

1946.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

No. 16.

THURSDAY, 5TH DECEMBER, 1946.

1. The House met, at half-past ten o'clock a.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable J. S. Rosevear) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. RETIREMENT OF PRINCIPAL PARLIAMENTARY REPORTER.—Mr. Speaker informed the House of the terms of a letter he had received from Mr. G. H. Romans, acknowledging the references made on the occasion of his retirement from the position of Principal Parliamentary Reporter.
3. POSTPONEMENT OF ORDER OF THE DAY.—Ordered—That Order of the Day No. 1 be postponed until after Order of the Day No. 2, Government Business.
4. WAYS AND MEANS—WHEAT TAX.—The House, according to Order, resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved—

1. That a tax be imposed in respect of all wheat, as defined in paragraph 10 of this Resolution, which has been acquired, or is acquired, by the Commonwealth.
2. That the tax in respect of any wheat be payable by the grower of the wheat.
3. That the rate of the tax in respect of wheat of a season be the rate ascertained in accordance with the succeeding paragraphs of this Resolution.
4. That the total amount of the tax to be levied in respect of wheat of a season be ascertained by multiplying an amount equal to—
 - (a) fifty per centum ; or
 - (b) such lower percentage as is prescribed by the regulations,
 of the amount by which the average price per bushel free on rail at the ports of export for fair average quality bagged wheat of all the wheat of that season exported by the Board, or such lower price as is prescribed by the regulations, exceeds Five shillings and two pence by the total of the number of bushels of wheat of that season, and of the wheat equivalent (ascertained in such manner as the Board determines) of wheat products manufactured from wheat of that season, exported by the Board or sold by the Board for export or for manufacture into wheat products for export.
5. That the rate of the tax in respect of wheat of a season be an amount per bushel of wheat arrived at by dividing the total amount of the tax to be levied in respect of wheat of that season (ascertained in accordance with paragraph 4 of this Resolution) by the total number of bushels of wheat of that season in respect of which the tax is imposed.
6. That the Board be required, within fourteen days after the first day of January next following the end of each season to the wheat of which this Resolution relates, to make and forward to the Minister an estimate of the rate of tax per bushel of wheat which the Board considers will be approximately the rate of tax ascertained in accordance with the last preceding paragraph in respect of wheat of that season.

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7. That upon the receipt by the Minister of an estimate under the provision passed to give effect to the last preceding paragraph, he be required to confirm or vary the estimate and to notify in the *Gazette* the rate of tax as so confirmed or varied (which rate is in this Resolution referred to as "the provisional rate").

8. That until the ascertainment of the rate of tax in accordance with paragraph 5 of this Resolution, the provisional rate in respect of wheat of any season be deemed to be the rate of the tax in respect of wheat of that season, and tax at that rate be a debt due and payable to the Commonwealth by the grower of any wheat of that season in respect of which the tax applies.

9. That, as soon as practicable after the Board has completed its export, and sale for export, or for manufacture into wheat products for export, of the wheat of a season, it be required to ascertain the rate of tax payable in accordance with paragraph 5 of this resolution in respect of wheat of that season, and to certify to the Minister the rate so ascertained.

10. That upon the receipt by the Minister of a certificate in accordance with the last preceding paragraph in respect of the wheat of any season he be required to cause the rate specified in the certificate (in this section referred to as "the final rate") to be notified in the *Gazette* and that—

- (a) where the final rate is less than the provisional rate—the Commonwealth be required to refund to any grower of wheat any amount of tax he has paid in respect of wheat of the relevant season in excess of the amount of tax payable by him at the final rate; and
- (b) where the final rate is greater than the provisional rate—the amount by which the tax payable by any grower at the final rate exceeds the amount of the tax paid by that grower at the provisional rate become a debt due and payable to the Commonwealth by that grower.

11. That where there is more than one grower in respect of any wheat, each grower be liable to pay such part of the tax which would be payable in respect of that wheat by a sole grower as is proportionate to the right, title or interest which that grower had in the wheat immediately before it was harvested.

