

1917-18.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 79.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1918.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITIONS.—Mr. Finlayson presented a Petition from certain persons resident in Cloncurry and elsewhere opposed to the deportation of Italians and others, in reference to the deportation of Italians resident in Australia, for military service overseas, and praying that no such deportations may take place, but that such persons may be allowed to naturalize themselves if they so desire, and to continue as good citizens of our country.
Petition received and read.
Mr. Charlton presented a similar Petition from certain persons resident in Central Wattagon and elsewhere.
Petition received.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Blythe River Iron Mines Limited—Agreement with Commonwealth Government, together with General Statement regarding the matter.
Price-fixing—Reports relating to Jam Fruits by the Prices Commissioner for Tasmania.
The War—Prisoners of War and Civilians interned in Germany and other Countries—Particulars *re*, including information as to Australian Internees.
Severally ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act—Statement for 1917-18.
War Precautions Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 918, Nos. 171, 186.
4. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—IRON AND STEEL BOUNTY BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker:—

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 72.

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 Manufacture of Black Steel Sheets and Galvanized Sheets in the Commonwealth.

Government House,
Melbourne, September, 1918.

Ordered—That the consideration of the foregoing Message, in Committee of the whole House, be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ESTIMATES, 1918-19.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker:—

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 73.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 25th September, 1918.

25th September, 1918.

R. M. FERGUSON,
Governor-General.

Message No. 74.

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

Melbourne, 25th September, 1918.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and, together with the accompanying Estimates, to be printed and referred to the Committee of Supply forthwith.

6. SUPPLY [BUDGET STATEMENT].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Watt, having delivered the Budget Speech, moved, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—The Parliament, namely—

The President £1,100

be agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

7. PAPER.—Mr. Watt presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

The Budget, 1918–19—Papers presented by the Honorable W. A. Watt, M.P., for the information of honorable Members on the occasion of opening the Budget of 1918–19.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

8. WAYS AND MEANS [CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TARIFF 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 referred to in the *Customs Tariff Validation Act 1917*, as amended by Resolutions proposed by the Minister for Trade and Customs on the tenth day of August One thousand nine hundred and seventeen and the twenty-sixth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and seventeen, be further amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the twenty-fifth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and eighteen, at four o'clock in the afternoon, Victorian time, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Tariff proposals as so further amended.

SCHEDULE.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Tariff Items.	Tariff on Goods the Produce or Manufacture of the United Kingdom.	General Tariff.
1. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—		
1. Ale and Other Beer, Porter, Cider and Perry, spirituous :—		
(A) In bulk - - - - - per gallon	1s. 9d.	2s. 3d.
(B) In bottle* - - - - - per gallon	2s. 3d.	2s. 9d.
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	25s.	25s.
(B) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	25s.	25s.

* Six reputed quarts or twelve reputed pints or twenty-four reputed half-pints to be charged as one gallon.

† 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.

25th September, 1918.

IMPORT DUTIES—continued.

Tariff Items.	Tariff on Goods the Produce or Manufacture of the United Kingdom.	General Tariff.
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	25s.	25s.
5. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 5. Collodion per gallon	5s.	5s.
6. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 6. Wood Naphtha, Methyl Alcohol, and Acetone per gallon	2s.	2s.
7. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 7. Spirits, denaturated, or to be denaturated in accordance with Departmental By-laws prior to delivery, and being not less than 65 o.p. per gallon	2s.	2s.
8. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 8. Perfumed Spirits and Bay Rum per gallon	30s.	30s.
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 (B) More than 25 per cent., but not more than 50 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon (C) More than 50 per cent., but not more than 75 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon (D) More than 75 per cent. of proof spirit, but not over proof per gallon (E) Over proof to be charged as spirituous liquors under Item 3 (B)	6s. 3d. 12s. 6d. 18s. 9d. 25s.	6s. 3d. 12s. 6d. 18s. 9d. 25s.
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	25s.	25s.
12. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 12. Wine, Sparkling* per gallon	25s.	25s.
13. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 13. Wine, Still (including Medicated and Vermouth) :— (A) In bulk per gallon (B) In bottle† per gallon (C) Containing more than 35 per cent. of proof spirit; for each 1 per cent. of proof spirit over 35 per cent. up to and including 40 per cent. additional per gallon (D) Containing more than 40 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	12s. 6d. 15s. 9d. 25s.	12s. 6d. 15s. 9d. 25s.
15. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 15. Wine, n.o.i., including Sako, Ginger, and Prune Wines; and Wines (other than Grape); containing :— (A) Not more than 25 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon (B) More than 25 per cent. but not more than 50 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon (C) More than 50 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	6s. 3d. 12s. 6d. 25s.	6s. 3d. 12s. 6d. 25s.

* Three magnums, six reputed quarts, twelve reputed pints, or twenty-four reputed half-pints to be charged as one gallon.

† Six reputed quarts, twelve reputed pints, or twenty-four reputed half-pints to be charged as one gallon.

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IMPORT DUTIES—continued.

Tariff Items.	Tariff on Goods the Produce or Manufacture of the United Kingdom.	General Tariff.
18. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 18. Tobacco, unmanufactured - - - per lb.	4s. 8d.	4s. 8d.
20. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 20. Tobacco, cut, n.e.i. - - - per lb.	4s. 11d.	4s. 11d.
21. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 21. Tobacco, manufactured n.e.i., including the weight of tags, labels, and other attachments per lb.	4s. 8d.	4s. 8d.
22. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 22. Cigarettes, including weight of cards and mouth-pieces contained in inside packages; Fine Cut Tobacco, suitable for the manufacture of Cigarettes - - - per lb.	10s. 6d.	11s.
24. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— 24. Cigars, including the weight of bands and ribbons per lb.	10s.	11s.
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 25s. per gallon to be paid on the liquid.		

