

1901.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 12.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 7TH JUNE, 1901.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Hume Cook presented a Petition from John Robertson, M.A., of Moonee Ponds, Victoria, praying the House to take steps at an early date to investigate the matter of money (legal tender), with a view to its equitable and safe reform.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
3. PAPER.—Mr. Barton presented—
Commonwealth of Australia.—Instructions passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet to the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth of Australia.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
4. QUANTITIES OF IMPORTS OF MAIZE, HAY, POTATOES, SUGAR, AND TIMBER.—Mr. Wilkinson moved, pursuant to notice, *as amended*, That there be laid before this House a Return showing the quantities of the following commodities imported from places beyond the Commonwealth into each of the States now constituting the Australian Commonwealth during the three years ending 31st December, 1900 :—
 - (a) Maize.
 - (b) Hay, Straw, and Chaff.
 - (c) Potatoes.
 - (d) Sugar.
 - (e) Timber (including timber prepared for building purposes, shingles, staves, and empty casks).
 Debate ensued.
Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.
5. OPENING THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE WITH PRAYER.—Mr. Knox moved, pursuant to notice, That the Standing Orders should provide that, upon Mr. Speaker taking the Chair, he shall read a prayer.
Mr. O'Malley moved, That the question be amended by leaving out the word "he" and inserting instead thereof the words "a chaplain appointed for that purpose."
Debate ensued.
Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Mr. Poynton moved, That the question be amended by adding at the end thereof the words "which shall be the Lord's Prayer."
Debate continued.
Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Question—That the Standing Orders should provide that, upon Mr. Speaker taking the Chair, he shall read a prayer—put and resolved in the affirmative.
6. STATISTICS OF MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES OF THE STATES.—Mr. Knox moved, pursuant to notice, That there be laid before this House a Return (to be compiled from the latest available statistics) giving the following information :—
 1. A list of the manufacturing industries operating in the several States of the Commonwealth, distinguishing as to respective States.
 2. The number of factories operating under each industry.
 3. The average number of persons employed in each industry, distinguishing as to males and females.
 4. The average wages paid to the persons employed in each industry, also distinguishing as to males and females.
 5. The rate of Customs or Excise Duty by which the several industries are at present protected in each of the States.

7th June, 1901.

Debate ensued.

Mr. V. L. Solomon moved, That the question be amended by inserting, in paragraphs 3 and 4 respectively, before the word "males" the word "adult," and after the word "females" the words "and male and female children under fourteen and between fourteen and twenty-one years respectively."

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Isaacs moved, That the question be further amended by inserting after paragraph 4 the words "The minimum rate of wage paid in each industry to adults and children respectively."

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Sir Philip Fysh moved, That the question be further amended by inserting in paragraph 5, after the word "Duty," the words "and the schedule of exemptions therefrom."

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Bruce Smith moved, That the question be further amended by adding at the end thereof the words:—"The horse-power of the factories in existence in the respective States."

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Isaacs moved, That the question be further amended by adding after the last amendment the words "The return to cover the years 1898, 1899, and 1900, separately distinguishing each, and wherever later or more complete information is available from sources other than official statistics, such information shall be given, and the sources mentioned."

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be added be so added—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That there be laid before this House a Return (to be compiled from the latest available statistics) giving the following information:—

1. A list of the manufacturing industries operating in the several States of the Commonwealth, distinguishing as to respective States.
 2. The number of factories operating under each industry.
 3. The average number of persons employed in each industry, distinguishing as to adult males and females, and male and female children under fourteen and between fourteen and twenty-one years respectively.
 4. The average wages paid to the persons employed in each industry, also distinguishing as to adult males and females and male and female children under fourteen and between fourteen and twenty-one years respectively.
 5. The minimum rate of wage paid in each industry to adults and children respectively.
 6. The rate of Customs or Excise Duty (and the schedule of exemptions therefrom) by which the several industries are at present protected in each of the States.
 7. The horse-power of the factories in existence in the respective States.
- The return to cover the years 1898, 1899, and 1900, separately distinguishing each, and wherever later or more complete information is available from sources other than official statistics, such information shall be given, and the sources mentioned—

put and resolved in the affirmative.

7. **MINIMUM WAGE AND MAXIMUM HOURS OF LABOUR IN GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS.**—Mr. Mauger moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is the duty of the Government to make provision in all its contracts for the payment of a minimum rate of wage, and for the fixing of a maximum number of hours of labour.

Ordered—That the debate be adjourned until Friday next.

