

1925.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 35.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER, 1925.

1. The House met, at eleven o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PETITION.—Mr. Lacey presented a Petition from 2,323 land-owners and other residents within the Municipality of Port Pirie and the Districts of Pirie, Wandearah and Port Germein, stating that it is understood that the preliminary survey of the proposed Railway from Port Augusta to Red Hill will pass the Township of Germein about one and a half miles to the east, and the Town of Port Pirie either one mile and fifty chains or about four miles south-east of that Town, and praying, for reasons set forth, that the railway line be constructed to touch the Township of Port Germein and to pass through the Town of Port Pirie.
Petition received and read.
3. PAPERS.—The following Paper was presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Northern Territory—Report by the Secretary, Home and Territories Department, on suggested re-organization of the Public Service of the Northern Territory.
Ordered to lie on the Table.
The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
Tariff Board Act—Further Schedule of Recommendations by the Tariff Board (supplementary to the Report laid on the Table on 4th instant) in regard to the following:—Glass Bottles up to 1 oz.; Glazed Ceramic Tiles; Petroleum Pitch or Asphalt; Special Machinery for Primary and Secondary Industries; Flexible Shafting for Sheep Shearing Machines; Steel Wire Winding Ropes; Shovels (2); Iron and Steel Tubes or Pipes; Timber; Corkboard; Vessels (Ships, &c.) (2); X-Ray Apparatus.
Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved, That the Recommendation with regard to Timber be printed.
Mr. Mahony moved, as an amendment, That after the word "Timber" the words "and Shovels" be inserted.
Debate ensued.
Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Question—That the Recommendation with regard to Timber be printed—put and passed.
4. DRIED FRUITS ADVANCES BILL (1925).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Dried Fruits Advances Act* 1924.
Question—put and passed.
5. ADVANCES TO SETTLERS BILL (1925).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, pursuant to notice, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to provide for the Supply of Wire Netting to Settlers.
Question—put and passed.
6. WAYS AND MEANS—ENTERTAINMENTS TAX BILL (1925).—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

18th September, 1925.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That in lieu of the rates of tax imposed by the *Entertainments Tax Act 1916-1922* upon payments for admission to entertainments there be imposed upon such payments as from a date to be fixed by Proclamation a tax at the following rates, namely :—

Payment for Admission (excluding the amount of tax.)	Rate of Tax.
Two shillings and sixpence	Two pence and one half-penny
Exceeding Two shillings and sixpence	Two pence and one half-penny for the first two shillings and sixpence and one half-penny for every sixpence or part of sixpence by which the payment exceeds two shillings and sixpence.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

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

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

Ordered—That Mr. Earle Page and Sir Littleton Groom do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Earle Page then brought up a Bill intituled “ *A Bill for an Act to amend the Entertainments Tax Act 1916-1922* ”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Earle Page 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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

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

7. INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL (1925).—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.)

Clauses 1 to 3 agreed to.

Clause 4 debated—

Mr. Charlton moved, as an amendment, That the words “ word ‘ three ’ and inserting in its stead the word ‘ four ’ ” (lines 10-11) be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the words “ words ‘ three shillings ’ and inserting in their stead the words ‘ nine shillings and sixpence ’ ”.

Debate continued.

Amendment ruled out of order, on the ground that its effect would be to increase the amount of the appropriation required.

Debate on clause continued.

Mr. Coleman moved, as an amendment, That the word “ four ” (line 11) be omitted, with a view to the insertion of the word “ five ” in place thereof.

Amendment ruled out of order, on the ground that its effect would be to increase the amount of the appropriation required.

Debate on clause continued.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 5 agreed to.

Clause 6—

Mr. Frederick McDonald moved, as an amendment, That the word “ four ” (line 17) be omitted with a view to the insertion of the words “ nine shillings and sixpence ”.

Amendment ruled out of order on the ground that its effect would be to increase the amount of the appropriation required.

Clause agreed to.

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Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having been previously suspended, see page 141) the Bill was read a third time.

