

1926-27.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

No. 138.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 8TH DECEMBER, 1927.

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. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
New Guinea Act—Ordinances of 1927—
No. 33—Town Boundaries.
No. 34—Supply (No. 3) 1927-28.
No. 35—Germans Admission.
3. LAND TAX BILL (1927).—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Land Tax Act* 1910-1922.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Earle Page then brought up the Bill accordingly, and moved, That it be now read a first time.
Question—put and passed.—Bill read a first time.
Ordered, by leave—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
4. LAND TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1927).—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 17 further debated—

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) the following further amendments were made :—

Page 9, line 4, after "law" insert "and the Board shall refer to the High Court any question of law arising before the Board and the decision of the High Court thereon shall be final and conclusive".

Page 9, line 16, after "shall" insert "within thirty days after the receipt by him of the request".
Mr. Scullin moved, as a further amendment, That after "fit," (page 9, line 25) the following words be inserted :—"and may review the opinion or decision of the Commissioner upon any matter upon which the liability of the taxpayer depends wholly or in part upon the judgment or opinion or satisfaction of the Commissioner".

Debate continued.

Further consideration of clause postponed.

Clauses 18 to 20 agreed to.

Clause 21 debated—

On the motion of Mr. Duncan-Hughes, after debate, the following new sub-section was added to the clause :—

"(3.) Whenever land tax shall have been paid, whether upon an original assessment or upon an alteration or addition thereto, but an appeal or notice of objection shall be lodged by the taxpayer with reference thereto within the prescribed time, the difference between the tax on the value returned by the taxpayer and the tax on the amount assessed by the Commissioner shall be refunded to the taxpayer at the expiration of six months from the time of such payment and shall not be repayable (whether under any further assessment of the land in question or not) until such appeal or notice of objection shall have been heard and determined."

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 22 to 26 agreed to.

Clause 27—

On the motion of Mr. Gregory, the following amendment was made, after debate :—

Page 11, line 36, omit "may", insert "shall".

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the following amendment was made :—

Page 11, line 37, omit "may", insert "shall".

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Clause, as amended, agreed to.
 Clauses 28 to 30 agreed to.
 Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

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

5. LAND TAX BILL (1927).—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) 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 ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.
 On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—APPROPRIATION BILL 1927-28.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 105.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ *An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for such year,*” and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

JOHN NEWLANDS,
 President.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 8th December, 1927.

7. WIRELESS AGREEMENT BILL (1927).—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.

Mr. Brennan addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A, the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Mr. Hughes addressing the House, and not having concluded his speech at the termination of the time allowed by Standing Order No. 257A, the honorable Member was given leave to continue his speech.

Debate continued.

Question—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 31.

Noes, 20.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Latham	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Bayley	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mann	Mr. Charlton	Mr. Stewart
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Marr	Mr. Coleman	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Earle Page	Mr. Forde	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Parsons	Mr. Albert Green	Mr. West
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Thomas Paterson	Mr. Lacey	Mr. Yates
Mr. Grosvenor Francis	Mr. Perkins	Mr. Lazzarini	
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Pratten	Mr. McGrath	<i>Tellers:</i>
Sir John Gellibrand	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Parker Moloney	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Gibson	Mr. Seabrook	Mr. Edward Riley	Mr. Makin
Mr. Gregory	Mr. William Watson		
Mr. Gullett			
Mr. Hill	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Hurry			
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Hunter		
Mr. Killen	Mr. Manning		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.—Bill read a second time.

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

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2—

Progress 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.

8. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until ten o'clock a.m. to-morrow.
Question—put and passed.

9. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Aubrey Abbott, Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bell, Mr. Bowden*, Mr. Roland Green, Sir Neville Howse, Sir Elliot Johnson, Mr. Lambert, Mr. Ley*, Mr. W. Maloney, Mr. Maxwell, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Nott, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. Watt.

* On leave.

E. W. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.