8. **DAY OF REST FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYÉS.**—Mr. Mauger moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is the duty of the Government to make such arrangements as will ensure at least one day's rest in seven for each of its employés.

Mr. Barton moved, That the question be amended by inserting after the word "make" the words "as soon as practicable."

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That, in the opinion of this House it is the duty of the Government to make, as soon as practicable, such arrangements as will ensure at least one day's rest in seven for each of its employés—put and resolved in the affirmative.

9. **IMPORTS OF SUGAR, TEA, SPIRITS, TOBACCO, KEROSENE, ETC.**—Mr. Piesse moved, pursuant to notice, That there be laid before this House a Return showing, under the name of each State of the Commonwealth, in respect of Sugar, Tea, Spirits, Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes, Kerosene, Wines, and Beer—

1. The quantities and values imported between 31st December last and the 31st May last.

And also in separate columns for comparison—

2. The same information for the corresponding period of the year 1900; and
3. The actual mean of the importations for the corresponding months of the five-years period ending 31st December, 1900.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

7th June, 1901.

10. CUSTOMS STATISTICS AS TO IMPORTS OF SUGAR, TEA, SPIRITS, TOBACCO, KEROSENE, ETC.—Mr. Piessé moved, pursuant to notice, That there be laid before this House a Return showing, under the name of each State, in respect of Sugar, Tea, Spirits, Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes, Kerosene, Wines, and Beer—

1. The quantities upon which Customs and Excise Duties have been paid for every year of the five-years period ending 31st December, 1900.
2. The actual mean of such quantities per head of the mean population of each State for the same period.
3. The duty value (in one sum) upon an Uniform Tariff of such mean quantities for each State separately, and the mean for Australia of the six separate duty values so ascertained.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Kingston moved, That the question be amended by omitting from paragraph 1 the words "upon which Customs and Excise Duties have been paid," and inserting instead thereof the words "entered for home consumption."

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put and negatived.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That there be laid before this House a Return showing, under the name of each State, in respect of Sugar, Tea, Spirits, Tobacco, Cigars and Cigarettes, Kerosene, Wines, and Beer—

1. The quantities entered for home consumption for every year of the five-years period ending 31st December, 1900.
2. The actual mean of such quantities per head of the mean population of each State for the same period.
3. The duty value (in one sum) upon an Uniform Tariff of such mean quantities for each State separately, and the mean for Australia of the six separate duty values so ascertained—

put and resolved in the affirmative.

11. MEN AND WOMEN VOTERS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—Mr. G. B. Edwards moved, pursuant to notice, That there be laid before this House a Return showing—

1. The estimated number of women in the States of South Australia and Western Australia who were qualified by age to vote at the recent Federal elections in those States.
2. The number who were enrolled.
3. The number who actually recorded their votes at the said elections.

Mr. Tudor moved, That the question be amended by inserting in paragraph 1, before the word "women," the words "men and."

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put and resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That there be laid before this House a Return showing—

1. The estimated number of men and women in the States of South Australia and Western Australia who were qualified by age to vote at the recent Federal elections in those States.
2. The number who were enrolled.
3. The number who actually recorded their votes at the said elections—

put and resolved in the affirmative.

12. PERSONS EMPLOYED AND SALARIES PAID IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH.—Mr. Hume Cook moved, pursuant to notice, *as amended*, That a Return for each Department of the Commonwealth (Customs, Defence, &c.) be laid before this House, showing—

1. Separately, the number of persons engaged in special, professional, clerical, and non-clerical duties; and the totals under each head.
2. The yearly salaries and wages paid in each division of each Department, and the totals.
3. A comparative statement of the maximum and minimum remuneration given in each State for all classes of work of a corresponding character.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

13. LEAVE TO CERTAIN COMMITTEES TO SIT DURING ADJOURNMENT AND TO CONFER WITH SIMILAR COMMITTEES OF SENATE.—Mr. Barton moved, pursuant to notice, *as amended*, That the Standing Orders Committee, the Library Committee, and the House Committee have leave to sit during any adjournment of the House, and to confer with the Committees of the Senate appointed for similar purposes.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

14. MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members present except—Messrs. Brown, Cameron, Clarke, Fisher, Harper, McColl, F. E. McLean, Page, Reid, Ronald, Sawers, Sydney Smith, E. Solomon, Spence, Thomas, Watkins, Wilks, and Willis.

15. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Barton moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

And then the House, at four minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday next at half-past two o'clock p.m.

GEORGE H. JENKINS,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.