8. WAR PENSIONS APPROPRIATION BILL (1925).—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 26—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
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(*In the Committee.*)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for War Pensions.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bayley reported accordingly.

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

Question—put and passed.

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

Ordered—that Mr. Earle Page and Sir Littleton Groom do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Mr. Earle Page 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. Earle Page 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.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Mann reported accordingly.

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

9. NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BILL (1925).—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of His Excellency the Governor-General's Message No. 27—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.
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(*In the Committee.*)

Sir Neville Howse (Minister for Defence) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for Naval Construction.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed : Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

Sir Neville Howse moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That the Standing Orders be suspended to enable the remaining stages to be passed without delay. X

Question—put and passed.

The Resolution reported from the Committee was read, and, on the motion of Sir Neville Howse, was adopted by the House.

Ordered—that Sir Neville Howse and Mr. Earle Page do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

Sir Neville Howse 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.

Sir Neville Howse 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.*)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

On the motion of Sir Neville Howse the House adopted the Report, and the Bill was read a third time.

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- 10. INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT BILL (1925).**—The Order of the Day having been read for the further reconsideration 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 2 further debated and agreed to.

Clause 3 debated—

On the motion of Mr. Charlton, the following amendment was made :—

Pages 1-2, after “member” omit “to a number not exceeding ten of a total paid-up value not exceeding Ten pounds”.

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer), the following amendments were made :—

Page 2, line 5, omit “both”, insert “more”.

Page 2, after paragraph (b) insert the following paragraph :—

“(c) The storage of commodities of its members :”.

Page 2, lines 12-18, omit the proviso, insert the following proviso :—

“Provided that if, in any financial year, the amount represented by the value of commodities and animals acquired from, the value of commodities and animals disposed of among, and the receipts in respect of the storage of commodities of, the members of a company, is not at least ninety per centum of the amount represented by the total value of commodities and animals acquired, the total value of commodities and animals disposed of, and the total receipts in respect of storage, by that company during that year, that company shall not, in respect of that year, be deemed to be a co-operative company”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 4 agreed to.

Clause 5—

On the motion of Mr. Prowse, the following amendment was made :—

Page 2, line 21, after “amended” insert :—

- “(a) by inserting in paragraph (b) of sub-section (1A) thereof, after the words ‘purchase of’, the words ‘wire or’;
- “(b) by inserting in that paragraph, after the word ‘construction’, the words ‘or alteration’;
- “(c) by omitting from that paragraph the words ‘wire netting’ (second occurring);
- “(d) by inserting in paragraph (c) of that sub-section, after the words ‘places the’, the words ‘wire or’;
- “(e) by inserting in that paragraph, after the words ‘purchase of the’, the words ‘wire or’;
- “(f) by inserting in paragraph (d) of that sub-section, after the words ‘purchased the’, the words ‘wire or’;
- “(g) by inserting in that paragraph, after the words ‘of that’, the words ‘wire or’;
- “(h) by inserting in that paragraph, after the words ‘placing the’, the words ‘wire or’, and
- “(i)”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 6 to 14 agreed to.

Clause 15—

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the following amendment was made :—

Page 5, line 5, omit “a decision”, insert “an assessment”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 16—

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the following amendments were made :—

Page 5, lines 18-21, omit “Where the Commissioner, purporting to act under any Act repealed by the Principal Act, has referred to a Board of Appeal any assessment, determination or decision of the Commissioner, or where any objection against a decision”, insert “Where, under any Act repealed by the Principal Act, any objection against an assessment”.

Page 5, line 24, omit “reference or”.

Page 5, line 28, omit “has”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 17 agreed to.

Clause 18—

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the following amendment was made :—

Page 6, line 20, omit “thirty”, insert “ninety”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 19 agreed to.

Clause 20—

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the following amendment was made :—

Page 6, line 37, omit “four, five and six”, insert “and four paragraph (i) of section five and section six”.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

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New clauses—

On the motion of Mr. Earle Page, the following new clauses were added to the Bill :—

1A. Section two of the Principal Act is amended by adding at the end thereof the following further proviso :—

Alterations of assessments under repealed Acts.

