

1904.

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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

No. 121.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 1904.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.

2. PREFERENTIAL TRADE BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE COLONIES.—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the debate on the question—

Inasmuch as every increase in trade between the Mother Country and the Colonies or any of them would be of mutual advantage commercially, while collectively, by multiplying their production, profitable employment, population, and exchanges, such increases must enhance the unity and power of the Empire, this House resolves that—

- (1) The encouragement of industry and commerce within the Empire is a high national aim of paramount importance to all its peoples.
- (2) The proposals of the Secretary of State for the Colonies at the Colonial Conference of 1902 as then approved and since tentatively defined in order to foster inter-Imperial trade, outline a patriotic and statesman-like policy of internal development and external influence, whose details should be discussed by a further conference at the earliest opportunity.
- (3) The Prime Minister be requested to consider the existing openings for preferential trade relations between Australia and other Colonies.
- (4) The Prime Minister be invited to obtain all data necessary for the preparation of a measure granting a preference to British imports into Australia which compete solely with imports from foreign countries.
- (5) The Prime Minister is hereby authorized, for and on behalf of the Commonwealth, to offer to the Government of the United Kingdom a preference upon its exports to Australia in return for a preference upon our exports to Great Britain and Ireland, such preferences to be reciprocally adjusted according to Schedules sanctioned by Parliament—

Debate resumed.

Mr. Webster moved, That the debate be now adjourned.

And after debate—

Question—That the debate be now adjourned—put.

The House divided—

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Brown,	Mr. Poynton,
Mr. Joseph Cook,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. R. Edwards,	Mr. Robinson,
Mr. Glynn,	Mr. Bruce Smith,
Mr. Hutchison,	Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Johnson,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. David Thomson,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Dugald Thomson.
Mr. Liddell,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. McDonald,	Mr. Tudor,
Mr. O'Malley,	Mr. Wilks.

Noes, 17.

Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Hume Cook,	Mr. Ronald,
Mr. Deakin,	Mr. Salmon,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Skene,
Mr. Gibb,	Mr. Webster.
Mr. Isaacs,	
Mr. Knox,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. Maloney,	
Mr. McCay,	Mr. Kennedy,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. McColl.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered—That the resumption of the debate be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

14th December, 1904.

3. PAPER.—Mr. Speaker presented—

Finance 1903-4.—The Treasurer's Statement of Receipts and Expenditure during the year ended 30th June, 1904, accompanied by the Report of the Auditor-General.

Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.

4. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—APPROPRIATION BILL 1904-5.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 24.

The Senate has agreed to the Bill returned herewith, intituled "*A Bill for an Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and five, and to appropriate the supplies granted for such year in this session of the Parliament,*" without requests.

R. C. BAKER,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 14th December, 1904.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—SEA-CARRIAGE OF GOODS BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 26.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill intituled "*A Bill for an Act relating to the Sea-Carriage of Goods,*" and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to Nos. 1, 4, and 6 of the amendments made by the House, has agreed to amendments Nos. 2 and 5 with amendments, and to amendment No. 3, with a consequential amendment in clause 4, as indicated by the annexed Schedule.

The Senate desires the concurrence of the House of Representatives in the amendments to the amendments of the House of Representatives.

R. C. BAKER,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 14th December, 1904.

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

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

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; Mr. Salmon reported that the Committee had agreed to the amendments made by the Senate.

And the said amendments were read, and are as follow:—

SCHEDULE OF THE AMENDMENTS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AGREED TO BY THE SENATE WITH AMENDMENTS—TO WHICH AMENDMENTS THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE HAS AGREED.

In amendment No. 2, viz.:—

No. 2.—Clause 3, page 1, after line 10, insert new sub-clause:—

"(2) This Act shall not apply to any bill of lading or document made before the thirtieth day of June One thousand nine hundred and five in pursuance of a contract or agreement entered into before the passing of this Act."

Amendment to insert new sub-clause (2) agreed to with the following amendment:—Leave out "passing of this Act," insert "seventeenth day of November, One thousand nine hundred and four."

In amendment No. 3, viz.:—

No. 3.—Clause 4, page 2, line 2, after "diligence" insert "and to properly man, equip, and supply the ship, to make and keep the ship seaworthy."

Amendment agreed to with the following consequential amendment in clause 4:—In paragraph (b), leave out the first word "the," insert "any."

In amendment No. 5, viz.:—

No. 5.—After clause 6 insert new clause:—

"6A. (1) In every bill of lading or document with respect to goods a warranty shall be implied that the ship shall be, at the beginning of the voyage, seaworthy in all respects and properly manned, equipped, and supplied.

(2) In every bill of lading or document with respect to goods, unless the contrary intention appears, a clause shall be implied whereby, if the ship is at the beginning of the voyage seaworthy in all respects and properly manned, equipped, and supplied, neither the ship, nor her owner, master, agent, or charterer shall be responsible for damage to or loss of the goods resulting from—

(a) faults or errors in navigation, or

(b) perils of the sea or navigable waters, or

(c) acts of God or the King's enemies, or

(d) the inherent defect quality or vice of the goods, or

(e) the insufficiency of package of the goods, or

(f) the seizure of the goods under legal process, or

(g) any act of omission of the shipper or owner of the goods, his agent or representative,

or

(h) saving or attempting to save life or property at sea, or

(i) any deviation in saving or attempting to save life or property at sea."

14th December, 1904.

Amendment to insert new clause 6A agreed to with the following amendments :—

In line 1, leave out " or document."

In line 5, leave out " or document."

On the motion of Mr. Reid, the House adopted the Report.

6. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—PAPUA (BRITISH NEW GUINEA) BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 25.

The Senate has agreed to the Bill returned herewith intituled "*A Bill for an Act to provide for the acceptance of British New Guinea as a Territory under the authority of the Commonwealth, and for the Government thereof,*" with the amendments indicated in the annexed Schedule, in which amendments the Senate desires the concurrence of the House of Representatives.

R. C. BAKER,
President.

The Senate,
Melbourne, 14th December, 1904.

Ordered, after debate—That the consideration of the foregoing Message in Committee of the whole House be made an Order of the Day for to-morrow.

7. PAPERS.—Mr. Dugald Thomson presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—Public Service.—Particulars in regard to officers who have been paid increments under section 19 of the Victorian Public Service Act.

Ordered to lie on the Table.

Mr. Dugald Thomson presented, pursuant to the direction of an Act of Parliament—

Public Service Act 1902.—Amendment of Regulations (dated 7th December, 1904.—Statutory Rules 1904, No. 76).

8. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Reid moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and resolved in the affirmative.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present except—Mr. Batchelor, Sir Langdon Bonython, Mr. Cameron, Mr. Carpenter, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Conroy, Mr. Culpin, Mr. G. B. Edwards, Sir Philip Fysh, Mr. Groom, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Kingston, Mr. Mauger, Mr. McWilliams, Mr. Page, Sir John Quick, Mr. Storrer, Sir George Turner, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Wilkinson, and Mr. Willis.

C. GAVAN DUFFY,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.