12. That the Commonwealth or the Board be authorized to deduct any amount of the tax payable by any grower from any moneys payable by the Commonwealth or the Board to that grower on any account whatsoever, and that any amount so deducted be applied in payment, or part payment, of the tax so payable.

13. That, until the provisional rate of the tax in respect of wheat of a season has been ascertained in accordance with the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution, the Commonwealth or the Board be authorized to withhold payment of such part of any moneys payable to any grower of wheat of that season as appears to the Treasurer or the Board to be necessary to provide for the payment of the tax, and that the Board be authorized to pay to the Treasurer, out of moneys so withheld by the Board, such instalments on account of the tax as it thinks fit.

14. That the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution be expressed to be deemed to have come into operation on the ninth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six.

15. That, for the purposes of this Resolution—

- (a) the expression "grower", in relation to wheat, mean the person or persons who had any right, title or interest in the wheat immediately before the harvesting of the wheat, and include the legal personal representative of a deceased grower and the trustee of the estate of a grower;
- (b) the expression "season", in relation to wheat, mean the year, commencing on the first day of October, during which the wheat was harvested;
- (c) the expression "the Board" mean the Australian Wheat Board constituted under the National Security (Wheat Acquisition) Regulations, and, in relation to anything done or required or permitted to be done after the commencement of section ten of the *Wheat Industry Stabilization Act 1946*, mean the Australian Wheat Board constituted under that Act;
- (d) the expression "the Minister" mean the Minister of State for the time being administering the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution;
- (e) the expression "the regulations" mean the regulations made under the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution;
- (f) the expression "wheat" mean wheat harvested on or after the first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and forty-five, and before the first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven; and
- (g) the expression "wheat products" mean any substance produced by the gristing, crushing, grinding, milling, or otherwise processing of wheat, and includes semolina, sharps, wheatmeal, self-raising flour, rice substitutes made from wheat, breakfast foods containing wheat, and any other commodity produced mainly from wheat, but do not include bran, pollard, bread or cake.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

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5. WAYS AND MEANS—WHEAT EXPORT CHARGE.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved—

1. That, in lieu of the charge imposed by the *Wheat Export Charge Act 1946*, a charge be imposed—

- (a) on all wheat harvested on or after the first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and forty-five, and before the first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, and exported from the Commonwealth, by any person other than the Board, on or after the first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and forty-five ;
- (b) on all wheat products manufactured from wheat so harvested which are exported from the Commonwealth, by any person other than the Board, on or after the first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and forty-five ;
- (c) on all wheat harvested on or after the first day of October, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, and exported from the Commonwealth, whether by the Board or by any other person, on or after the first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven ; and
- (d) on all wheat products manufactured from wheat so harvested which are exported from the Commonwealth, whether by the Board or by any other person, on or after the first day of December, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven.

2. That, subject to a lower rate being prescribed by the regulations in respect of wheat of the relevant season, the rate of the charge per bushel of wheat exported by any person other than the Board be fifty per centum of the amount by which the price per bushel, at the date of export, for export of fair average quality bagged wheat free on rail at the port of export, as declared by the Board, or such lower price as may be prescribed by the regulations in respect of wheat of the relevant season, exceeds Five shillings and two pence.

3. That any declaration of the Board in pursuance of the provision passed to give effect to the last preceding paragraph may be in respect of a date or period prior to the making of the declaration.

4. That, subject to a lower rate being prescribed by the regulations, the rate of the charge per bushel on wheat of any season exported by the Board be fifty per centum of the amount by which the average price per bushel free on rail at the ports of export for fair average quality bagged wheat of all the wheat of that season exported by the Board, or such lower price as may be prescribed by the regulations, exceeds Five shillings and two pence.

5. That, where wheat products are exported, the charge be imposed on the wheat equivalent of those products.

6. That, in the case of wheat or wheat products exported by any person other than the Board on or after the day on which the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution receives the Royal Assent, the charge be paid on or before the entry of the wheat or wheat products for export, to such officers in the respective States, or in the Northern Territory, as are prescribed by the regulations.

7. That the charge in respect of any wheat or wheat products be payable as a debt due to the Commonwealth by the person exporting the wheat or wheat products (whether that person is the Board or some other person).

