

1929-30-31.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 143.

THURSDAY, 14TH MAY, 1931.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Norman J. O. Makin) took the Chair, and offered Prayers.
2. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

ISAAC A. ISAACS,  
*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 69.*

A Proposed Law intituled "*Solar Observatory Fund Act 1931*," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Law.

Government House,  
Canberra, 13th May, 1931.

3. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF MEETING.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister), moved, pursuant to notice, That, until otherwise ordered, this House shall meet for the despatch of business at half-past ten o'clock on each Friday morning.  
Debate ensued.  
Question—put and passed.
4. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—PROPOSED CONFERENCE OF MEMBERS OF COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing that the Government was prepared to adjourn the House and arrange a Conference of Members of the Commonwealth Parliament to consider the economic and financial problems of the Commonwealth.  
Mr. Lyons (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr. Beasley, by leave, also made Statements with reference to the matter.
5. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDERS OF THE DAY.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That Orders of the Day Nos. 1 and 2, Government Business, be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 3.  
Debate ensued.  
Question put.  
The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 53.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Lacey
Mr. Bell	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Long
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lyons
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Chifley	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Marr
Mr. Crouch	Mr. Martens
Mr. Culley	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Curtin	Mr. McNeill
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Forde	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Parkhill
Mr. Frost	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Prowse
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Gibbons	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Tully
Mr. Guy	Mr. Watkins
Mr. Hill	Mr. Yates
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. Hunter	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Keane	
Mr. Killen	

*Tellers:*

Mr. Bayley  
Mr. E. C. Riley

Noes, 7.

Mr. Beasley  
Mr. Hawker  
Mr. James  
Mr. Morgan  
Mr. White

*Tellers:*

Mr. Fenton  
Mr. Ward

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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6. NORTHERN TERRITORY (ADMINISTRATION) BILL (1930).—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration, in Committee, of the whole House of the Senate's Message No. 116, and the Report from the Conference with the Managers for the Senate—  
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

*(In the Committee.)*

Motion previously moved (*see page 613*) by Mr. Blakeley (Minister for Home Affairs), viz. :—That the Committee does not now insist on disagreeing to the Amendments made and insisted on by the Senate—further debated and agreed to.  
Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. McGrath reported accordingly.

Mr. Blakeley moved, That the Report be adopted.

Question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Makin, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 56.		Noes, 4.
Mr. Anstey	Mr. Long	Mr. Beasley
Mr. Bell	Mr. Lyons	Mr. James
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Mackay	
Mr. Brennan	Mr. W. Maloney	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Marr	Mr. Gabb
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Martens	Mr. Ward
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Maxwell	
Mr. Crouch	Mr. McGrath	
Mr. Culley	Mr. McNeill	
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Parker Moloney	
Mr. Curtin	Mr. Morgan	
Mr. Cusack	Mr. Nairn	
Mr. Fenton	Mr. Parkhill	
Mr. Forde	Mr. Thomas Paterson	
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Prowse	
Mr. Frost	Mr. Edward Riley	
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Rowe	
Mr. Gibbons	Mr. Scullin	
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. Stewart	
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Theodore	
Mr. Guy	Mr. Thompson	
Mr. Hawker	Mr. Tully	
Mr. Hill	Mr. Watkins	
Mr. Holloway	Mr. White	
Mr. Hunter	Mr. Yates	
Mr. Jones		
Mr. Killen	<i>Tellers:</i>	
Mr. Lacey	Mr. Bayley	
Mr. Lewis	Mr. E. C. Riley	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

7. WAYS AND MEANS [CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 9) AND EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 9)].—  
The House, according to order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

*(In the Committee.)*

[*See proposed Resolutions for Customs and Excise Tariff Amendment of the 26th March, 1931 (pages 508-569).*]

Postponed Item numbered 10 considered, by leave.

Mr. Hawker moved, That the Item be further postponed.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and negatived.

Item agreed to.

Item numbered 23 debated and agreed to.

