

1923-24.

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

No. 109.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1924.

1. The House met, at half-past two o'clock p.m., pursuant to adjournment.—Mr. Speaker (the Right Honorable W. A. Watt) took the Chair, and read Prayers.
2. PAPER.—The following Paper was presented, pursuant to Statute—
New Guinea Act—Ordinance of 1924—No. 29—Sheriff.
3. MESSAGE FROM THE DEPUTY OF THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL.—TASMANIA GRANT BILL (1924).—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor-General's Deputy was presented, and the same was read by Mr. Speaker :—

L. F. CUSSEN,
Deputy of the Governor-General.

Message No. 62.

In accordance with the requirements of section 56 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Deputy of 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 grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund a sum for the purposes of Financial Assistance to the State of Tasmania.

Melbourne, 28th August, 1924.

Ordered—That the foregoing Message be taken into consideration, in Committee of the whole House, at a later hour this day.

4. LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS (MR. MAXWELL AND MR. KILLEN).—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, by leave, That leave of absence for one month be given to the honorable Member for Fawkner (Mr. Maxwell), and to the honorable Member for Riverina (Mr. Killen), on the ground of ill-health.
Question—put and passed.
5. WAYS AND MEANS [“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 Ways and Means—
Question proposed—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.
Mr. Mahony rising to address the House—
Closure.—Mr. Bruce (Prime Minister) moved, That the question be now put.
Question—That the question be now put—put.
The House divided—

Ayes, 27.

Noes, 19.

Mr. Atkinson	Sir Elliot Johnson	Mr. Anstey	Mr. McGrath
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Lister	Mr. Bamford	Mr. O'Keefe
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mackay	Mr. Blakeley	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Mann	Mr. Coleman	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Manning	Mr. Forde	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Corser	Mr. Earle Page	Mr. Gabb	Mr. West
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Thomas Paterson	Mr. Albert Green	
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Pratten	Mr. Lazzarini	
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. William Watson	Mr. Mahony	
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Whitsitt	Mr. Makin	
Mr. Roland Green		Mr. Mathews	
Mr. Gregory			
Sir Neville Howse	<i>Tellers :</i>		
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Hunter		
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Marr		

Tellers :

Mr. Fenton
Mr. Parker Moloney

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

F.4713.

4th September, 1924.

And the question being accordingly put—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair—
The House divided—

Ayes, 18.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Blakeley	Mr. O'Keefe
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Forde	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Gabb	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. West
Mr. Mahony	
Mr. Makin	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Mathews	Mr. Fenton
Mr. McGrath	Mr. Lazzarini

Noes, 28.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Bamford	Sir Elliot Johnson
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Lister
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Mann
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Manning
Mr. Corser	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Pratten
Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. William Watson
Mr. Gardner	Mr. Whitsitt
Mr. Roland Green	
Mr. Gregory	<i>Tellers :</i>
Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Hunter
Mr. Hughes	Mr. Marr

And so it was negatived.

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

6. PRIVILEGE.—Mr. Mahony raised a question of Privilege in regard to the closure being moved whilst an honorable Member was submitting a proposal to the House in connexion with the question—That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair.

And Mr. Mahony addressing the House—

Point of Order—Mr. Speaker's Ruling.—A Point of Order having been raised that the matter was not one of Privilege, Mr. Speaker ruled that the question submitted was one of Order, and not of Privilege.

7. TARIFF BOARD BILL (1924).—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. Fenton moved, as an amendment, That all the words after the word "now" be omitted with a view to the insertion of the following words in place thereof:—"withdrawn and re-drafted to provide adequate guarantees that the primary producers and consumers may be able to obtain locally manufactured articles or goods at reasonable prices."

Debate continued.

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

The House divided—

Ayes, 24.

Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Jackson
Mr. Bruce	Mr. Lister
Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Manning
Mr. Robert Cook	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Corser	Mr. Thomas Paterson
Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Pratten
Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Thompson
Mr. Frederick Francis	Mr. Whitsitt
Mr. Josiah Francis	
Mr. Gardner	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Roland Green	Mr. Hunter
Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Marr

Noes, 20.

Mr. Anstey	Mr. Parker Moloney
Mr. Brennan	Mr. O'Keefe
Mr. Coleman	Mr. Edward Riley
Mr. Cunningham	Mr. E. C. Riley
Mr. Forde	Mr. Scullin
Mr. Gabb	Mr. William Watson
Mr. Albert Green	Mr. West
Mr. Gregory	
Mr. Lambert	<i>Tellers :</i>
Mr. Mahony	Mr. Fenton
Mr. Mann	Mr. Makin

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.)

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2—

Mr. Gregory moved, as an amendment, That the following paragraph be inserted after paragraph (b) :—

- (c) all matters arising under paragraph (h) of sub-section (1.) of section fifteen of the Principal Act, and of any request for the gazettal of importations into Australia for the purpose of bringing such importations within the provisions of the Australian Industries Preservation Act.

Debate ensued.

Question—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—put.

4th September, 1924.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 8.		Noes, 24.	
Mr. Brennan	Mr. Mann	Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Lister
Mr. Gabb		Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Albert Green	<i>Tellers :</i>	Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Manning
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Forde	Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Earle Page
Mr. Mahony	Mr. Makin	Mr. Corser	Mr. Thomas Paterson
		Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Pratten
		Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Thompson
		Mr. Frederick Francis	Mr. William Watson
		Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Whitsitt
		Mr. Gardner	
		Mr. Roland Green	<i>Tellers :</i>
		Sir Neville Howse	Mr. Hunter
		Mr. Jackson	Mr. Marr

And so it was negatived.

Mr. Thompson moved, as an amendment, That the following paragraphs be inserted after paragraph (b) :—

- “ (c) any proposal for improving the condition of any primary or secondary industry ; or
- “ (d) any complaints made under paragraph (h) of sub-section (1.) of section fifteen.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Gregory, the following further amendments were made :—

Line 15, after “ public ” insert “ on oath ”.

Lines 16 and 17, omit “ on the ground that it ”, insert “ which the Board is satisfied ”.

Mr. Thompson moved, as a further amendment, That the following words be added to the clause :—

- “ provided that all applications for the hearing of evidence in private shall be made in public and shall be supported by evidence on oath ; and provided also that objection to such private hearing may be made if supported by evidence on oath.”

Debate ensued.

Amendment negatived.

Mr. Mann moved, as a further amendment, That the following new sub-section be added to the clause :—

- (6.) The Board shall by public advertisement give notice of its intention to hold any inquiry under this section and of the subject of such inquiry and the time and place at which it shall be held ; and shall give reasonable opportunity to any party interested to be present, to produce evidence and to be heard in connexion with the subject of the inquiry.

Debate ensued.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

On the motion of Mr. Mann, the following new sub-section was added to the clause :—

- (6.) The Board shall by advertisement published in two newspapers circulating in the State in which the inquiry is to be held give reasonable notice of its intention to hold any inquiry under this section, the subject of the inquiry and the time and place at which the inquiry is to be held.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 3—

Mr. Albert Green moved, as an amendment, That “ (a) ” be inserted after “ amended ” (line 1).

Debate ensued.

Question—That the amendment be agreed to—put.

The Committee divided—

Ayes, 6.		Noes, 25.	
Mr. Brennan		Mr. Atkinson	Mr. Mackay
Mr. Forde		Mr. Bruce	Mr. Mann
Mr. Gabb		Mr. Donald Cameron	Mr. Manning
Mr. Albert Green		Mr. Malcolm Cameron	Mr. Earle Page
		Mr. Corser	Mr. Thomas Paterson
		Mr. Duncan-Hughes	Mr. Pratten
		Mr. R. W. Foster	Mr. Thompson
		Mr. Frederick Francis	Mr. William Watson
		Mr. Josiah Francis	Mr. Whitsitt
		Mr. Gardner	
		Mr. Roland Green	
		Sir Neville Howse	<i>Tellers :</i>
		Mr. Jackson	Mr. Hunter
		Mr. Lister	Mr. Marr

And so it was negatived.

Debate continued.

Mr. Albert Green moved, as an amendment, That the following words be added to the clause :—

- “ and (b) by adding at the end of sub-section (3.) thereof the following proviso :—

‘ Provided that where the Board finds that the incidence of any particular duty results in excessive prices to the consumer, having regard to the cost of production, including wages, they shall immediately report accordingly to the Minister.’

4th and 5th September, 1924.

On the motion of Mr. Pratten (Minister for Trade and Customs), after debate, the following new clause was added to the Bill :—

1A. Section six of the Principal Act is amended by omitting from sub-section ^{Appointment of Board.} (3.) the word "five" and inserting in its stead the word "three".

Title agreed to.

Bill to be reported with amendments.

The House resumed; Mr. Robert Cook reported accordingly.

Mr. Pratten 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. Pratten, the House adopted the Report.

Ordered—That the third reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

8. MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE.—DRIED FRUITS ADVANCES BILL.—Mr. Speaker announced the receipt of the following Message from the Senate :—

MR. SPEAKER,

Message No. 73.

The Senate returns to the House of Representatives the Bill for "An Act to provide for the Payment of Advances to Growers of Dried Fruits," and acquaints the House that the Senate has agreed to the Bill without amendment.

The Senate,

Melbourne, 4th September 1924.

JOHN NEWLAND,

Deputy-President.

9. TASMANIA GRANT BILL (1924).—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the whole House of Message No. 62 from His Excellency the Governor-General's Deputy—

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

(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 the purposes of Financial Assistance to the State of Tasmania.

Question—put and passed.

Resolution to be reported.

The House resumed; Mr. Robert Cook reported accordingly.

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

Ordered—That Mr. Earle Page and Mr. Bruce 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.

Ordered—That the second reading be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

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

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

And then the House, at seven minutes past one o'clock in the morning, adjourned until this day at eleven o'clock a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT.—All Members were present (at some time during the sitting) except—
Mr. Bayley*, Sir Austin Chapman, Mr. Charlton*, Mr. Gibson*, Sir Littleton Groom*, Mr. Hill*, Mr. Hurry, Mr. Killen*, Mr. Lacey, Mr. Latham*, Mr. W. Maloney*, Mr. Marks*, Mr. Maxwell*, Mr. Charles McDonald*, Mr. Frederick McDonald, Mr. McNeill, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Prowse, Sir Granville Ryrie*, Mr. Seabrook, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Yates*.

* On leave.

FRANK L. CLAPIN,

Acting Clerk of the House of Representatives.