8. That the amount of the charge payable by the Board be paid in instalments due on the first days of January, April, July and October.

9. That, for the purpose of determining the amount of any such instalment, the wheat of any season exported by the Board up to the end of the period of three months immediately preceding the due date of the instalment, be deemed to be all the wheat of that season exported by the Board.

10. That, when the rate of the charge on wheat of that season is ascertained in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of this Resolution, the necessary adjustment be made.

11. That for the purposes of this resolution—

- (a) where wheat is sold by the Board for export or for manufacture into wheat products for export, the Board be deemed to be the exporter of the wheat or wheat products ; and
- (b) the wheat equivalent of any wheat products be ascertained in such manner as the Board may determine.

12. That for the purposes of this resolution—

- (a) the expression "season", in relation to wheat, mean the year, commencing on the first day of October, during which the wheat was harvested ;
- (b) the expression "the Board" mean the Australian Wheat Board constituted under the National Security (Wheat Acquisition) Regulations, and, in relation to anything done or required or permitted to be done after the commencement of section ten of the *Wheat Industry Stabilization Act 1946*, mean the Australian Wheat Board constituted under that Act ;
- (c) the expression "the regulations" mean the regulations made under the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution ; and

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(d) the expression "wheat products" mean any substance produced by the gristing, crushing, grinding, milling, or otherwise processing of wheat, and include semolina, sharps, wheatmeal, self-raising flour, rice substitutes made from wheat, breakfast foods containing wheat, and any other commodity produced mainly from wheat, but do not include bran, pollard, bread or cake.

13. That the Act passed to give effect to this Resolution be expressed to be deemed to have come into operation on the ninth day of August, One thousand nine hundred and forty-six, and that that Act continue in operation until a date (not being earlier than the thirtieth day of September, One thousand nine hundred and fifty) to be fixed by Proclamation as the date upon which the Act shall cease to be in operation.

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

The House resumed; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

6. WHEAT INDUSTRY STABILIZATION BILL (No. 2) 1946.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) moved, by leave, That he have leave to bring in a Bill for an Act to amend the *Wheat Industry Stabilization Act 1946*.

Question—put and passed.

Mr. Pollard 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. Pollard moved, by leave, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Menzies (Leader of the Opposition) 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 the next sitting.

7. DEFENCE (TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1946.—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.)

The Schedules—

First Schedule further considered.

National Security (Economic Organization) Regulations—

On the motion of Mr. Ewart (Attorney-General), the following amendment was made, after debate:—

Page 11, third column, before "After regulation 22 add—" insert "Omit regulations 7 and 10A".

Regulations, as amended, agreed to.

National Security (Egg Industry) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Enemy Property) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Evidence) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (External Territories) Regulations agreed to.

Regulations 2 and 3 of Statutory Rules 1945, No. 205 agreed to.

National Security (Female Minimum Rates) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Food Control) Regulations debated and agreed to.

National Security (General) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Guarantee) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Hide and Leather Industries) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Industrial Peace) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Industrial Property) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Internment Camps) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Jute) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Landlord and Tenant) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Liquid Fuel) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Maritime Industry) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Medical Benefits for Seamen) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Military Forces) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Minerals) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Munitions) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Naval Charter Rates) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Naval Forces) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Patriotic Funds) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Potatoes) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Prices) Regulations debated and agreed to.

National Security (Prisoners of War) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Rabbit Skins) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Rationing) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Requisitioned Cargoes) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Salvage) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Shipbuilding) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Shipping Co-ordination) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Staff of War-time Authorities) Regulations agreed to.

National Security (Superphosphate Industry) Regulations debated and agreed to.

National Security (Supplementary) Regulations agreed to.

