

1920-21.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 133.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 18TH MAY, 1921.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.
2. **ABSENCE OF MR. SPEAKER.**—The Clerk, at the Table, having informed the House that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent, the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, and read Prayers.
3. **MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER—EXTENSION OF POWERS.**—Sir Joseph Cook moved, by leave, That the Chairman of Committees shall on each sitting day, during the absence of Mr. Speaker, take the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, and may perform the duties and exercise the authority of Mr. Speaker during such absence.
Question—put and passed.
4. **PAPER.**—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Audit Act—Transfers of Amounts approved by the Governor-General in Council—Financial year 1920-21—Dated 11th May, 1921.
5. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—AIR DEFENCE BILL.**—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 81.

The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act relating to Air Defence* ”, and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th May, 1921.

Sir Granville Ryrie 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 to-morrow.

6. **MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DEFENCE BILL (1921).**—Mr. Deputy-Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—
MR. SPEAKER, Message No. 82.
The Senate has passed a Bill for “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Defence Act 1903-1918’*,” and transmits the same to the House of Representatives for its concurrence.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 18th May, 1921.

Sir Granville Ryrie 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 to-morrow.

7. **WAYS AND MEANS [THE TARIFF].**—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See reprinted Tariff, which incorporates the proposed Resolutions of 24th March, 1920 (*vide* pages 36-88 *ante*), as amended by the proposed Resolutions of 16th September, 1920 (*vide* pages 321-6 *ante*).]

Item 40, viz.:—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
40. Broom Corn Millet and Rice Straw - per cental	4s.	4s.	4s.

18th May, 1921.

Mr. Greene moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 19th May, 1921 per cental	8s.	8s.	8s.”

Debate ensued.
Amendment agreed to.
Item, as amended, agreed to.
Item 41 debated and agreed to.
Item 42, viz.:—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
42. Candles, Tapers, and Night Lights :— (A) Wax, wholly or in part per lb. (B) N.E.I. per lb.	1½d. 1d.	2d. 1½d.	2d. 1½d.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Greene moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following after the figure “2d.” (General Tariff, third column) in sub-item (A) :—

“ ; and on and after 19th May, 1921, 2½d.”

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 28.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Makin
Mr. Bamford	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Mathews
Sir Robert Best	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Blundell	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Riley
Mr. Charlton	Mr. Rodgers
Sir Joseph Cook	Sir Granville Ryrie
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Francis	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Greene	Mr. Wise
Mr. Groom	
Mr. Jackson	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Lister	Mr. Burchell
Mr. Mackay	Mr. Story

Noes, 16.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Gregory
Mr. Bell	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Stewart
Mr. J. H. Catts	Mr. Watt
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. West
Mr. Corser	
Mr. Fleming	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Gibson	Mr. James Page

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Greene moved, That the Item be further amended by adding the following after the figures “1½d.” (General Tariff, third column), in sub-item (B) :—

“ ; and on and after 19th May, 1921, 2d.”

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 31.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Mathews
Mr. Bayley	Mr. McGrath
Sir Robert Best	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Blundell	Mr. Riley
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Rodgers
Mr. Charlton	Sir Granville Ryrie
Sir Joseph Cook	Mr. Laird Smith
Mr. Corser	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Watt
Mr. Francis	Mr. West
Mr. Greene	Mr. Wise
Mr. Groom	
Mr. Jackson	
Mr. Lister	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Mackay	Mr. Burchell
Mr. Makin	Mr. Story

Noes, 13.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Gregory
Mr. Bell	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Stewart
Mr. J. H. Catts	
Mr. Considine	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Fleming	Mr. James Page
Mr. Gabb	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item 43 agreed to.

18th May, 1921.

Item 44, viz. :-

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
44. Confectionery, Cocoa and Chocolate, viz. :- * * * * *	*	*	*
(E) Confectionery, n.e.i., including Cocoa and Chocolate prepared for edible use, or potable use (not in powdered or granulated form); Bon-bons and mixed packets of Confectionery containing trinkets (gross weights); Sugar Candy; Medicated Confectionery; Cachous; and Crystallized or Candied Fruits per lb. or ad val. whichever rate return; the higher duty * * * * *	3d. 35 per cent. *	3½d. 45 per cent. *	3½d. 45 per cent. *

Debate ensued;

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (E) :-

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 19th May, 1921 ad val.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.	40 per cent.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Item agreed to.

Items 45, 46, 47 agreed to.

Item 48 debated and agreed to.

Items 49 and 50 agreed to.

Item 51, viz. :-

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
51. Fish, viz. :- * * * * *	*	*	*
(c) Preserved in tins or other air-tight vessels including the weight of liquid contents per lb. * * * * *	1d. *	1½d. *	2½d. *

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (c) :-

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 19th May, 1921 per lb.	1d.	1d.	1d.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Item agreed to.

Item 52, viz. :-

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
52. Fruits, Fresh, viz. :- * (A) Bananas * * * * * per cental *	1s. 6d. *	2s. 6d. *	2s. 6d. *

18th May, 1921.

Mr. Mackay moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (A) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 19th May, 1921 per cental	13s. 4d.	13s. 4d.	13s. 4d.”

Chairman's Ruling.—A Point of Order having been raised as to the right of a non-official Member to propose an increase of a duty, the Chairman of Committees, after referring to a ruling given by him on a similar point on 12th November, 1901, stated that he felt it incumbent on him to uphold the privileges of all Members, and that he believed he was correctly doing this in again ruling that it was competent for a private Member, under Standing Order 171, to propose in Committee of Ways and Means an increase on a rate of duty, although such an increase could not be proposed in Committee on a Bill. He was fully convinced that this was the intention of the Standing Order.

Debate on amendment ensued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Greene moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following to sub-item (A) :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 19th May, 1921 per lb.	1d.	1d.	1d.”

Amendment agreed to.

Item, as amended, debated and agreed to.

Item 53 debated and agreed to.

Item 54 agreed to.

Item 55—

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at its next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-past ten o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Bruce*, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Foley, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Hay, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hughes, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Lamond, Mr. Lavelle, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Marks, Mr. Marr, Mr. Maxwell*, Mr. McDonald*, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Poynton, Mr. Ryan, Mr. Tudor, and Mr. Wienholt.

* On leave.

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