And—

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

[SOUTH AFRICA.]

That the Tariff proposals relating to goods imported from and the produce or manufacture of the Union of South Africa referred to in the *Customs Tariff Validation Act 1917* be amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the twenty-fifth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and eighteen, at four o'clock in the afternoon, Victorian time, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Tariff proposals as so amended

By omitting the Schedule and inserting in its stead the following Schedule :—

SCHEDULE.

IMPORT DUTIES.

1st Column. No. of Item in the Customs Tariff 1914.	2nd Column. Dutiable Goods.	3rd Column. Rates of Duty under the Customs Tariff 1914.	4th Column. Rates of Duty under this Schedule.
18	Tobacco, unmanufactured - - - per lb.	4s. 8d.	3s. 11d.
19	Tobacco, unmanufactured, but entered to be locally manufactured into Tobacco or Cigarettes—to be paid at the time of removal to the factory :— (A) Unstemmed - - - per lb. (B) Stemmed, or partly stemmed, or in strips - - - per lb.	2s. 2s. 6d.	1s. 6d. 2s.
23	Tobacco, unmanufactured, but entered to be locally manufactured into Cigars—to be paid at the time of removal to the factory :— (A) Unstemmed - - - per lb. (B) Stemmed, or partly stemmed, or in strips - - - per lb.	2s. 6d. 3s.	2s. 2s. 6d.
20	Tobacco, cut, n.e.i. - - - per lb.	4s. 11d.	4s. 2d.
22	Tobacco, fine cut, suitable for the manufacture of cigarettes - - - per lb.	11s.	10s. 3d.
21	Tobacco, manufactured n.e.i., including the weight of tags, labels, and other attachments - - - per lb.	4s. 8d.	3s. 11d.

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And

EXCISE TARIFF.

That the Tariff proposals referred to in the *Excise Tariff Validation Act 1917*, as amended by resolution proposed by the Minister for Trade and Customs on the tenth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and seventeen, be further amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the twenty-fifth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and eighteen, at four o'clock in the afternoon, Victorian time, Duties of Excise be collected in pursuance of the Tariff proposals as so further amended.

SCHEDULE.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
Beer. —By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—	
Beer—	
(1) Ale, Porter, and other Beer containing not less than 2 per cent. of proof spirit	per gallon 1s.
(2) Any other fermented liquors n.e.i. containing not less than 2 per cent. of proof spirit which may by proclamation be declared dutiable under this item	per gallon 1s.
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 24s.
(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 25s.
(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 24s.
(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 25s.
(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 24s.
(6) Gin, distilled from barley malt, grain, or grape wine, and certified by an officer to be pure gin; Liqueurs	per proof gallon 24s.
(7) Spirits, n.e.i.	per proof gallon 35s.
(8) Spirit for industrial or scientific purposes, subject to Regulations	per proof gallon 24s.
(9) Methylated spirits, subject to Regulations	per gallon 1s.
(10) (A) Spirit for fortifying Australian wine, subject to Regulations	per proof gallon 6s.
(B) Spirit for making Vinegar, subject to Regulations	per proof gallon 2s.
(11) Spirits for the manufacture, from Australian products exclusively, of scents and toilet preparations, subject to Regulations	per gallon 20s.
Amylic Alcohol and Fusel Oil	per gallon 25s.
Tobacco. —By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—	
Tobacco—	
*Tobacco, hand-made strand	per lb. 1s. 5d.
Tobacco, manufactured, n.e.i., made in Australia, both from imported and locally-grown leaf	per lb. 1s. 8d.
Tobacco, manufactured, uncovered	per lb. 1s. 11d.
Tobacco, fine cut suitable for the manufacture of Cigarettes	per lb. 6s. 3d.

* HAND-MADE TOBACCO.—“Hand-made Tobacco” shall mean tobacco in the manufacture of which all operations are entirely carried on by hand without the aid of machine tools or machinery other than that used in the pressing of the tobacco.

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EXCISE TARIFF—*continued.*

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
Tobacco—<i>continued.</i>	
Cigars—	
†Hand-made - - - - - per lb.	2s.
Machine-made - - - - - per lb.	3s.
Cigarettes, including the weight of the outer portion of each cigarette :—	
‡Hand-made - - - - - per lb.	6s. 3d.
N.E.I. - - - - - per lb.	6s. 6d.
Snuff - - - - - per lb.	4s.

† HAND-MADE CIGARS.—“Hand-made cigars” shall mean cigars in the manufacture of which every operation is performed by hand, provided that moulds may be used.

‡ HAND-MADE CIGARETTES.—“Hand-made” shall mean that the whole of the operations connected with the filling and completion of cigarettes shall be performed exclusively by hand.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, to-morrow, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

- 9 MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—MOTION FOR PRINTING PAPER.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the following motion of Mr. Watt:—That the Paper “Ministerial Statement,” laid on the Table on the 19th instant, be printed—

Debate resumed.

Lieut-Col. Abbott 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 to-morrow.

10. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Groom moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until half-past seven o'clock p.m. to-morrow.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

11. ADJOURNMENT. Mr. Groom moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twelve minutes to eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past seven o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Anstey*, Mr. Bayley, Mr. Burchell*^a, Mr. Chapman, Sir Joseph Cook, Mr. Fleming*^a, Mr. Heitmann^a, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Livingston, Mr. Manifold*, Mr. McDonald, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Palmer, Mr. Pigott, Brigadier-General Ryrie*^a, Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Spence, Mr. Wallace^a, and Mr. Yates*^a.

* On leave.

(^a) Joined Australian Imperial Force.

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