

1932-33.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,
CANBERRA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 97.

FRIDAY, 5TH MAY, 1933.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable G. H. Mackay) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
 2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—OLD-AGE PENSIONS.—Mr. Lyons (Prime Minister), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement announcing certain Government decisions in regard to Old-age Pensions.
 3. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—COTTON-GROWING INDUSTRY.—Mr. White (Minister for Trade and Customs), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement in regard to the present position of the Cotton-growing Industry.
 4. ALTERATION OF DAY OF NEXT MEETING.—Mr. Lyons (Prime Minister) moved, That the House, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday next at three o'clock p.m.
Question—put and passed.
 5. PAPERS.—The following Papers were presented, by command of His Excellency the Governor-General—
Tariff Board—Reports and Recommendations—
 Brake Shoes for Motor Trucks and Omnibuses.
 Devices for catching or fastening Motor Car Doors, excluding Handles, remote controlled or otherwise.
 Gum and Wading Boots of Rubber.
 Shock Absorbers for Vehicles.
 Turbo-generators (both steam and water).
Severally ordered to lie on the Table, and to be printed.
 6. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT—TRADE AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNITED KINGDOM AND ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.—Mr. Frederick Stewart (Minister for Commerce), by leave, made a Ministerial Statement informing the House of further details of the Trade Agreement between the United Kingdom and the Argentine Republic.
 7. ADJOURNMENT-MOTION FOR PURPOSE OF DISCUSSION.—Mr. Thomas Paterson rose in his place, and said that he proposed to move the adjournment of the House for the purpose of discussing a definite matter of urgent public importance, namely, "The danger of substantial collapse of the exporting industries of the Commonwealth."
Mr. Speaker thereupon called upon those Members who approved of the proposed discussion to rise in their places, and more than the necessary number of Members having risen accordingly—
Mr. Thomas Paterson moved, That the House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
- The debate having been continued for two hours, it was terminated in accordance with Standing Order No. 257B.
8. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
 Land Tax Assessment Act—Applications for Relief from Taxation during the year 1932.
F.266/32.

5th May, 1933.

9. WAYS AND MEANS [CUSTOMS TARIFF (1932) AND AMENDMENTS (NOS. 1 AND 2)].—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

[See proposed Resolutions for Customs Tariff of the 13th October, 1932 (pages 355–430), Amendment (No. 1) of the 8th March, 1933 (pages 535–558), and Amendment (No. 2) of the 28th April, 1933 (page 625).

Group 7 continued—

Item 38, viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	General Tariff.
38. Biscuits - - - - - per lb.	3d.	4d.

further considered.

Mr. Gregory moved, That the Item be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	General Tariff.
38. Biscuits § § § - - - - - per lb.	1½d.	2d."

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 12.

Mr. Aubrey Abbott Mr. McClelland
 Mr. Thomas Collins Mr. Nock
 Mr. Gibson Mr. Thomas Paterson
 Mr. Gregory
 Mr. E. J. Harrison *Tellers:*
 Mr. Hill Mr. McNicoll
 Mr. Hutchinson Mr. Prowse

Noes, 32.

Mr. Beasley Mr. George Lawson
 Mr. Blacklow Mr. Lyons
 Mr. Blakeley Mr. Makin
 Mr. Malcolm Cameron Mr. W. Maloney
 Mr. Casey Mr. Maxwell
 Mr. Bernard Corser Mr. McGrath
 Mr. Dennis Mr. Perkins
 Mr. Josiah Francis Mr. Price
 Mr. Gander Mr. Riordan
 Mr. Albert Green Mr. Scullin
 Sir Littleton Groom Mr. Frederick Stewart
 Mr. Guy Mr. Watkins
 Mr. E. F. Harrison Mr. White
 Mr. Holloway
 Mr. Hughes *Tellers:*
 Mr. Jennings Mr. Gardner
 Mr. Latham Mr. E. C. Riley

And so it was negatived.

Item agreed to.

Remainder of Division IV., viz. :—Item 51, sub-item (c), paragraph (2) ; Item 53, sub-items (A), (B), (D) ; Item 54, sub-item (B) ; Item 58, sub-item (c) ; Item 80 ; Item 98, sub-item (B)—taken as a whole, and agreed to.

Item 106, sub-item (D), paragraph (2), sub-item (E), paragraph (2), sub-item (F), paragraph (2), agreed to.

Items 107, 109, agreed to.

Item 118, sub-item (B), agreed to.

