

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 121.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER, 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. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
New Guinea Act—Ordinances of 1924—
No. 32—Supply (No. 2) 1924-25.
No. 33—Transfer of Land Control (No. 2).
4. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS—Ordered—That Orders of the Day, Nos. 1 to 8 be postponed until after Order of the Day, No. 9, Government Business.
5. WAYS AND MEANS—RESOLUTION—DAIRY PRODUCE EXPORT CHARGES BILL.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(*In the Committee.*)

Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved—

1. That a charge at the following rates be imposed on all butter and cheese exported from the Commonwealth after a date fixed by Proclamation under the Act passed to give effect to this resolution, subject to lower rates being prescribed by regulations made under that Act:—
 - (a) For each pound of butter exported the rate of the charge shall be one-eighth of a penny; and
 - (b) For each pound of cheese exported the rate of the charge shall be one-sixteenth of a penny.
2. That the charges imposed in pursuance of this resolution shall cease to be imposed upon a date fixed by Proclamation under the Act passed to give effect to this resolution as the date upon which that Act shall cease to be in force.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, 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. Pratten 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 to impose Charges upon the Export of Dairy Produce*," 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.

Debate ensued.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3—

Mr. Parker Moloney moved, as an amendment, That the words "one-eighth" (line 12) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the word "one-sixteenth" in place thereof.

The Chairman ruled the amendment out of order on the Parliamentary principle that a Committee on a Bill cannot alter a matter agreed to by a previous Committee and adopted as a Resolution by the House.

Clause further debated.

Mr. Gabb proposing to move, as an amendment, That after paragraph (b) the following proviso be inserted:—

"Provided that not more than £12,000 shall be expended from such levy or levies for the purpose of paying salaries, wages, fees, travelling allowances or other remuneration of members of Dairy Produce Control Board, London Agency of Board, or officers and servants employed by such Board or London Agency."—

The Chairman ruled the amendment out of order for the reasons given in the previous ruling.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 4 and 5 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

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

6. PRIVILEGE.—Mr. Gabb raised a question of Privilege, and represented that he had not been permitted to move certain amendments during the consideration of the Dairy Produce Export Charges Bill in Committee of the Whole.

Mr. Speaker stated that the question was not one of Privilege. The Member for Angas implied that his rights had been infringed, but the rights of individual Members in relation to charges to be levied upon the people are limited by the Constitution, the Standing Orders, and the law of Parliament. When the Resolution from the Committee of Ways and Means, on which the House ordered the Bill to be brought in, was before the Committee, Members could have proposed amendments to it, but after it had been reported and adopted it could not be altered.

Mr. Speaker stated further that three limitations are placed upon Members with respect to taxation. They may not increase the rates prescribed in a Message from the Crown; they may not extend the area over which those rates are to be levied; and they may not change the destination of the money once the levies have been sanctioned.

Point of Order.—Speaker's Ruling.—Mr. Gabb raised a point of Order, that the Dairy Produce Export Charges Bill should not contain a reference to legislation which did not exist, and which, by its title, purported to impose a financial burden on the people.

Mr. Speaker stated that the Member for Angas had raised two separate points of Order. Firstly, whether it is competent for the House to discuss a Bill that refers to an Act for which a Bill has not been introduced. British Parliamentary history is full of instances of closely related Bills introduced in sequence. It is not uncommon to have a Bill introduced and considered before another Bill, to which it is intimately related, has been introduced. The second point of Order is whether Members, after the second Bill involving charges has been introduced, can move amendments to it without Messages from the Crown. Some amendments are permissible in such Bills without a Message, others are not. Amendments affecting the rates, incidence, area, and destination of the charges levied on the people, can be moved only under a Message from the Crown.

Mr. Fenton raised a further question of Order as to whether a Committee, when considering a Message from the Governor-General, which forms the foundation of a Bill to be introduced at a later stage, can debate the principles of the proposed Bill, and elicit information from Ministers concerning it.

Mr. Speaker ruled that it is competent for any Member of the Committee not only to require an explanation of the full effect of the Resolution, but also to debate it. If charges are involved in the Resolution, Members may, without a further Message, move to reduce, but not to increase them. If a Resolution of the Committee of Ways and Means originating a Bill is reported to, and adopted by the House, the Bill founded upon it may not be amended in a manner contrary to that Resolution.

7. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day, Government Business, be postponed until after the consideration of a Motion to be submitted in connexion with Preferential Trade with Canada.

8. CANADA—APPLICATION TO, OF BRITISH PREFERENTIAL TARIFF AND INTERMEDIATE TARIFF.—MR. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, by leave—

That whereas in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph (a) of sub-section (3.) of section 9 of the *Customs Tariff* 1921–1924 the Minister of State for Trade and Customs has referred to the Tariff Board the question whether, having regard to the reciprocal benefits which have been or will be granted to Australia by the Dominion of Canada, it is desirable in the interests of the Commonwealth that the British Preferential Tariff in the *Customs Tariff* 1921–1924 or the Intermediate Tariff in the *Customs Tariff* 1921–1924 (hereinafter respectively referred to as "the British Preferential Tariff" and "the Intermediate Tariff") should apply to the Dominion of Canada, and if so the extent to which it should so apply:

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And whereas in pursuance of the provisions of paragraph (a) of sub-section (4.) of the said section the Minister of State for Trade and Customs has referred to the Tariff Board the question whether it is desirable in the interests of the Commonwealth that the British Preferential Tariff or the Intermediate Tariff, as the case may be (applied to the Dominion of Canada by means of a proclamation under the said section in pursuance of this resolution) should cease to apply to the Dominion of Canada or that the application to the Dominion of Canada of the British Preferential Tariff or the Intermediate Tariff should be varied from time to time to the extent which may be mutually agreed upon by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth and the Government of the Dominion of Canada, or, after six months' notice by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth to the Government of the Dominion of Canada, to the extent which may be specified in the notice :

And whereas the Tariff Board has reported that it is desirable in the interests of the Commonwealth that the British Preferential Tariff and the Intermediate Tariff should apply to the Dominion of Canada to the extent specified in this resolution :

And whereas the Tariff Board has reported that it is desirable, in the interests of the Commonwealth that the British Preferential Tariff or the Intermediate Tariff, as the case may be (applied to the Dominion of Canada by means of a proclamation under the said section pursuant to this resolution) should cease to apply to the Dominion of Canada or that the application to the Dominion of Canada of the British Preferential Tariff or the Intermediate Tariff, as the case may be, should be varied from time to time to the extent specified in this resolution :

Now therefore this House agrees—

- (1) That the application of the British Preferential Tariff and the Intermediate Tariff in the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1924 to the Dominion of Canada is, to the extent specified in this resolution, desirable in the interests of the Commonwealth :
- (2) That the British Preferential Tariff and the Intermediate Tariff respectively shall apply to the Dominion of Canada to the extent that in lieu of the duties of Customs imposed by the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1924 on goods the produce or manufacture of the Dominion of Canada imported direct from that Dominion, there shall be imposed, on and after a time and date to be proclaimed, duties of Customs, as hereinafter set out, on the undermentioned goods the produce or manufacture of the Dominion of Canada imported direct from the said Dominion, namely:—

- (a) On goods described in the First Schedule to this resolution the rates of duty shall be the rates of duty for the time being applicable to goods to which the British Preferential Tariff in the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1924 applies ; and
- (b) On the goods described in the Second Schedule to this resolution the rates of duty shall be the rates of duty for the time being applicable to goods to which the Intermediate Tariff in the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1924 applies :

Provided that nothing in this resolution shall affect the right of the Commonwealth to impose or collect any duty chargeable under the *Customs Tariff (Industries Preservation) Act* 1921-1922 ; and

- (3) That it is desirable that the British Preferential Tariff or the Intermediate Tariff, as the case may be, should cease to apply to the Dominion of Canada or that the application to the Dominion of Canada of the British Preferential Tariff or the Intermediate Tariff should be varied from time to time to the extent which may be mutually agreed upon by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth and the Government of the Dominion of Canada, or, after six months' notice by the Governor-General of the Commonwealth to the Government of the Dominion of Canada, to the extent which may be specified in the notice.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

NOTE.—Where the letters N.E.I. appear in any item, the item shall have the same meaning in this Schedule as it has in the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1924.