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National Security (Tea Control) Regulations agreed to.
 National Security (Tinplate Control) Regulations agreed to.
 National Security (War Damage to Property) Regulations agreed to.
 National Security (War Deaths) Regulations agreed to.
 National Security (War Service Moratorium) Regulations agreed to.
 National Security (Wheat Acquisition) Regulations agreed to.
 National Security (Wheat Industry Stabilization) Regulations debated and agreed to.
 National Security (Wine Industry) Regulations agreed to.
 National Security (Women's Services) Regulations agreed to.
 Second Schedule—
 Ordered—That the Schedule be divided.
 Agricultural Machinery Order No. 1 debated and agreed to.
 Control of Essential Materials Order debated and agreed to.
 Control of Footwear (Styles and Quality) Order agreed to.
 Control of Tinplate Order debated and agreed to.
 Jute Goods Order debated and agreed to.
 Control of New Commercial Motor Vehicles Order debated and agreed to.
 Control of New Motor Cars Order agreed to.
 Orders under regulation 61 of the National Security (Supplementary) Regulations agreed to.
 Third Schedule—
 Ordered—That the Schedule be divided.
Black Marketing Act 1942 amendments debated and agreed to.
Crimes Act 1914–1941 amendments agreed to.
Papua-New Guinea Provisional Administration Act 1945 amendment agreed to.
Patents, Trade Marks, Designs and Copyright (War Powers) Act 1939–1940 amendment agreed to.
Post and Telegraph Act 1901–1934 amendment agreed to.
Women's Employment Act 1942 amendment agreed to.
Wool Realization Act 1945 amendment agreed to.
 Fourth Schedule agreed to.
 Preamble agreed to.
 Title agreed to.
 Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

8. WAYS AND MEANS—SALES TAX.—The House, according to Order, again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Debate resumed on the ten motions moved by Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) on the 14th November (see pages 20–1).

Motions agreed to.

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
 Mr. Chifley moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolutions reported from the Committee were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Chifley, were adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Chifley and Mr. Lemmon do prepare and bring in Bills to carry out the foregoing Resolutions.

9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS TO ENABLE THE SALES TAX BILLS TO BE CONSIDERED TOGETHER.—
 Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) moved, by leave, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the questions in regard to the first and second readings, Committee's report stage, and third readings being put in one motion covering several or all of the Sales Tax Bills Nos. 1 to 9, and the consideration of several or all of such Bills together in a Committee of the Whole.
 Question—put and passed.

10. SALES TAX BILLS (Nos. 1 to 9) 1946.—Mr. Chifley (Treasurer) then brought up the following Bills:—

A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 1) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 2) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 3) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 4) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 5) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 6) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 7) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 8) 1930–1943" ;
A Bill for an Act to amend the "Sales Tax Act (No. 9) 1930–1943" ,

and moved, That the Bills be now read a first time.

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

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Mr. Chifley moved, That the Bills be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.

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

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

(*In the Committee.*)

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

Bills to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Chifley, the House adopted the Report, and the Bills were read a third time.

11. SALES TAX (EXEMPTIONS AND CLASSIFICATIONS) BILL (No. 2) 1946.—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.

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. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

12. CUSTOMS TARIFF (SPECIAL WAR DUTY) VALIDATION BILL 1946.—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.

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, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister representing the Minister for Trade and Customs), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

13. EXCISE TARIFF VALIDATION BILL (No. 2) 1946.—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.

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. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

14. WHEAT INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE BILL 1946.—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.

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. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Dedman (Minister for Defence), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

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15. STATES GRANTS (DROUGHT RELIEF) BILL 1946.—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 by Mr. Turnbull who moved, as an amendment, That all words after "That" be omitted with a view to inserting the following words in place thereof:—

"the Bill be withdrawn and redrafted to allow of certain deserving cases as instanced by the Premier of Victoria to be included and to allow the amount of the subsidy to be increased to not less than One pound per acre for wheat and not less than Fifteen shillings per acre for barley and oats".

Debate continued.

Question—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the question—put.

The House divided (The Speaker, Mr. Rosevear, in the Chair)—

Ayes, 34.		Noes, 21.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway	Mr. Adermann	Mr. Howse
Mr. Beazley	Mr. James	Mr. Anthony	Mr. McBride
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Beale	Mr. Menzies
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Lang	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Cameron	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Calwell	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Chambers	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Fadden	Mr. White
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Falkinder	
Mr. Clark	Mr. Russell	Mr. Gullett	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Daly	Mr. Scully	Mr. Hamilton	
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Sheehy	Mr. Harrison	Mr. Corser
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Holt	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Ward		
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Watkins		
Mr. Evatt	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Falstein	Mr. Fuller		
Mr. Fraser	Mr. Sheehan		
Mr. Haylen			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question—That the Bill be now read a second time—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. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 28), the Bill was read a third time.

