

1932.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 40.

THURSDAY, 15TH SEPTEMBER, 1932.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. H. Mackay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Act—Report of the Repatriation Commission for the year ended 30th June, 1932.
 Iron and Steel Products Bounty Act—Return for 1931–32.
 Norfolk Island Act—Ordinances of 1932—
 No. 2—Customs.
 No. 3—Post and Telegraph.
 No. 4—Lunacy.
3. WESTERN AUSTRALIA—EXCLUSIVE POWER BY STATE TO ENACT CUSTOMS AND EXCISE LEGISLATION.—
 Mr. Gregory moved, pursuant to notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that legislation should be enacted to provide for the submission to the electors of a proposal to alter the Constitution with a view to enabling the Parliament to grant to the State of Western Australia the exclusive power of enacting laws relating to Customs and of Excise within that State for a period of 25 years from the date of granting such power; provided that any such laws of such State shall not impose any duties of Customs or of Excise on goods produced or manufactured in any other State of the Commonwealth.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Lyons (Prime Minister) addressing the House and not having concluded his speech—the House ordered that the Right Honorable Member have leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.
 Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for Thursday, the 6th October next.
4. POSTPONEMENT OF NOTICE OF MOTION.—Ordered—That Notice of Motion No. 2, General Business, be postponed until Thursday, the 6th October next.
5. CONSTITUTION ALTERATION TO ABOLISH STATE GOVERNORS, AGENTS-GENERAL, ETC.—Mr. W. Maloney moved, pursuant to notice, That, in view of the fact that the majority of the citizens of Australia at the time Federation was inaugurated were led to believe—
 (1) That there would be only one Governor over the whole Commonwealth;
 (2) That there would be a cessation of the six various State Governors with all their attendant expenses;
 (3) That there would be a cessation of the six State Agents-General;
 (4) That there would be a cessation of the six State Chief Justices, and only one Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia;
 (5) That there would be a cessation of the Legislative Councils of the State Parliaments;
 it is the opinion of this House, in view of the present financial crisis with all its serious consequences, that a referendum of the citizens of Australia should be taken to bring into law the wishes of the citizens when voting for Federation, and that such referendum, to save expense, be taken on the same day that any other referendum or Federal election takes place.

15th September, 1932.

Debate ensued..

Member named.—Mr. Speaker named the honorable Member for Herbert (Mr. Martens) for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

Mr. Fenton (Postmaster-General) having addressed the House, and Mr. Martens having expressed his regret, the matter was not further proceeded with.

Debate continued.

Mr. Fenton 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 Thursday, the 27th October next.

6. PRIMARY PRODUCERS' ORGANIZATION TO CONTROL MARKETING.—Mr. Bernard Corser moved, pursuant to notice, That in the opinion of this House it is desirable that constitutional alterations be provided to make possible the organization of primary producers on an Australian basis with complete sectional control of the internal and external marketing of each primary product, such control to be exercised exclusively by the organized producers of such commodity, which would enable the producers of each commodity to speak with one voice and authority in regard to any arrangement which may be deemed by them to be necessary to conserve their interests.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Fenton (Postmaster-General) moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

Mr. Fenton moved, That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for Thursday, the 6th October next.

Question—put.

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

| Ayes, 38. | | Noes, 18. |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Mr. Blacklow | Mr. Marr | Mr. Baker |
| Mr. Malcolm Cameron | Mr. Maxwell | Mr. Beasley |
| Mr. Casey | Mr. McBride | Mr. Blakeley |
| Mr. Thomas Collins | Mr. McNicoll | Mr. Bernard Corser |
| Mr. Dein | Mr. Nairn | Mr. Forde |
| Mr. Dennis | Mr. Nock | Mr. Gabb |
| Mr. Fenton | Mr. Earle Page | Mr. Holloway |
| Mr. Josiah Francis | Mr. Parkhill | Mr. James |
| Mr. Roland Green | Mr. Thomas Paterson | Mr. Makin |
| Mr. Gregory | Mr. Perkins | Mr. W. Maloney |
| Sir Littleton Groom | Mr. Price | Mr. Martens |
| Mr. E. F. Harrison | Mr. Prowse | Mr. Rosevear |
| Mr. E. J. Harrison | Mr. Stacey | Mr. Scullin |
| Mr. Holman | Mr. Frederick Stewart | Mr. Thompson |
| Mr. Hutchin | Mr. William Watson | Mr. Ward |
| Mr. Hutchinson | Mr. White | Mr. Watkins |
| Mr. Jennings | | |
| Mr. Lane | <i>Tellers:</i> | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr. Latham | Mr. Gardner | Mr. Gander |
| Mr. Lyons | Mr. Hunter | Mr. E. C. Riley |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

7. SALES TAX—PROPOSED ABOLITION.—Mr. White moved, pursuant to notice, That, in view of the following facts :—

- (1) That the Sales Tax is a factor in keeping up the cost of living ;
- (2) That the Sales Tax is a harassing and irritating hindrance to trade and an indirect cause of unemployment ;
- (3) That there is (a) much unnecessary labour and trouble in rendering returns and making adjustments, (b) expense involved in securities paid, (c) misunderstanding regarding who and what are taxable ;
- (4) That there is large Government expenditure involved in labour and stationery in collecting the Sales Tax ;

it is the opinion of this House that a Turnover Tax of 1½ per cent., which could be administered by the Income Tax Department and which would bring in equivalent revenue and make a large saving in administrative expenditure, be introduced for a period of two years, and the Sales Tax abolished.

Debate ensued.

Mr. E. J. Harrison addressing the House—

Closure moved.—Mr. Ward moved, That the question be now put.

15th September, 1932.

Question—That the question be now put—put.

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

Ayes, 9.

Mr. Beasley
Mr. Gander
Mr. James
Mr. Makin
Mr. W. Maloney
Mr. Ward
Mr. William Watson

Tellers:

Mr. Gabb
Mr. Rosevear

Noes, 36.

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Mr. Blacklow | Mr. Marr |
| Mr. Malcolm Cameron | Mr. Maxwell |
| Mr. Casey | Mr. McBride |
| Mr. Thomas Collins | Mr. McNicoll |
| Mr. Bernard Corser | Mr. Nairn |
| Mr. Dein | Mr. Nock |
| Mr. Dennis | Mr. Parkhill |
| Mr. Fenton | Mr. Thomas Paterson |
| Mr. Josiah Francis | Mr. Perkins |
| Mr. Roland Green | Mr. Price |
| Mr. E. F. Harrison | Mr. Prowse |
| Mr. E. J. Harrison | Mr. Stacey |
| Mr. Holman | Mr. Frederick Stewart |
| Mr. Hutchin | Mr. Thompson |
| Mr. Hutchinson | Mr. White |
| Mr. Jennings | |
| Mr. Lane | |
| Mr. Latham | |
| Mr. Lyons | |

Tellers:

Mr. Gardner
Mr. Hunter

And so it was negatived.

Mr. E. J. Harrison asked leave to continue his speech when the debate is resumed.

Objection being raised, leave not granted.

Ordered—That the debate be now adjourned, and that the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for Thursday, the 6th October next.

The time allotted for precedence to General Business having expired, Government Business was called on.

8. SUPPLY ["GRIEVANCE DAY"].—Pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 241, the Order of the Day having been read for going into the Committee of Supply—

Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Lyons (Prime Minister) moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put and passed.

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

9. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—HIGH COMMISSIONER BILL (1932).—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 45.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'High Commissioner Act 1909'*," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

P. J. LYNCH,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 15th September, 1932.

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

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Aubrey Abbott, Mr. Anstey, Mr. Bruce*, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Gullett, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Hill, Mr. Hughes*, Mr. Nelson, and Mr. Scholfield.

* On leave.

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