

1920.

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THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

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No. 74.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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THURSDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER, 1920.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Railways of Australia—Break of Gauge Problem—Statement compiled by the Secretary to the Commonwealth Railways Commissioner.  
Ordered to lie on the Table.  
  
The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Papua Act—Infirm and Destitute Natives Account—Statement of the Transactions of the Trustees, 1919-20.  
War Gratuity Acts—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, No. 130.
3. 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.  
Sir Joseph Cook 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.
4. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, pursuant to Statute—  
Post and Telegraph Act—Regulations Amended—Statutory Rules 1920, Nos. 103, 106, 117, 120, 138, 139, 140, 144.  
F.255.

16th September, 1920.

5. MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ASSENT TO BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Deputy of the Governor-General was received, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

W. H. IRVINE,  
*Deputy of the Governor-General.*

*Message No. 29.*

A Bill intituled "*Supply Act (No. 3) 1920-21*," as finally passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth, having been presented to the Deputy of the Governor-General for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty, assented to the said Act.

Melbourne, 16th September, 1920.

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—ESTIMATES, 1920-1921.—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor-General were presented, and the same were read by Mr. Speaker :—

R. M. FERGUSON,  
*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 30.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

14th September, 1920.

R. M. FERGUSON,  
*Governor-General.*

*Message No. 31.*

In accordance with the requirements of section fifty-six of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Governor-General transmits to the House of Representatives Estimates of Expenditure for Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., for the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-one, and recommends an appropriation of the Consolidated Revenue Fund accordingly.

14th September, 1920.

Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and, together with the accompanying Estimates, to be printed and referred to the Committee of Supply.

7. SUPPLY [BUDGET STATEMENT].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

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(In the Committee.)

Sir Joseph Cook having delivered the Budget Speech, moved, That the first item in the Estimates, under Division I.—The Parliament—namely—

The President ... .. £1,100

be agreed to.

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

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The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

8. PAPER.—Sir Joseph Cook presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—

The Budget, 1920-21—Papers presented by the Right Honorable Sir Joseph Cook, P.C., G.C.M.G., M.P., for the information of honorable Members on the occasion of opening the Budget of 1920-21.

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

9. POSTPONEMENT OF BUSINESS.—Ordered, That Orders of the Day Nos. 2, 3, 4, and 5 be postponed until after Order of the Day, No. 6, Government Business.

10. WAYS AND MEANS [CUSTOMS AND EXCISE TARIFF AMENDMENT].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Greene moved, That Duties of Customs be imposed as follow :—

CUSTOMS TARIFF.

That on and after the Seventeenth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and twenty, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, Victorian time, the Tariff Resolution relating to Duties of Customs proposed in the House of Representatives on the twenty-fourth day of March, One thousand nine hundred and twenty, be amended as hereunder set out and that Duties of Customs be collected in pursuance of the Tariff Resolution as so amended.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

IMPORT DUTIES.

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
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DIVISION I.—ALE, SPIRITS, AND BEVERAGES.

1. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead :—

1. Ale and other Beer, Porter, Cider and Perry, spirituous—

(A) In bulk - - - - - per gallon	2s. 6d.	2s. 9d.	3s.
(B) In bottle* - - - - - per gallon	3s.	3s. 3d.	3s. 6d.

\* Six reputed quarts or twelve reputed pints or twenty-four reputed half-pints to be charged as one gallon.

3. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead :—

3. Spirits,† and spirituous liquors, n.e.i.—

† Spirits in cases of two gallons and under, to be charged as two gallons; over two gallons and not exceeding three gallons, as three gallons; over three gallons, and not exceeding four gallons, as four gallons; and so on, provided that small bottles or vials of liquor intended for samples or other special purposes only may be entered at actual measurement.

(A) Brandy—

(1) When not exceeding the strength of proof per gallon	30s.	30s.	31s.
(2) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	30s.	30s.	31s.

(B) Whisky, including Liqueur Whisky—

(1) When not exceeding the strength of proof per gallon	30s.	32s.	33s.
(2) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	30s.	32s.	33s.

(C) Gin, Liqueurs, and Bitters—

(1) When not exceeding the strength of proof per gallon	30s.	31s.	32s.
(2) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	30s.	31s.	32s.

(D) Rum, pure, distilled wholly from sugar, sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof and certified in the prescribed form by the competent Government official in the country of production to be pure Rum distilled wholly from sugar, sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, under the conditions specified—

(1) When not exceeding the strength of proof per gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.
(2) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.