16. MINISTERS OF STATE BILL 1946.—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.

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.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

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.

17. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—MINISTERS OF STATE BILL 1946.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Deputy Speaker:—

HENRY,
Governor-General.

Message No. 6.

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 purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Ministers of State Act 1935-1941*.

Canberra, 13th November, 1946.

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

5th and 6th December, 1946.

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

(*In the Committee.*)

Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to amend the *Ministers of State Act 1935-1941*.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

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

18. **MINISTERS OF STATE BILL 1946.**—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.*)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2 agreed to.

Clause 3—

Mr. White moved, as an amendment, That the word "nineteen" (page 1, line 14) be omitted with a view to inserting the word "fourteen" in place thereof.

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Clause agreed to.

Clauses 4 and 5 agreed to.

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Watkins reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

9. **STATES GRANTS BILL 1946.**—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.

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. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Lemmon (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 31), the Bill was read a third time.

3. **LOAN (HOUSING) BILL 1946.**—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.

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. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Lemmon (Minister assisting the Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and (the Standing Orders having previously been suspended, *see* page 34), the Bill was read a third time.

21. **QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS AGREEMENT BILL 1946.**—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.

The House continuing to sit until after midnight—

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Debate continued.

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.

5th and 6th December, 1946.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1—

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

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

22. MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS AGREEMENT BILL 1946.—The following Message from His Royal Highness the Governor-General was presented, and was read by Mr. Speaker :—

HENRY,

*Governor-General.**Message No. 7.*

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 purposes of a Bill for an Act to authorize the execution of an Agreement for the Purchase by the Commonwealth of certain shares in Qantas Empire Airways Limited, and to appropriate the Moneys necessary for the purchase of those shares.

Canberra, 29th November, 1946.

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

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

(In the Committee.)

Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Civil Aviation) moved, That it is expedient that an appropriation of revenue be made for the purposes of a Bill for an Act to authorize the execution of an Agreement for the Purchase by the Commonwealth of certain shares in Qantas Empire Airways Limited, and to appropriate the Moneys necessary for the purchase of those shares.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

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

23. QANTAS EMPIRE AIRWAYS AGREEMENT BILL 1946.—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 again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

(In the Committee.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

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

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Civil Aviation), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

24. CENSUS AND STATISTICS BILL 1946.—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—

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, after debate.

Bill to be reported without amendment.

The House resumed ; Mr. Clark reported accordingly.

On the motion of Mr. Chifley (Treasurer), the House adopted the Report, and, by leave, the Bill was read a third time.

25. MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Messages from the Senate :—

[*Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Bill 1946-47*]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 4.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for " *An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-seven, for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c. and to appropriate that sum* ", and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

GORDON BROWN,
President.The Senate,
Canberra, 5th December, 1946.

5th and 6th December, 1946.

[Sales Tax Bills (Nos. 1 to 9) 1946]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 5.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the following Bills :—

- “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 1) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 2) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 3) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 4) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 5) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 6) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 7) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 8) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;
 “ A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax Act (No. 9) 1930–1943 ’ ” ;

and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bills without requests.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 5th December, 1946.

GORDON BROWN,
 President.

[Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Bill (No. 2) 1946]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 6.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ An Act to amend the ‘ Sales Tax (Exemptions and Classifications) Act 1935–1945 ’ ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 5th December, 1946.

GORDON BROWN,
 President.

[Customs Tariff (Special War Duty) Validation Bill 1946]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 7.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ An Act to amend the ‘ Customs Tariff (Special War Duty) Validation Act (No. 2) 1943 ’ ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 5th December, 1946.

GORDON BROWN,
 President.

[Excise Tariff Validation Bill (No. 2) 1946]—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 8.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for “ An Act to amend the ‘ Excise Tariff Validation Act (No. 2) 1943 ’ ”, and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without requests.

The Senate,
 Canberra, 5th December, 1946.

GORDON BROWN,
 President.

26. PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING STAFF.—Mr. Speaker announced that, consequent upon the retirement of Mr. G. H. Romans, Mr. A. P. Adams had been appointed Principal Parliamentary Reporter, and Mr. H. M. Johnson, Second Reporter.
27. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON BROADCASTING.—Mr. Chifley (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That, in accordance with the provisions of the *Australian Broadcasting Act 1942–1946*, the following Members be appointed members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Broadcasting, viz. :—Mr. Burke, Mr. Falkinder, Mr. Hadley, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Spender and Mr. Watkins.
 Debate ensued.
 Question -put and passed.
28. WAYS AND MEANS—WHEAT TAX AND WHEAT EXPORT CHARGE.—The House according to Order again resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

(In the Committee.)

Debate resumed on the two motions previously moved by Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) (see pages 57–8 and 59–60).

Question—That the motions be agreed to—put.

5th and 6th December, 1946.

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

Ayes, 33.		Noes, 19.	
Mr. Barnard	Mr. Holloway	Mr. Adermann	Mr. McBride
Mr. Beazley	Mr. James	Mr. Bowden	Mr. Menzies
Mrs. Blackburn	Mr. Johnson	Mr. Cameron	Mr. Rankin
Mr. Burke	Mr. Lang	Mr. Davidson	Mr. Ryan
Mr. Calwell	Mr. Lemmon	Mr. Fadden	Mr. Turnbull
Mr. Chambers	Mr. O'Connor	Mr. Falkinder	Mr. White
Mr. Chifley	Mr. Pollard	Mr. Hamilton	
Mr. Clark	Mr. Riordan	Mr. Harrison	<i>Tellers:</i>
Mr. Daly	Mr. Scully	Mr. Holt	
Mr. Dedman	Mr. Sheehan	Mr. Howse	Mr. Corser
Mr. Drakeford	Mr. Thompson	Mr. Hutchinson	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Duthie	Mr. Ward		
Mr. Edmonds	Mr. Watkins		
Mr. Evatt			
Mr. Falstein			
Mr. Fraser	<i>Tellers:</i>		
Mr. Gaha	Mr. Fuller		
Mr. Haylen	Mr. Russell		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
Resolutions to be reported, and leave asked to sit again.

The House resumed; Mr. Sheehy reported accordingly.
Resolved—That the House will, at a later hour this day, again resolve itself into the said Committee.
Mr. Pollard moved, pursuant to contingent notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would prevent the remaining stages being passed without delay.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

The Resolutions reported from the Committee were read, and, on the motion of Mr. Pollard, were adopted by the House.

Ordered—That Mr. Pollard and Mr. Lemmon do prepare and bring in Bills to carry out the foregoing Resolutions.

29. WHEAT TAX BILL 1946.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) then brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to impose a Tax in respect of certain Wheat*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pollard moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Cameron 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 a later hour this day.

30. WHEAT EXPORT CHARGE BILL (No. 2) 1946.—Mr. Pollard (Minister for Commerce and Agriculture) also brought up a Bill intituled “*A Bill for an Act to amend the ‘Wheat Export Charge Act 1946’*”, and moved, That it be now read a first time.

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

Mr. Pollard moved, That the Bill be now read a second time.

Mr. Cameron 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 a later hour this day.

31. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE—PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate:—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 9.

The Senate acquaints the House of Representatives that, in accordance with the provisions of the *Commonwealth Public Works Committee Act 1913–1936*, the following Senators have been appointed members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, viz.:—Senator Brand, Senator Lamp and Senator Nash.

GORDON BROWN,
President.

The Senate,
Canberra, 5th December, 1946.

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

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at eighteen minutes to three o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at half-past ten o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except Mr. Corélan, Mr. Lawson*, Mr. Lazzarini, Dame Enid Lyons, Mr. McEwen, Mr. Mulcahy, and Mr. Williams.

* On leave.

F. C. GREEN.
Clerk of the House of Representatives.