

1948.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 38.

TUESDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER, 1948.

1. The House met, at three o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—The Deputy Speaker (Mr. Clark) 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. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILLS.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were received, and were read by Mr. Deputy Speaker :—

W. J. McKELL,

Governor-General.

Message No. 13.

Proposed Laws intituled :—

“ *Appropriation Act 1948-49* ”

“ *Appropriation (Works and Services) Act 1948-49* ”

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 Laws.

Government House,

Canberra, 30th October, 1948.

W. J. McKELL,

Governor-General.

Message No. 14.

A Proposed Law intituled “ *Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Act 1948* ” 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, 4th November, 1948.

4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—

Commonwealth Public Service Act—Appointments—Department—

Interior—J. Cassidy, S. H. Kyle-Little, J. Scherrenberg.

Labour and National Service—W. M. Hurley.

Stevedoring Industry Act—Orders—1948, Nos. 17-31, 33.

5. WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION 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. Rankin be granted an extension of time.

Debate continued.

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

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

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

9th November, 1948.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

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

6. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION BILL 1948.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Deputy Speaker :—

W. J. McKELL,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 15.*

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 relating to the Stabilization of the Wheat Industry.

Canberra, 3rd November, 1948.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purpose of a Bill for an Act relating to the Stabilization of the Wheat Industry.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Burke reported accordingly.

The said Resolution was read, and, on the motion of Mr. Pollard, by leave, was adopted by the House.

7. WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION BILL 1948.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—

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

(In the Committee.)

Clauses 1 to 4 agreed to.

Clause 5—

Mr. Turnbull proposing to move, as an amendment, That the following words be added to sub-clause (1.) :—" plus a reasonable margin of profit to be assessed by a special committee to be set up for the purpose "—

Deputy Chairman's Ruling.—The Deputy Chairman (Mr. Burke) ruled the amendment out of order on the ground that it would create a contingent liability on the Consolidated Revenue.

Debate continued.

Mr. Hamilton proposing to move, as an amendment, That the following sub-clause be added to the clause :—

" (3.) Except for the harvest of the 1948-49 season, the guaranteed price shall be adjusted from season to season by such amount as will ensure the payment of full cost of production, plus a reasonable margin of profit, including an allowance for wages for a farmer working and/or managing his property which will be in relation to the rate of pay and allowance and overtime provided for in awards covering workers required to possess comparable skill and experience, and shall further include such an interest return on capital investment as will be reasonable having regard to the risks of wheatgrowing as an industry and to the average return on capital invested in other trades and industries."—

Deputy Chairman's Ruling.—The Deputy Chairman ruled the amendment out of order on the ground that it would create a contingent liability on the Consolidated Revenue.

Debate continued.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Sheehan reported accordingly.

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

8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—STATES GRANTS (TAX REIMBURSEMENT) BILL 1948.—Mr. Deputy Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER,

Message No. 7.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "*An Act to amend the States Grants (Tax Reimbursement) Act 1946-1947*", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,

Canberra, 9th November, 1948.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

9th November, 1948.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at 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. Beazley, Mr. Blain, Mr. Evatt*, Mr. Falstein, Mr. Gaha, Mr. Hadley, Mr. Holt*, Mr. Howse*, Mr. James*, Mr. Menzies*, Mr. Mulcahy*, Mr. Rosevear*, Mr. Scullin*, Mr. Sheehy* and Mr. Ward.

* On leave.

F. C. GREEN,

Clerk of the House of Representatives.