proof spirit— Brewed from Barley Malt and Hops exclusively per gallon	6d.
N.E.I. per gallon	7d.

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EXCISE TARIFF—continued.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
Spirits. —By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—	
Spirits—	
(1) Brandy, distilled wholly from grape wine by a pot still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 40 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years and certified by an officer to be pure brandy	per proof gallon 17s.
(2) Blended Wine Brandy, distilled from grape wine, and containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure grape wine spirit (which has been separately distilled by a pot still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 40 per cent. over proof), the whole being matured by storage in wood for a period not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be brandy so blended and matured	per proof gallon 18s.
(3) Whisky, distilled wholly from barley malt by a pot still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be pure malt whisky	per proof gallon 17s.
(4) Blended Whisky, distilled partly from barley malt and partly from other grain, containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure barley malt spirit (which has been separately distilled by a pot still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof), the whole being matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be whisky so blended and matured	per proof gallon 18s.
(5) Rum, distilled from molasses by a pot still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be pure rum	per proof gallon 18s.
(6) Gin, distilled from barley malt, grain, or grape wine, and certified by an officer to be pure gin	per proof gallon 18s.
(7) Spirits, n.e.i.	per proof gallon 19s.
(8) Spirit for industrial or scientific purposes, subject to Regulations	per proof gallon 19s.
(9) Methylated spirits, subject to Regulations	Free
(10) Spirit for fortifying Australian wine or for making vinegar, subject to Regulations	per proof gallon 8d.
(11) Spirits for the manufacture, from Australian products exclusively, of scents and toilet preparations, subject to Regulations	per gallon 15s.
Amylic Alcohol and Fusel Oil	per gallon 19s.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, on Wednesday next, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seven minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—General Abbott^a, Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Boyd, Mr. Burchell^a, Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Charlton, Mr. Lamond, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McDonald^a, Mr. McGrath^a, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Riley, General Ryrie^a, Mr. Salmon^a, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates^a.

^a On leave.

(a) Joined Australian Imperial Expeditionary Forces.

WALTER A. GALE,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.