

1946-47-48.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 138.

TUESDAY, 8TH JUNE, 1948.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. ALTERATION OF HOUR OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until to-morrow at half-past ten o'clock a.m.
Question—put and passed.
3. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—
Arbitration (Public Service) Act—Determinations by the Arbitrator, &c.—1948—
No. 32—Federated Ironworkers' Association of Australia; Amalgamated Engineering Union; and Australasian Society of Engineers.
No. 33—Actors and Announcers' Equity Association of Australia.
Nos. 34 and 35—Professional Officers' Association, Commonwealth Public Service.
Commonwealth Bank Act—Appointment—E. H. A. Graham.
Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointment—Department of the Interior—J. T. Gray.
Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act—National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations—Orders—Inventions and designs (93).
Lands Acquisition Act—Land acquired for Repatriation Commission purposes—Turramurra, New South Wales.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WESTERN AUSTRALIA GRANT BILL 1948.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker:—

W. J. McKELL,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 81.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General recommends to the House of Representatives that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purpose of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the purpose of Financial Assistance to the State of Western Australia.

Canberra, 7th June, 1948.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, forthwith.

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purpose of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the purpose of Financial Assistance to the State of Western Australia.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Sheehy reported accordingly.

Mr. Chifley 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.

8th June, 1948.

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

Ordered—That Mr. Chifley and Mr. Dedman do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Chifley 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. Chifley moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Harrison (Acting Leader of the Opposition) 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.

5. APPLE AND PEAR ORGANIZATION BILL 1948.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Apple and Pear Organization Act 1938-1947*.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Harrison (Acting Leader of the Opposition) 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.

6. INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT BILL 1948.—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.

Ordered—That Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) be granted extensions of time (2).

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.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2—

Mr. McBride moved, as an amendment, That the following words be added to the clause:—"but this Act shall not be submitted for the Royal Assent until it has been approved by a majority of the registered wheatgrowers of Australia at a ballot of wheatgrowers held for that purpose".

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 20.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hamilton
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Harrison
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Holt
Mr. Beale	Mr. McBride
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Davidson	Mr. White
Mr. Fadden	
Mr. Falkinder	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Francis	Mr. Corser
Mr. Gullett	Mr. McDonald

Noes, 33.

Mr. Barnard	Mr. Langtry
Mr. Beazley	Mr. Lawson
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Lazzarini
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lemmon
Mr. Chambers	Mr. McLeod
Mr. Conelan	Mr. Mulcahy
Mr. Daly	Mr. O'Connor
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Pollard
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Riordan
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Russell
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Scully
Mr. Evatt	Mr. Sheehy
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Ward
Mr. Gaha	
Mr. Holloway	
Mr. James	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Lang	Mr. Sheehan

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 3 debated—

Mr. Cameron moved, as an amendment, That the following definition be added to the clause:—" ' guaranteed prices ' means the minimum prices mentioned in Article VI., paragraph 1, as set out in the Schedule to this Act, and the payment of such minimum prices to the wheatgrowers of Australia is guaranteed by the Commonwealth Government during the currency of this Agreement ".

Debate continued.

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman ruled the amendment out of order as it was not relevant to the clause.

Dissent from Chairman's Ruling.—Mr. Cameron having handed in, in writing, an objection to the Ruling of the Chairman, moved, That the Ruling be dissented from.

8th June, 1948.

Question—That the Ruling be dissented from—put.

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

Ayes, 20.

Mr. Abbott	Mr. Hamilton
Mr. Adermann	Mr. Harrison
Mr. Anthony	Mr. Holt
Mr. Beale	Mr. McBride
Mr. Bowden	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Cameron	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Davidson	Mr. White
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Mr. Gaha	
Mr. Holloway	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. James	Mr. Fuller
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Sheehan
Mr. Lang	

And so it was negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 4 agreed to.

Mr. Fadden moved, by leave, That clause 4 be reconsidered.

Question—put and passed.

Clause 4 reconsidered.

Debate ensued.

Clause agreed to.

Proposed new clause—

Mr. Cameron proposing to move, That the following new clause be inserted in the Bill :—

“5. The Commonwealth Government guarantees to the wheatgrowers of Australia the minimum prices for wheat named in Article VI., paragraph 1, of the Schedule to this Act.”—

Chairman's Ruling.—The Chairman ruled that the proposed clause would not be in order as it would commit the Consolidated Revenue to a financial liability not recommended by the Governor-General.

Schedule debated and agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

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.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Blain, Mr. Burke, Mr. Calwell, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Hadley, Mr. Haylen, Mr. Howse, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Menzies, Sir Earle Page, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Scullin, Mr. Spender, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Watkins and Mr. Williams.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.