Item numbered 24, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
24. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :— “ 24. Cigars, including the weight of bands and ribbons - per lb.	20s.	20s.	20s.”

14th May, 1931.

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
—			
“ And on and after 15th May, 1931			
24. Cigars, including the weight of bands and ribbons ; whether wholly or partially of labour and material of the country of origin - - - - - per lb.	18s.	19s.	20s.”

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. McGrath, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 23.

Noes, 35.

Mr. Bell	Mr. Morgan	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Keane
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Lacey
Mr. Bernard Corser	Mr. Parkhill	Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Thomas Paterson	Mr. Chitley	Mr. Makin
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Price	Mr. Coleman	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Crouch	Mr. Martens
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Stewart	Mr. Culley	Mr. McNeill
Mr. Hawker	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Hill		Mr. Curtin	Mr. Rowe
Mr. Killen		Mr. Cusack	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Mackay	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Fenton	Mr. Theodore
Mr. Marr	Mr. Bayley	Mr. Forde	Mr. Ward
Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Gardner	Mr. Frost	Mr. Watkins
		Mr. Gabb	Mr. Yates
		Mr. Gibbons	
		Mr. Albert Green	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. E. C. Riley
		Mr. James	Mr. Tully
		Mr. Jones	

And so it was negatived.

Item agreed to.

Item numbered 27 agreed to.

Item numbered 38, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
—			
38. By omitting the whole item and inserting in its stead the following item :—			
“ 38. Biscuits - - - - - per lb.	3d.	4d.	4d.”

Debate ensued.

Mr. Roland Green moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
—			
“ And on and after 15th May, 1931			
38. Biscuits - - - - - per lb.	1½d.	2d.	2d.”

Debate continued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided (The Chairman, Mr. McGrath, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 16.

Noes, 34.

Mr. Bell	Mr. Maxwell	Mr. Anstey	Mr. Keane
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Nairn	Mr. Beasley	Mr. Lewis
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Parkhill	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Makin
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Thomas Paterson	Mr. Brennan	Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Gullett	Mr. Prowse	Mr. Chifley	Mr. Martens
Mr. Hill		Mr. Coleman	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Lyons	<i>Tellers:</i>	Mr. Crouch	Mr. Morgan
Mr. Mackay	Mr. Bayley	Mr. Cunningham	Mr. Price
Mr. Marr	Mr. Gardner	Mr. Curtin	Mr. Edward Riley
		Mr. Cusack	Mr. Rowe
		Mr. Fenton	Mr. Scullin
		Mr. Forde	Mr. Theodore
		Mr. Frost	Mr. Tully
		Mr. Gabb	Mr. Ward
		Mr. Gibbons	
		Mr. Albert Green	<i>Tellers:</i>
		Mr. Holloway	Mr. E. C. Riley
		Mr. Jones	Mr. Watkins

And so it was negatived.

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Item agreed to.  
 Item numbered 43 debated and agreed to.  
 Item numbered 44—  
 Mr. Josiah Francis moved, That the Item be postponed.  
 Debate ensued.  
 Question—put and negatived.  
 Debate continued.  
 Item agreed to.  
 Item numbered 51 debated and postponed.  
 Item numbered 53 debated and agreed to.  
 Item numbered 54 debated and agreed to.  
 Item numbered 56 debated—  
 Mr. Gregory rising to address the Committee—  
*Closure moved.*—Mr. Beasley moved, That the question be now put.  
 Question—That the question be now put—put and negatived.  
 Debate continued.  
 Item agreed to.  
 Item numbered 58 agreed to.  
 Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

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The House resumed ; Mr. McGrath reported accordingly.  
 Resolved—That the House will, at the next sitting, again resolve itself into the said Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Scullin (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
 Debate ensued.  
 Question—put and passed.

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

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MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Malcolm Cameron, Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Latham, Mr. Lazzarini, Mr. Marks, Mr. Mathews, Mr. Earle Page, and Mr. Riordan.

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