“ Provided further that no alteration or addition shall be made in or to any assessment made under any such Act after the expiration of three years from the date when the tax payable on the assessment was originally due and payable, unless the Commissioner has reason to believe that there has been an avoidance of tax owing to fraud or attempted evasion.”.

6A. Section thirty-seven of the Principal Act is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following sub-section :—

Alterations of Assessment.

“(3.) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, where an assessment for any financial year includes the estimated amount of income derived by the taxpayer, during the preceding financial year, from an operation or series of operations the profit or loss on which was not ascertainable at the end of that preceding year owing to the fact that the operation or series of operations was carried on during a period which extends over more than one, or parts of more than one, financial year, the Commissioner, upon ascertaining the total profit or loss actually derived or arising from the operation or series of operations, may, at any time, alter that assessment so as to ensure its completeness and accuracy on the basis of the profit or loss so ascertained.”.

14A. Every assessment of the Commissioner, Assistant Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner, made under any Act repealed by the Principal Act, shall be as valid and effectual as if any Board of Appeal under the Act so repealed had been a Board of Review constituted in the same manner, and having the same powers and functions, as a Board of Review under the Principal Act as amended by this Act.

Assessments under Income Tax Assessment Act 1915-1921.

Validation of determinations under section 21 of Principal Act.

18A. Where the Commissioner, purporting to act under section twenty-one of the *Income Tax Assessment Act* 1922, or of the *Income Tax Assessment Act* 1922-1923, or of the Principal Act, has, within the time prescribed for making a determination under that section, indicated (whether expressly or impliedly) in writing to a company that he is of opinion that it could reasonably have distributed a sum or further sum to its members or shareholders, that indication shall be deemed to be, and at all times to have been, a determination within the meaning of that section.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

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

11. WAYS AND MEANS—INCOME TAX BILL (1925).—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Earle Page (Treasurer) moved, That a tax be imposed on income derived from sources in Australia at the following amounts and rates, namely :—

A.—*Rate of Tax upon Income Derived from Personal Exertion.*

For so much of the whole taxable income as does not exceed £7,600 the average rate of tax per pound sterling shall be Threepence and three eight-hundredths of one penny where the taxable income is One pound sterling, and shall increase uniformly with each increase of One pound sterling of the taxable income by three eight-hundredths of one penny.

The average rate of tax per pound sterling for so much of the taxable income as does not exceed £7,600 may be calculated from the following formula :—

$$R = \text{average rate of tax in pence per pound sterling.}$$

$$I = \text{taxable income in pounds sterling.}$$

$$R = \left(3 + \frac{3}{800} I \right) \text{ pence.}$$

For every pound sterling of taxable income in excess of £7,600 the rate of tax shall be Sixty pence.

B.—*Rate of Tax upon Income Derived from Property.*

(a) For such part of the taxable income as does not exceed £546 the average rate of tax per pound sterling shall be that given by the following formula :—

$$R = \text{average rate of tax in pence per pound sterling.}$$

$$I = \text{taxable income in pounds sterling.}$$

$$R = \left(3 + \frac{1}{181.058} I \right) \text{ pence.}$$

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(b) For such part of the taxable income as exceeds £546 but does not exceed £2,000, the additional tax for each additional pound of taxable income above £546 shall increase continuously with the increase of the taxable income in a curve of the second degree in such a manner that the increase of tax for One pound increase of taxable income shall be—

11·713 pence for the pound sterling between £545 10s. Od. and £546 10s. Od.
12·768 pence for the pound sterling between £599 10s. Od. and £600 10s. Od.
14·672 pence for the pound sterling between £699 10s. Od. and £700 10s. Od.
16·512 pence for the pound sterling between £799 10s. Od. and £800 10s. Od.
18·288 pence for the pound sterling between £899 10s. Od. and £900 10s. Od.
20·000 pence for the pound sterling between £999 10s. Od. and £1,000 10s. Od.
27·600 pence for the pound sterling between £1,499 10s. Od. and £1,500 10s. Od.
33·600 pence for the pound sterling between £1,999 10s. Od. and £2,000 10s. Od.