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IMPORT DUTIES—*continued.*

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
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Division I.—Ale, Spirits, and Beverages—*continued.*3. Spirits, &c.—*continued.*

(E) Blended Rum, distilled wholly from sugar, sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure spirit which has been separately distilled from sugar, sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof and certified in the prescribed form by the competent Government official in the country of production to be Rum distilled wholly from sugar, sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, under the conditions specified and so blended—			
(1) When not exceeding the strength of proof per gallon	31s.	32s.	32s.
(2) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	31s.	32s.	32s.
(F) Spirit of strength not less than 65 per cent. over proof, denatured, or to be denatured prior to delivery—			
(1) The produce of Papua or of any island or territory belonging to or administered under mandate by the Commonwealth, may, subject to conditions as prescribed by Departmental By-laws, be delivered for use as motor fuel on payment of duty at 1d. per gallon.			
(2) N.E.I., as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - - per gallon	1s.	1s.	1s.
(G) Other—			
(1) When not exceeding the strength of proof per gallon	43s.	43s.	43s.
(2) When exceeding the strength of proof per proof gallon	43s.	43s.	43s.
4. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead :—			
4. Amylic Alcohol and Fusel Oil - - - per gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.
7. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead :—			
7. Bay Rum - - - - - per gallon	33s.	35s. 6d.	38s.
8. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead :—			
8. Perfumed Spirits - - - - - per gallon or ad val.	38s.	40s. 6d.	43s.
whichever rate returns the higher duty	35 per cent.	40 per cent.	45 per cent.

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IMPORT DUTIES—continued.

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
<b>Division I.—Ale, Spirits, and Beverages—continued.</b>			
9. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—			
9. Spirituous Preparations, viz.:—Essences, Fruit Ethers, Aromas and Flavours, Fluid Extracts, Sarsaparilla, Tinctures, Medicines, Infusions, Toilet Preparations, Limejuice and other Fruit Juices and Fruit Syrups, containing—			
(A) Not more than 25 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	7s. 6d.	7s. 9d.	7s. 9d.
(B) More than 25 per cent., but not more than 50 per cent. of proof spirit - - - per gallon	15s.	15s. 6d.	15s. 6d.
(C) More than 50 per cent., but not more than 75 per cent. of proof spirit - - - per gallon	22s. 6d.	23s. 3d.	23s. 3d.
(D) More than 75 per cent. of proof spirit, but not over proof - - - per gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.
(E) Over proof - - - per proof gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.
10. By omitting paragraph (c) and inserting the following paragraph in its stead:—			
(c) Containing more than 5 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.
13. By omitting paragraph (d) and inserting the following paragraph in its stead:—			
(d) Containing more than 40 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.
15. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—			
15. Wine, n.e.i., including Sake, Ginger, and Prune Wines; and Wines (other than Grape); containing:—			
(A) Not more than 25 per cent. of proof spirit per gallon	7s. 6d.	7s. 9d.	7s. 9d.
(B) More than 25 per cent., but not more than 50 per cent. of proof spirit - - - per gallon	15s.	15s. 6d.	15s. 6d.
(C) More than 50 per cent. of proof spirit - per gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.

**DIVISION II.—TOBACCO AND MANUFACTURES THEREOF.**

18. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—			
18. Tobacco, unmanufactured - - - per lb.	5s. 4d.	5s. 4d.	5s. 4d.
20. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—			
20. Tobacco, cut, n.e.i. - - - per lb.	5s. 7d.	5s. 7d.	5s. 7d.
21. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—			
21. Tobacco, manufactured n.e.i., including the weight of tags, labels, and other attachments - per lb.	5s. 4d.	5s. 4d.	5s. 4d.

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IMPORT DUTIES—*continued.*

Tariff Items.	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
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**Division II.—Tobacco and Manufactures thereof—*continued.***

22. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—			
22. Cigarettes, including weight of cards and mouth-pieces contained in inside packages; Fine Cut Tobacco, suitable for the manufacture of Cigarettes per lb.	11s. 6d.	12s.	12s.
24. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—			
24. Cigars, including the weight of bands and ribbons per lb.	11s.	12s.	12s.

**DIVISION IV.—AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS AND GROCERIES.**

54. By omitting paragraph (F) and inserting the following paragraph in its stead:—			
(F) When preserved in spirituous liquid, additional duty to be paid on the liquid - - - per gallon	30s.	31s.	31s.

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and that Duties of Excise be imposed as follow :—

EXCISE TARIFF.

That on and after the Seventeenth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and twenty, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, Victorian time, the Tariff Resolution relating to Duties of Excise proposed in the House of Representatives on the twenty-fourth day of March, One thousand nine hundred and twenty, be amended as hereunder set out and that Duties of Excise be collected in pursuance of the Tariff Resolution as so amended.

THE FIRST SCHEDULE.

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
1. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead :—	
1. Beer—	
(A) Ale, Porter, and other Beer, containing not less than 2 per cent. of proof spirit - - - - - per gallon	1s. 9d.
(B) Any other fermented liquors n.e.i. containing not less than 2 per cent. of proof spirit which may by Proclamation be declared dutiable under this item - - - - - per gallon	1s. 9d.
2. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead :—	
2. Spirits—	
(A) Brandy, distilled wholly from wine, the fermented juice of fresh grapes, by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 40 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years and certified by an officer to be pure brandy - - - - - per proof gallon	26s.
(B) Blended Brandy, distilled wholly from wine, the fermented juice of fresh grapes, and containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure spirit (which has been separately distilled from wine, the fermented juice of fresh grapes, by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 40 per cent. over proof), the whole being matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be brandy so blended and matured - - - - - per proof gallon	27s.
(C) Apple Brandy, distilled wholly from apple cider by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 40 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be pure apple brandy - - - - - per proof gallon	27s.
(D) Whisky, distilled wholly from barley malt by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be pure malt whisky - - - - - per proof gallon	26s.
(E) Blended Whisky, distilled partly from barley malt and partly from other grain, containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure barley malt spirit (which has been separately distilled by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof), the whole being matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be whisky so blended and matured - - - - - per proof gallon	28s.
(F) Rum, distilled wholly from sugar, sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof, matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be pure rum - - - - - per proof gallon	28s.
(G) Blended rum, distilled wholly from sugar, sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, containing not less than 25 per cent. of pure spirit (which has been separately distilled from sugar; sugar syrup, molasses, or the refuse of sugar cane, by a pot-still or similar process at a strength not exceeding 45 per cent. over proof), the whole being matured by storage in wood for a period of not less than two years, and certified by an officer to be rum so blended and matured - - - - - per proof gallon	29s.

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EXCISE TARIFF—*continued.*

Articles.	Rate of Duty.
<b>Spirits—<i>continued.</i></b>	
(H) Gin, distilled from barley malt, grain, grape wine, apples, or other approved fruit, and certified by an officer to be pure gin - - - per proof gallon	28s.
(I) Liqueurs, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws - - - per proof gallon	28s.
(J) Spirit for fortifying Australian wine, subject to Regulations - per proof gallon	6s.
(K) Spirit for making Vinegar, subject to Regulations - - - per proof gallon	2s.
(L) Spirits for the manufacture, from Australian products exclusively, of scents and toilet preparations, subject to Regulations - - - per gallon	23s.
(M) Spirit for industrial and scientific purposes, n.e.i., subject to Regulations per proof gallon	28s.
(N) Methylated spirits, subject to Regulations - - - - -	Free
(O) Spirits, n.e.i. - - - - - per proof gallon	38s.
(P) Absolute Alcohol for use in Universities for scientific purposes, subject to Regulations - - - - -	Free
3. By omitting paragraph (A) and inserting the following paragraph in its stead:—	
(A) Amylic Alcohol and Fusel Oil - - - - - per gallon	29s.
6. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—	
<b>6. Tobacco—</b>	
(A) *Tobacco, hand-made strand - - - - - per lb.	2s. 1d.
* HAND-MADE TOBACCO.—“Hand-made Tobacco” shall mean tobacco in the manufacture of which all operations are entirely carried on by hand without the aid of machine tools or machinery other than that used in the pressing of the tobacco.	
(B) Tobacco, manufactured, n.e.i., made in Australia, both from imported and locally-grown leaf - - - - - per lb.	2s. 4d.
(C) Tobacco, fine cut suitable for the manufacture of cigarettes - - - per lb.	7s.
7. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—	
<b>7. Cigars—</b>	
(A) †Hand-made - - - - - per lb.	2s. 8d.
† HAND-MADE CIGARS.—“Hand-made Cigars” shall mean cigars in the manufacture of which every operation is performed by hand, provided that moulds may be used.	
(B) Machine-made - - - - - per lb.	3s. 8d.
8. By omitting the whole item and inserting the following item in its stead:—	
<b>8. Cigarettes, including the weight of the outer portion of each cigarette:—</b>	
(A) ††Hand-made - - - - - per lb.	7s.
†† HAND-MADE CIGARETTES.—“Hand-made” shall mean that the whole of the operations connected with the filling and completion of cigarettes shall be performed exclusively by hand.	
(B) N.E.I. - - - - - per lb.	7s. 3d.

Progress to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.  
The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

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

11. NEW GUINEA BILL.—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration of this Bill in Committee of the whole House—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

*(In the Committee.)*

Clause 15—

Amendment moved at the previous sitting by Mr. Tudor—That all the words of sub-clause (2.) after the word “Territory” (line 3) be omitted—agreed to.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 16 debated and agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Preamble agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with an amendment.

The House resumed; Mr. Chanter reported accordingly.

Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended, to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

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



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12. **WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL (1920).**—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. Marr addressing the House and not having concluded his speech, the House ordered that he 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 a later hour this day.
13. **PAPER.**—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—  
Economics Commission—Suggestions regarding salaries of Administrative Officers.  
Ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
14. **WAR SERVICE HOMES BILL (1920).**—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. Watkins 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 to-morrow.
15. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Sir Joseph Cook moved, That the House do now adjourn.  
Question—put and passed.

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

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**MEMBERS PRESENT.**—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—Mr. Blakeley, Mr. Blundell, Mr. Bowden\*, Mr. J. H. Catts, Mr. Considine, Mr. Robert Cook, Mr. Fleming, Mr. R. W. Foster, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Hill, Mr. Lavelle, Mr. Lister, Mr. Mahon, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Mathews, Mr. James Page, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Watt, and Mr. Wienholt.

\* On leave.

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**WALTER A. GALE,**  
*Clerk of the House of Representatives.*