

1926.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 83.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 11TH AUGUST, 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. JOINT COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS—REPORT.—Sir Granville Byrie, Chairman of the Joint Committee of Public Accounts, brought up the following Report from the Committee :—
Commonwealth Government Shipping Activities—Interim Report.
Ordered to be printed.
3. PRINTING COMMITTEE—THIRD REPORT FROM.—Mr. Corser, Chairman, brought up the Third Report from the Printing Committee (sitting in conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate). The Report was read by the Clerk, as follows :—

REPORT.

The Printing Committee have the honour to report that they have met in Conference with the Printing Committee of the Senate.

The Joint Committee, having considered the Papers presented to Parliament since the last meeting of the Committee, recommend that the following be printed :—

* Secretariat of the League of Nations—Return showing annual cost, apportionment of such cost, and the amount of the Commonwealth's contribution.

† List of Works of Art (Paintings, Sculpture, Curios, &c.), belonging to the Commonwealth Government.

E. B. C. CORSER,
Chairman.

Senate Committee Room,
10th August, 1926.

* Presented to Senate only.

† Presented to House of Representatives only.

Mr. Corser moved, That the Report be agreed to.
Question—put and passed.

4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—REPORT.—Mr. Mackay, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, brought up the following Report from the Committee—
Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed erection of Cottages at Canberra.

Ordered to be printed.

F.17940.

11th August, 1926.

5. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—BRITISH PHOSPHATE COMMISSION.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement with reference to the British Phosphate Commission, and, in conclusion, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General, laid upon the Table the following Paper :—
British Phosphate Commission—Report, together with Appendices, of the Royal Commission on certain matters in connexion with—
and moved, That the Paper be printed.
Question—put and passed.
6. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act—Statement for 1925-26.
Treaty of Peace (Germany) Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1926, No. 104.
7. SUPPLY—ESTIMATES 1926-27.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee.)

Vote—"The Department of Trade and Customs, £909,229"—
Ordered—That the further consideration of the Vote be postponed until after the consideration of the remaining Votes.
Vote—"The Department of Works and Railways, £330,574"—agreed to.
Vote—"The Department of Health, £200,000"—debated and agreed to.
Vote—"The Department of Markets and Migration, £110,277"—debated and agreed to.
Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Mann reported accordingly.
Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Orders of the Day Nos. 2 and 3 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 4.
9. PAPER.—Mr. Speaker presented—
Library Committee (Joint)—Report, dated 11th August, 1926, on the Hardy Wilson Collection of Drawings of Old Colonial Architecture.
Read by the Clerk, and ordered to lie on the Table.
Mr. Bowden moved, That the Report be printed.
Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) 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.

10. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (No. 2) (1926).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

Message No. 60.

MR. SPEAKER,

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act relating to Duties of Customs,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th August, 1926.

11. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—FEDERAL AID ROADS BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

Message No. 61.

MR. SPEAKER,

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to authorize the Execution by the Commonwealth of Agreements between the Commonwealth and the States in relation to the Construction and Reconstruction of Federal Aid Roads, and to make provision for the carrying out thereof,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
President.The Senate,
Melbourne, 11th August, 1926.

12. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 3).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved—

That the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff* 1921-1926 be further amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the Twelfth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, Victorian time, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Customs Tariff as so amended.

11th August, 1926.

That, excepting by mutual agreement or until after six months' notice has been given to the Government of the Dominion of New Zealand, nothing in this Resolution shall affect any goods the produce or manufacture of the Dominion of New Zealand entering the Commonwealth of Australia from the Dominion of New Zealand.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
DIVISION VI.—METALS AND MACHINERY.			
136. By omitting the whole of sub-item (c) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“ (c) (1) Bar, Rod other than Wire Rod in Coils, Angle, Tee : Bars of fancy pattern in the state in which they leave the rollers - - - - - per ton	£2 4s.	£5	£6
(2) Wire Rod in Coils - - - - - per ton	£2 4s.	£3 5s.	£4 ”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (E) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“ (E) (1) Wire of No. 15 or finer gauge - - - - - ad val.	20 per cent.	35 per cent.	45 per cent.
(2) Wire, fencing, of gauges No. 8 to 14, both gauges inclusive, for use only as fencing wire without further manufacture, or for such manufacturing purposes as may be prescribed by Departmental By-laws - per ton	Free	£5	£6
(3) Wire, other - - - - - per ton	£2 12s.	£5	£6 ”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (F) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“ (F) (1) Hoop $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in thickness in widths from 1 inch to 2 inches both widths inclusive - - - - - per ton	£3 10s.	£5 10s.	£6
(2) Hoop n.e.i. - - - - - ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	10 per cent.
And on and after 1st October, 1926 - per ton	£3 10s.	£5 10s.	£6 ”
154. By omitting the whole of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“ (A) Rails weighing 50 lb. per yard and over - - - - - per ton	£1 15s.	£4 5s.	£5 ”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (B) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“ (B) Rails weighing less than 50 lb. per yard - - - - - per ton	£2 5s.	£5	£6 5s.”
By omitting the whole of sub-item (C) and inserting in its stead the following sub-item :—			
“ (C) Fishplates, Tie Plates and Rods - - - - - per ton	£2 8s.	£5	£6 5s.”
155. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ 155. Rolled Iron or Steel Beams, Channels, Joists, Girders, Columns, Trough and Bridge Iron and Steel—			
(A) Not drilled or further manufactured - - - - - per ton	£2 8s.	£5	£6 5s.
(B) Drilled or further manufactured - - - - - per ton	£2 8s.	£5	£6 5s.
and ad val.	25 per cent.	30 per cent.	35 per cent.”
157. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ 157. Barbed Wire - - - - - per ton	£3 8s.	£8	£9 ”
158. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ 158. Wire Netting - - - - - per ton	Free	£8 10s.	£10 ”
159. By omitting the whole item (twice occurring) and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ 159 (A) Wire n.e.i., also woven wire measuring over 30 holes to the lineal inch - - - - - ad val.	Free	5 per cent.	15 per cent.
(B) Wire, Iron and Steel, for use in the manufacture of Barbed Wire and Wire Netting as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - - per ton	£2 12s.	£5	£6 ”

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Makin reported accordingly.

Resolved, after debate—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

13. SUPPLY.—ESTIMATES 1926-27.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

(In the Committee).

Vote—“ Miscellaneous Services, £464,904 ”—debated and agreed to.

Vote—“ Refunds of Revenue, £800,000 ”—agreed to.

Vote—“ Advance to the Treasurer, £1,500,000 ”—agreed to.

Vote—“ War Services payable out of Revenue, £1,119,006 ”—debated and agreed to.

Vote—“ Commonwealth Railways, £626,368 ”—debated and agreed to.

Vote—“ Postmaster-General's Department, £9,655,480 ”—debated.

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

11th August, 1926.

The House resumed ; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

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

14. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until eleven o'clock a.m. to-morrow.

Question—put and passed.

15. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at fifteen minutes past eleven o'clock p.m., adjourned until to-morrow at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Anstey, Mr. Gregory, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Latham,
Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Ley, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Manning, Mr. Prowse, and Mr. Thompson.

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