

1923-24.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 53.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 4TH APRIL, 1924.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ADJOURNMENT—MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. E. C. Riley 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 failure of the Government to give adequate powers to the Soldiers' Committee, consisting of Members of the House of Representatives to enable that Committee to carry out its investigations".
Mr. 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. E. C. Riley 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.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Public Works Committee Act—Ninth General Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.
Ordered to be printed.
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired at Round Hill Point, Tasmania—For Light-house purposes.
Railways Act—By-law No. 28.
4. PRINTING OF PAPER.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the following Paper, laid on the Table of the House on the 2nd instant, be printed :—
High Commissioner of the Commonwealth in the United Kingdom—Report for the year 1923.
Question—put and passed.
5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 1 to 7 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 8, Government Business.
6. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION—CUSTOMS TARIFF [BRANDY] BILL (1924).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)**Resolved*, on the motion of Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), after debate—

That the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1923 be amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the fourth day of April One thousand nine hundred and twenty-four, at 9 o'clock in the forenoon, Victorian-time, duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Schedule as so amended.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SCHEDULE TO THE "CUSTOMS TARIFF 1921-1923."

Item No.	Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
3 (A)	By omitting from the item the whole of the sub-item (A) and by inserting in its stead the following sub-item :— (A) Brandy— (1) When not exceeding the strength of proof— per gallon (2) When exceeding the strength of proof— per proof gallon	35s. 35s.	35s. 35s.	36s. 36s.

Resolution to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.
F.4713.

4th April, 1924.

The House resumed ; Sir Neville Howse reported accordingly.

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

Mr. Bruce moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Bruce, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Bruce and Mr. Austin Chapman do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Bruce then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs,*” and moved, That it be now read a first time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.

Mr. Bruce moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question—put and passed.—Bill read a second time.

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

(*In the Committee.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Sir Neville Howse reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Bruce, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

7. SPECIAL [BRITISH SQUADRON (SYDNEY) VISIT, and EASTER] ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday, 7th May next, at three o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at half-past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, 7th May next, at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Anstey, Mr. Malcolm Cameron, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Gabb, Mr. Gardner, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Makin, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Charles McDonald, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Whitsitt, and Mr. Yates.

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