(c) For such part of the taxable income as exceeds £2,000, but does not exceed £6,500, the additional tax for each additional pound of taxable income above £2,000 shall increase continuously with the increase of the taxable income in a curve of the third degree in such a manner that the increase of tax for One pound increase of taxable income shall be—

33·600 pence for the pound sterling between £1,999 10s. Od. and £2,000 10s. Od.
40·000 pence for the pound sterling between £2,499 10s. Od. and £2,500 10s. Od.
45·300 pence for the pound sterling between £2,999 10s. Od. and £3,000 10s. Od.
49·600 pence for the pound sterling between £3,499 10s. Od. and £3,500 10s. Od.
53·000 pence for the pound sterling between £3,999 10s. Od. and £4,000 10s. Od.
55·600 pence for the pound sterling between £4,499 10s. Od. and £4,500 10s. Od.
57·500 pence for the pound sterling between £4,999 10s. Od. and £5,000 10s. Od.
58·800 pence for the pound sterling between £5,499 10s. Od. and £5,500 10s. Od.
59·600 pence for the pound sterling between £5,999 10s. Od. and £6,000 10s. Od.
60·000 pence for the pound sterling between £6,499 10s. Od. and £6,500 10s. Od.

(d) For every pound sterling of taxable income in excess of £6,500 the rate of tax shall be Sixty pence.

C.—Rates of Tax in respect of Taxable Income Derived Partly from Personal Exertion and Partly from Property.

(a) For every pound sterling of taxable income derived from personal exertion, the rate of tax shall be ascertained by dividing the total amount of the tax that would be payable under Subdivision A if the total taxable income of the taxpayer were derived exclusively from personal exertion by the amount of the total taxable income.

(b) For every pound sterling of taxable income derived from property, the rate of tax shall be ascertained by dividing the total amount of the tax that would be payable under Subdivision B if the total taxable income of the taxpayer were derived exclusively from property by the amount of the total taxable income.

D.—Additional Tax.

In addition to the tax payable under the preceding provisions, there shall be payable, in the case of incomes in respect of which the tax is calculated under Subdivision A, B or C, an additional tax equal to twenty per centum of the amount of the tax so calculated.

E.—Tax payable where amount would otherwise be less than One pound.

Notwithstanding anything contained in the preceding provisions, where a person would, apart from this provision, be liable to pay income tax of an amount less than One pound, the tax payable by that person shall be One pound.

F.—Rates of Tax payable by a Company.

(a) For every pound sterling of the taxable income of a Company, the rate of tax shall be One shilling.

(b) For every pound sterling of interest paid or credited by the Company to any person who is an absentee, in respect of debentures of the Company or on money lodged at interest with the Company by such person, the rate of tax shall be One shilling.

Question—put and passed.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

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

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

Ordered—That Mr. Earle Page and Sir Littleton Groon do prepare and bring in a Bill to carry out the foregoing Resolution.

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Mr. Earle Page then brought up a Bill intituled "A Bill for an Act to impose Taxes upon Incomes", and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Earle Page 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.)

Bill, by leave, taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Bamford reported accordingly.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs) moved—

That in lieu of the duties of Customs imposed by paragraph (B) (2) of Item 229 of the Tariff Resolution proposed in the House of Representatives on the second day of September One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five, duties of Customs be collected as follows, as from and after the third day of September One thousand nine hundred and twenty-five at nine o'clock in the forenoon, Victorian time.

	British Preferential Tariff.	Intermediate Tariff.	General Tariff.
229 (B) Residual Oil and Crude Petroleum:— (2) For use as fuel, as prescribed by Departmental By-laws	Free	Free	Free

Debate ensued.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

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

13. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement in connexion with the proposed Dissolution.

14. ADJOURNMENT.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at five minutes to four o'clock p.m., adjourned until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Bowden, Sir Austin Chapman, Mr. Cunningham, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Killen, Mr. Lambert,
Mr. Marks, Sir Granville Ryrie, Mr. Thompson, and Mr. West.

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