

1926.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 6.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 1926.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Littleton Groom) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Jackson presented a Petition from 10,429 electors of the State of Tasmania, stating that Federation generally, the Commonwealth Arbitration laws, the irregular interstate shipping service, and the Navigation Act, are all adversely affecting the people of the State, and praying for relief from their disabilities.
Petition received and read.
3. TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES.—The following Warrant, nominating Temporary Chairmen of Committees, pursuant to Standing Order No. 25, was laid upon the Table by Mr. Speaker :—
The Parliament of the Commonwealth.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Standing Order numbered 25, I do hereby nominate—

Robert Cook, Esquire,
Norman John Oswald Makin, Esquire,
Edward Alexander Mann, Esquire,
Arthur Gibson Manning, Esquire,
The Honorable Sir Granville de Laune Ryrie, K.C.M.G., C.B., V.D., and
The Honorable David Watkins,

to act as Temporary Chairmen of Committees when requested so to do by the Chairman of Committees.

Given under my hand this twenty-second day of January, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six.

LITTLETON E. GROOM,
Speaker.

4. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (JOINT).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following Members be appointed Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, viz. :—Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Mackay, Mr. McGrath, and Mr. Scabrook.
Question—put and passed.
5. PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (JOINT).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Committee of Public Accounts Act 1913-1920*, the following Members be appointed Members of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, viz. :—Mr. Gardner, Mr. Lister, Mr. Parker Moloney, Mr. Thomas Paterson, Mr. Prowse, Mr. E. C. Riley, and Sir Granville Ryrie.
Question—put and passed.

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6. LIBRARY COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Duncan-Hughes, Mr. Hughes, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Maxwell, and Mr. Watt be Members of the Library Committee; three to form a quorum.
Question—put and passed.
7. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, the Prime Minister, the Chairman of Committees, the Leader of the Opposition, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Earle Page, and Mr. Watt be Members of the Standing Orders Committee; three to form a quorum.
Question—put and passed.
8. PRINTING COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Aubrey Abbott, Mr. Donald Cameron, Mr. Corser, Mr. Roland Green, Mr. Edward Riley, Mr. Scullin, and Mr. William Watson be Members of the Printing Committee; three to form a quorum, with power to confer with a similar Committee of the Senate.
Question—put and passed.
9. HOUSE COMMITTEE.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That Mr. Speaker, Mr. Coleman, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Gregory, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Manning, Mr. Marr, and Mr. West be Members of the House Committee; three to form a quorum.
Question—put and passed.
10. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Canberra—Report of Operations of Federal Capital Commission for Quarter ended, 31st December, 1925.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Air Force Act and Defence Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 1.
11. ORDER OF BUSINESS.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That, unless otherwise ordered, Government Business shall, on each day of sitting, have precedence of all other Business, except on that Thursday on which, under the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the question is put “That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.” On such Thursday General Business shall have precedence of Government Business until nine o'clock p.m.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
12. OODNADATA TO ALICE SPRINGS RAILWAY BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question, That the Bill be now read a second time—
Debate resumed.
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; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.
On the motion of Mr. Hill (Minister for Works and Railways), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE (JOINT).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 1.

The Senate acquaints the House of Representatives that, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913-1921*, the following Senators have been appointed Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, viz.:—Senator J. Barnes, Senator P. J. Lynch, and Senator M. Reid.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 22nd January, 1926.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

14. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (JOINT).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 2.

The Senate acquaints the House of Representatives that, in accordance with the provisions of the *Committee of Public Accounts Act 1913-1920*, the following Senators have been appointed Members of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, viz.:—Senator H. S. Foll, Senator W. Kingsmill, and Senator E. Needham.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 22nd January, 1926.

THOS. GIVENS,
President.

15. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Superannuation Act—Third Report of the Superannuation Fund Management Board, 1924-25.
Ordered to be printed.
Land Tax Assessment Act—Applications for relief from Taxation during the year 1924-25.
16. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 2 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4.

22nd January, 1926.

17. WAYS AND MEANS RESOLUTION—[CUSTOMS TARIFF] PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA PREFERENCE.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Debate resumed on the motion of Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs), viz. :—That notwithstanding anything contained in the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1924, from and after a time and date to be proclaimed, the importation into Australia, direct from the Territory of Papua or the Territory of New Guinea, of such of the goods specified in the Schedule to this resolution as were produced or manufactured in the Territory from which they are imported, shall be free of duty.

THE SCHEDULE.

Item No.	Item No. of Customs Tariff 1921 1924.	Item.
1	43 (A)	Coffee, raw and kiln dried
2	53 (A)	Fruits, dried, viz., Litchi
3	52 (C)	Fruits, fresh, viz., Chiconamey, Litchi, Longan, Akee, Pulasan, Rambutan, Avocado, Mangosteen, Sapote, Sapodilla, Abiu, Star-apple, Langsat, Imbu, Hama, Durian, Jaboticaba, Grumichama, Kao Pan Seedless Pummelo, and Jak Fruit
4	101 or 102	Fungi, edible
5	56	Ginger, green
6	57 (D)	Grain and Pulse, viz., Rangoon Beans
7	78 (B) 78 (C) 78 (D)	Nuts, viz. :— (A) Coconuts, whole (B) Coconuts, prepared (C) Unshelled
8	92	Seeds, viz., Kapok, Sesame

On the motion of Mr. Pratten, the motion was amended by the omission of the words "or manufactured" in line 5.

On the motion of Mr. Roland Green, the motion was further amended by the insertion of the words "Shelled or" before the word "Unshelled" in the penultimate line.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

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

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

Ordered—That Mr. Pratten and Mr. Gibson do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Pratten then brought up a Bill intituled "A Bill for an Act relating to Customs Preference on Goods the Produce of Papua and on Goods the Produce of the Territory of New Guinea," and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pratten moved, by leave, 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.)

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

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

18. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at twenty-one minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bell, Mr. Bowden, Mr. Robert Cook, Sir Elliot Johnson, and Mr. Watt.

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