

1920-21.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 139.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 1ST JUNE, 1921.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Deputy-Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker :—

FORSTER,
Governor-General. *Message No. 50.*

A Bill intituled "*Westralian Farmers Agreement Act 1921*", 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 Act.

Sydney, 27th May, 1921.
3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. HUGHES).—Sir Joseph Cook moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Bendigo (Mr. Hughes), on the ground of urgent public business.
 Question—put and passed.
4. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—COURT OF INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE.—Mr. Groom, by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the Establishment of a Permanent Court of International Justice under Article 14 of the Covenant of the League of Nations.
5. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Public Works Committee Act—Sixth General Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.
 Ordered to be printed.
6. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBER (MR. TUDOR).—Mr. Ryan moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Yarra (Mr. Tudor), on the ground of ill-health.
 Question—put and passed.
7. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Blakeley rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The depression of the Wool Market, and matters in connexion therewith".
 Mr. Deputy-Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—
 Mr. Blakeley moved, That the House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 It being two hours after the time fixed for the meeting of the House, the debate was interrupted in accordance with Standing Order No. 119, and the Business of the Day was called on.

1st June, 1921.

8. 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 136, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
136. Iron and Steel—			
(A) Pig Iron per ton	20s.	30s.	40s.
(B) Ingots, Blooms, Slabs, Billets, Puddled Bars and Loops, or like crude manufactures, less finished than Iron or Steel Bars, but more advanced than Pig Iron (except castings) per ton	32s.	52s.	65s.
(C) Bar, Rod, Angle, Tee; Bars of fancy pattern in the state in which they leave the rollers per ton	44s.	65s.	80s.
(D) Plate and Sheet (Plain)—			
(1) up to and including one-sixteenth of an inch in thickness ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	10 per cent.
And on and after 1st January, 1922 per ton	65s.	82s. 6d.	100s.
(2) exceeding one-sixteenth of an inch in thickness .. ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	10 per cent.
And on and after 1st January, 1921 per ton	48s.	68s.	85s.
(E) Wire per ton	52s.	72s. 6d.	90s.
(F) Hoop ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	10 per cent.
And on and after 1st January, 1921 per ton	70s.	90s.	95s.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Watkins 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 2nd June, 1921 per ton	30s.	45s.	60s.”

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Atkinson reported accordingly.

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

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Sir Joseph Cook 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. Bruce*, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Fleming, Mr. Hay, Mr. Hughes*, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Maxwell*, Mr. McDonald*, Mr. Nicholls, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Poynton, Mr. Tudor*, and Mr. Wienholt.

* On leave.

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