Consecutive No.	Item of Customs Tariff, 1921-1924.	Tariff Items.
1	51	Fish, viz. :— (B) Fresh, smoked or dried (but not salted), or preserved by cold process (c) Preserved in tins or other air-tight vessels, including the weight of liquid contents (D) Potted or concentrated, including extracts of, and caviare (E) N.E.I. (F) Oysters, fresh, in the shell
2	113	Gloves (except of rubber), viz. :— (B) Gloves of textile (part of sub-item)
3	169	Machinery, viz. :— (A) Linotype, Monotype, Monoline, and other Type Composing Machines ; Printing Machines and Presses ; Typewriters (including covers) ; Machinery used exclusively for and in the actual process of Electrotyping and Stereotyping ; Aluminium Rotary Graining Machines ; Adding and Computing Machines and all attachments (B) Cash Registers
4	334	Paper, viz. :— (c) (1) News Printing, not glazed mill-glazed or coated, in rolls not less than 10 inches in width or in sheets not less than 20 inches by 25 inches or its equivalent
5	334	(c) (2) Printing, n.e.i., (glazed, unglazed, mill-glazed, or coated) not ruled or printed in any way in rolls not less than 10 inches in width or in sheets not less than 20 inches by 25 inches or its equivalent
6	334	(c) (3) Printing n.e.i.
7	334	Paper, viz. :— (F) Writing and Typewriting paper (plain), not including duplicating— (1) in sheets not less than 16 by 13 inches

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THE SECOND SCHEDULE.

NOTE.—Where the letters N.E.I. appear in any item, the item shall have the same meaning in this Schedule as it has in the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff 1921-1924*.

Consecutive No.	Item of Customs Tariff, 1921-1924.	Tariff Items.
1	110	Apparel, articles of, viz. :— (c) Corsets
2	152	(A) Iron and Steel Tubes or Pipes (except riveted, cast, close-jointed or cycle tubes or pipes) not more than 3 inches internal diameter; Iron and Steel Boiler Tubes
3	328	Goloshes, Rubber Sand Boots and Shoes and Plimsolls
4	359	Vehicle Parts, viz. :— (D) Parts of Vehicles with self-contained power, propelled by petrol, steam, electricity, oil, or alcohol, n.e.i., whether incorporated in the complete vehicle or separate, viz. :— (4) Chassis, but not including Rubber Tyres— (a) Unassembled (b) Assembled
5		(E) Vehicle Parts, n.e.i., including Undergear (inclusive of Axles, Springs, and Arms), Axles n.e.i., Springs, Hoods, Wheels n.e.i., and Bodies n.e.i.

Mr. Anstey 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 the next sitting.

9. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION—DRIED FRUITS EXPORT CHARGES BILL.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Bruce moved—

1. That a charge at the rate of one-eighth of a penny for each pound of dried currants, dried sultanas and dried lexias be imposed on all dried currants, dried sultanas and dried lexias exported from the Commonwealth, after a date fixed by Proclamation under the Act passed to give effect to this resolution, subject to a lower rate being prescribed by regulations made under that Act.
2. That the charge imposed in pursuance of this resolution shall cease to be imposed upon a date fixed by Proclamation under the Act passed to give effect to this resolution as the date upon which that Act shall cease to be in force.

Mr. Gabb moved, as an amendment, That the word "one-eighth" be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the word "one-sixteenth" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the word proposed to be omitted stand part of the motion—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 26.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Gregory
Mr. Bamford	Mr. Hughes
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Hurry
Mr. Bruce	Sir Elliot Johnson
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Latham
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Mann
Mr. Corser	Mr. Manning
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Pratten
Mr. Frederick Francis	
Mr. Josiah Francis	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Marr

Noes, 13.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. West
Mr. Forde	
Mr. Albert Green	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Lacey	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Mathews	Mr. Gabb
Mr. McNeill	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the motion be agreed to—put and passed.

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

The House resumed; Sir Neville Howse reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, 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. Pratten 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 to impose Charges upon the Export of Dried Fruits," and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

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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.

10. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—

Customs Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1924, No. 140.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eighteen minutes past four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Bayley*, Mr. Blakeley*, Sir Austin Chapman, Mr. Charlton*, Mr. Coleman, Sir Littleton Groom*, Mr. Killen*, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Mahony, Mr. W. Maloney*, Mr. Marks*, Mr. Charles McDonald*, Mr. Frederick McDonald, Mr. McGrath, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Prowse*, Mr. E. C. Riley, Sir Granville Ryrie*, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates*.

* On leave.

FRANK L. CLAPIN,
Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives.