

1937-38-39.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA. CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 108.

WEDNESDAY, 20TH SEPTEMBER, 1939.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. J. Bell) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. BROADCASTING OF OVERSEAS WAR NEWS—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Sir Henry Gullett (Minister for Information), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of the arrangements made at the conference held in Melbourne on Monday last for the broadcasting of overseas war news by broadcasting stations in Australia.
Mr. Curtin (Leader of the Opposition) and Mr. Cameron, by leave, also made Statements with reference to the matter.
3. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
High Commissioner for Australia in London—Report for 1938.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
4. PRECEDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BUSINESS.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Government Business shall take precedence over General Business at the next sitting.
Question—put and passed.
5. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER No. 70.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That Standing Order No. 70 (eleven o'clock rule) be suspended for the remainder of this week.
Debate ensued.
Question—put and passed.
6. AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION BILL 1939.—Mr. Harrison (Postmaster-General) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Australian Broadcasting Commission Act 1932*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Harrison 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—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.
7. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL 1939.—Mr. Spender (Minister assisting the Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936-1938*.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Spender 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.
Mr. Spender moved, by leave, That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
Question—put and passed.
8. SALES TAX EXEMPTIONS BILL 1939.—Mr. Spender (Minister assisting the Treasurer) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Sales Tax Exemptions Act 1935-1938* to exempt certain Defence Supplies and Plant and Building Materials for use in connexion with the manufacture of Defence Supplies.
Question—put and passed.
Mr. Spender 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.
Mr. Spender moved, by leave, That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for a later hour this day.
Question—put and passed.
9. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENTS (Nos. 7 and 9).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolutions for Customs Tariff Amendments of the 3rd May, 1939 (pages 350-4), and of the 14th September, 1939 (pages 464-70)].

20th September, 1939.

General debate resumed on the first Item.
Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Nairn reported accordingly.

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

10. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered—That the intervening business be postponed until after Orders of the Day Nos. 1 to 3, General Business.

11. DEFENCE BILL (No. 2) 1939.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Ward moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Street (Minister for Defence) 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 a later hour this day.

12. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 2, General Business, be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 3.

13. SUPPLY AND DEVELOPMENT BILL (No. 2) 1939.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Holloway moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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 and 2 agreed to.

Clause 3—

On the motion of Mr. Holt (Minister assisting the Minister for Supply and Development), the following amendment was made, after debate:—Page 1, omit all words after “amended” (line 12) to the end of the clause, insert “—

(a) by omitting from sub-section (3.) the definition of ‘employee’ and inserting in its stead the following definition:—

“‘employee’ means employee not being a person who is an officer within the meaning of the *Commonwealth Public Service Act 1922-1937*;’; and

(b) by omitting from the definition of ‘trade union’ in sub-section (3.) the words ‘but does not include an association of employees in the Public Service’.”

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Nairn reported accordingly.

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

14. REGULATIONS BILL 1939.—The Order of the Day having been read for the second reading—Mr. Blackburn moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Lane 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 a later hour this day.

15. AIR EXPEDITIONARY FORCE—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Menzies (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing that the Government had decided to offer to the United Kingdom Government the services of personnel for six air squadrons, consisting of four bomber squadrons and two two-seater fighting squadrons.

16. REGULATIONS BILL 1939.—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.

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

Ayes, 28.

Noes, 34.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. McHugh
Mr. Beasley	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Blackburn	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Clark	Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Forde	Mr. Spurr
Mr. Frost	Mr. Ward
Mr. Holloway	Mr. Watkins
Mr. James	Mr. Wilson
Mr. Lazzarini	
Mr. Mahoney	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Makin	Mr. Gander
Mr. Martens	Mr. George Lawson

Mr. Anthony	Sir Charles Marr
Mr. Badman	Mr. McEwen
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Nairn
Mr. Casey	Mr. Paterson
Mr. Collins	Mr. Perkins
Mr. Corser	Mr. Price
Mr. Fadden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Fairbairn	Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Francis	Mr. Spender
Mr. Harrison	Mr. Stacey
Mr. Holt	Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Street
Mr. Hunter	Mr. Thorby
Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. White
Mr. Jennings	
Mr. Jolly	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Lane	Mr. Gardner
Mr. John Lawson	Mr. Nock

And so it was negatived.

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17. DEFENCE BILL (No. 2) 1939.—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. Blackburn 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.
18. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENTS (NOS. 7 AND 9).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolutions for Customs Tariff Amendments of the 3rd May, 1939 (pages 350-4), and of the 14th September, 1939 (pages 464-70)].

General debate resumed on the first Item.

The Committee continuing to sit until after midnight—

THURSDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER, 1939.

General debate concluded.

Mr. John Lawson (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved—That that portion of the Tariff Resolution described as Customs Tariff Proposals No. 9 introduced into the House of Representatives on 14th September, 1939, be incorporated in the present proposals as on and from 15th September, 1939, in lieu of the corresponding Items of the Tariff Resolution introduced into the House of Representatives on the 3rd May, 1939.

Question—put and passed.

Item 161 (with amendment of 14th September, 1939, incorporated) agreed to.

Item 176 (with amendment of 14th September, 1939, incorporated) agreed to.

Item 179 (with amendment of 14th September, 1939, incorporated) agreed to.

Item 180 (with amendment of 14th September, 1939, incorporated) agreed to.

Item 181, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
181. By omitting the whole of paragraph (2) of sub-item (A) and inserting in its stead the following paragraph :— “(2) Valves for wireless telegraphy and telephony, including rectifying valves - - - each or ad val. whichever rate returns the higher duty.”	2s. 3d. 20 per cent.	4s. 40 per cent.

On the motion of Mr. John Lawson, the Item was amended by adding the following:—

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<p>—</p> <p>“ And on and after 21st September, 1939</p> <p>(2) Valves for wireless telegraphy and telephony including rectifying valves</p> <p>each</p> <p>And for each £1 by which the equivalent in Australian currency of £100 sterling is less than £125 at the date of exportation</p> <p>each</p> <p>or ad val.</p> <p>whichever rate returns the higher duty.”</p>	<p>2s. 3d.</p> <p>.12d.</p> <p>20 per cent.</p>	<p>3s. 6d.</p> <p>.12d.</p> <p>40 per cent.</p>	<p>4s.</p> <p>.12d.</p> <p>40 per cent.</p>

Item, as amended, agreed to.

Item 208 agreed to.

Item 351 (with amendment of 14th September, 1939, incorporated) agreed to.

Item 359 (with amendment of 14th September, 1939, incorporated) agreed to.

Item 397 agreed to.

Preliminary paragraphs—

On the motion of Mr. John Lawson, the preliminary paragraph of Customs Tariff Amendment (No. 7) was omitted, and the following preliminary paragraph inserted in place thereof :—

"That the Schedule to the *Customs Tariff* 1933-1939 be amended as hereinafter set out, and that, on and after the fourth day of May, One thousand nine hundred and thirty-nine, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the *Customs Tariff* 1933-1939 as so amended".

Preliminary paragraphs, as amended, agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Price reported accordingly.

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

Mr. John Lawson moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

20th and 21st September, 1939.

Question—put and passed.

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

Ordered—That Mr. John Lawson and Mr. Fairbairn do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

19. CUSTOMS TARIFF BILL (No. 2) 1939.—Mr. John Lawson (Minister for Trade and Customs) then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Customs*", and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. John Lawson 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.)

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Price reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. John Lawson, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

20. WAYS AND MEANS—EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 2).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolution for Excise Tariff Amendment of the 4th May, 1938 (page 82)].

Item 19 agreed to.

Preliminary paragraph—

On the motion of Mr. John Lawson (Minister for Trade and Customs), the preliminary paragraph was omitted, and the following preliminary paragraph inserted in place thereof:—

"That the Schedule to the *Excise Tariff* 1921–1936 as amended by the *Excise Tariff* 1938 and the *Excise Tariff* (No. 2) 1938 be further amended as hereunder set out, and that on and after the fifth day of May, One thousand nine hundred and thirty-eight, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, reckoned according to standard time in the Australian Capital Territory, Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the *Excise Tariff* 1921–1936 as so amended".

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

The House resumed; Mr. Price reported accordingly.

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

Mr. John Lawson moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

Ordered—That Mr. John Lawson and Mr. Fairbairn do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

21. EXCISE TARIFF BILL 1939.—Mr. John Lawson (Minister for Trade and Customs) then brought up a Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to Duties of Excise*", and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. John Lawson 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.)

Clauses 1 to 4 agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Price reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. John Lawson, the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

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

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolution for Customs Tariff (Exchange Adjustment) Amendment of the 14th September, 1939 (page 470)].

The motion previously moved by Mr. John Lawson (Minister for Trade and Customs) was agreed to.

20th and 21st September, 1939.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Price reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
Mr. John Lawson moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

Ordered—That Mr. John Lawson and Mr. Fairbairn do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

23. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF (CANADIAN PREFERENCE) AMENDMENT (No. 2).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolution for Customs Tariff (Canadian Preference) Amendment of the 14th September, 1939 (page 470)].

The motion previously moved by Mr. John Lawson (Minister for Trade and Customs) was agreed to.
Resolution to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed ; Mr. Price reported accordingly.

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

Mr. John Lawson moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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

Ordered—That Mr. John Lawson and Mr. Fairbairn do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

24. WAYS AND MEANS—CUSTOMS TARIFF AMENDMENT (No. 8).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolution for Customs Tariff Amendment of the 8th September, 1939 (pages 453–6)].

Items 1, 3 and 122 agreed to.

Item 229 debated.

Question—That the Item be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 12.

Mr. Fairbairn
Mr. Harrison
Mr. Hutchinson
Mr. John Lawson
Sir Charles Marr
Mr. Nairn
Mr. Perkins
Mr. Spender
Sir Frederick Stewart
Mr. Street

Tellers:

Mr. Gardner
Mr. Jolly

Noes, 40.

Mr. Anthony
Mr. Badman
Mr. Barnard
Mr. Beasley
Mr. Blackburn
Mr. Brennan
Mr. Cameron
Mr. Clark
Mr. Collins
Mr. Conelan
Mr. Corser
Mr. Drakeford
Mr. Fadden
Mr. Forde
Mr. Frost
Mr. Holloway
Mr. James
Mr. Jennings
Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Makin
Mr. Martens

Mr. McEwen
Mr. McHugh
Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Nock
Mr. Paterson
Mr. Pollard
Mr. Rankin
Mr. Riordan
Mr. Rosevear
Mr. Scholfield
Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Spurr
Mr. Stacey
Mr. Thorby
Mr. Ward
Mr. Watkins
Mr. Wilson

Tellers:

Mr. Gander
Mr. George Lawson

And so it was negatived.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Price reported accordingly.

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

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25. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Defence Equipment Bill 1939*].—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 104.

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 Defence purposes*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

J. B. HAYES,
President.

The Senate,

Canberra, 20th September, 1939.

[*Sales Tax Assessment Bill (No. 5) 1939*].—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 105.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the 'Sales Tax Assessment Act (No. 5) 1930-1936'*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

J. B. HAYES,
President.

The Senate,

Canberra, 20th September, 1939.

26. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Street (Minister for Defence) moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes past two o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past two o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Gregory, Mr. McCall, and Mr. Prowse.

F. C. GREEN,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.