Item 120, sub-items (A), (B), viz. :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	General Tariff.
120. (A) Articles, Textile, as under, not being piece goods, viz. :— Articles of Furnishing Drapery and Napery, including Quilts n.e.i., Table Covers, Doyleys, Tray Cloths, Sheets, Pillow Cases and Covers, Bolster Cases, Counterpanes, Bed Spreads, Table Mats, Splashes, Tablecloths, Runners, Mantel Borders, Toilet Sets, Bags for Linen, Brush and Comb Bags, Nightdress Cases, Handkerchief Sachets, and the like, Cosies and Cushions in part or wholly made up— (1) When not containing wool - - - ad val. (2) When containing wool - - - ad val.		
(B) (1) Cotton or Linen Handkerchiefs - - - ad val. (2) Cotton or Linen Serviettes - - - ad val.	30 per cent. 45 per cent. 35 per cent. 30 per cent.	50 per cent. 65 per cent. 55 per cent. 50 per cent.

5th May, 1933.

Mr. Guy (Assistant Minister) moved, That sub-item (A) be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 6th May, 1933		
(A) Articles, Textile, as under, not being piece goods, viz. :—		
Articles of Furnishing Drapery and Napery, including Quilts n.e.i., Table Covers, Doyleys, Tray Cloths, Sheets, Pillow Cases and Covers, Bolster Cases, Counterpanes, Bed Spreads, Table Mats, Splashes, Tablecloths, Runners, Mantel Borders, Toilet Sets, Bags for Linen, Brush and Comb Bags, Nightdress Cases, Handkerchief Sachets, and the like, Cosies and Cushions in part or wholly made up—		
(1) When not containing wool - - - - ad val.	25 per cent.	45 per cent.
(2) When containing wool - - - - ad val.	35 per cent.	55 per cent.”

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

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

Ayes, 33.

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| Mr. Aubrey Abbott | Mr. Maxwell |
| Mr. Blacklow | Mr. McClelland |
| Mr. Malcolm Cameron | Mr. McGrath |
| Mr. Casey | Mr. Nairn |
| Mr. Thomas Collins | Mr. Nock |
| Mr. Josiah Francis | Mr. Thomas Paterson |
| Mr. Gabb | Mr. Perkins |
| Mr. Gibson | Mr. Price |
| Mr. Gregory | Mr. Prowse |
| Sir Littleton Groom | Mr. Stacey |
| Mr. Guy | Mr. Frederick Stewart |
| Mr. E. F. Harrison | Mr. William Watson |
| Mr. E. J. Harrison | Mr. White |
| Mr. Hill | |
| Mr. Hughes | |
| Mr. Hutchinson | <i>Tellers:</i> |
| Mr. Latham | Mr. Gardner |
| Mr. Lyons | Mr. McNicoll |

Noes, 14.

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| Mr. Beasley |
| Mr. Bernard Corser |
| Mr. Dennis |
| Mr. Albert Green |
| Mr. Holloway |
| Mr. Jennings |
| Mr. George Lawson |
| Mr. Makin |
| Mr. W. Maloney |
| Mr. Riordan |
| Mr. Scullin |
| Mr. Watkins |

Tellers:

- | |
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| Mr. Blakeley |
| Mr. Gander |

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Guy moved, That sub-item (B) be amended by adding the following :—

	British Preferential Tariff.	General Tariff.
“ And on and after 6th May, 1933		
(B) (1) Cotton or Linen Handkerchiefs - - - - ad val.	30 per cent.	50 per cent.
or per doz.	..	Is.
whichever rate returns the higher duty.		
(2) Cotton or Linen Serviettes - - - - ad val.	25 per cent.	45 per cent.”

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

Sub-items, as amended, agreed to.

Item 123, sub-item (A)—

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Bell reported accordingly.

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

10. DISCHARGE OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—The following Order of the Day, General Business—

Sales Tax—Proposed Abolition—Resumption of debate upon the following motion of Mr. White :—That, in view of the following facts :—

- (1) That the Sales Tax is a factor in keeping up the cost of living ;
- (2) That the Sales Tax is a harassing and irritating hindrance to trade and an indirect cause of unemployment ;
- (3) That there is (a) much unnecessary labour and trouble in rendering returns and making adjustments, (b) expense involved in securities paid, (c) misunderstanding regarding who and what are taxable ;
- (4) That there is large Government expenditure involved in labour and stationery in collecting the Sales Tax ;

it is the opinion of this House that a Turnover Tax of 1½ per cent., which could be administered by the Income Tax Department and which would bring in equivalent revenue and make a large saving in administrative expenditure, be introduced for a period of two years, and the Sales Tax abolished—

was discharged, on the motion, by leave, of Mr. White.

5th May, 1933.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at nine minutes to five 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. Anstey, Mr. Baker, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Dein, Mr. Fenton, Mr. Forde, Sir Henry Gullett, Mr. Hawker, Mr. Holman, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Hutchin, Mr. James, Mr. Lane, Mr. John Lawson, Mr. Marr, Mr. Martens, Mr. McBride, Mr. Earle Page, Mr. Parkhill, Mr. Rosevear, Mr. Scholfield, Mr. Thompson, Mr. Thorby, and Mr. Ward.

E. W. PARKES,
Clerk of the House of Representatives.