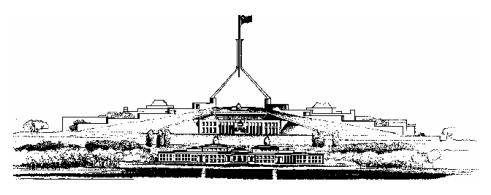


PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



Senate

Official Hansard

No. 36, 1942 Thursday, 3 September 1942

SIXTEENTH PARLIAMENT FIRST SESSION—SEVENTH PERIOD

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PARLIAMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH.

SIXTEENTH PARLIAMENT—FIRST SESSION—SEVENTH PERIOD.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL.

His Excellency General the Right Honorable Alexander Gore Arkwright, Baron Gowrie, a Member of His Majesty's Most Honorable Privy Council, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Companion of the Most Honorable Order of the Bath, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order, upon whom has been conferred the Decoration of the Victoria Cross, Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Commonwealth of Australia.

CURTIN GOVERNMENT.

(FROM THE 7TH OCTOBER, 1941.)

The Right Honorable John Curtin. (1)Prime Minister and (2)Minister for Defence . . (1)Minister for the Army ... The Honorable Francis Michael Forde. 1)Treasurer The Honorable Joseph Benedict Chifley. (1)Attorney-General and Minister for External The Right Honorable Herbert Vere Evatt, LL.D., K.C. (The Right Honorable John Curtin, Acting Minister for External Affairs, and the Honorable John Albert Beasley, Acting Attorney-General, from the 14th March to the 22nd June, 1942, during the absence from Australia of Dr. Evatt). (1)(3)Minister for Supply and Shipping The Honorable John Albert Beasley. Minister for the Interior Senator the Honorable Joseph Silver Collings. (1)Minister for the Navy and Minister for The Honorable Norman John Oswald Makin. Munitions Minister for Social Services, Minister for Health, The Honorable Edward James Holloway. and, from the 21st February, 1942, Minister assisting the Minister for Munitions Minister for Trade and Customs and Vice-Senator the Honorable Richard Valentine Keane. President of the Executive Council (1)Minister for Air and Minister for Civil Aviation The Honorable Arthur Samuel Drakeford. Minister for Commerce The Honorable William James Scully. Postmaster-General and Minister for Informa-Senator the Honorable William Patrick Ashley. Minister for Labour and National Service The Honorable Edward John Ward. Minister for Repatriation and Minister in Charge The Honorable Charles William Frost. of War Service Homes (1)Minister for War Organization of Industry and The Honorable John Johnstone Dedman. Minister in Charge of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research Minister for Home Security and Minister The Honorable Hubert Peter Lazzarini. assisting the Treasurer Minister for External Territories, Minister Senator the Honorable James Mackintosh Fraser. assisting the Minister for Commerce, and, from the 21st February, 1942, Minister assisting the Minister for the Army Minister for Aircraft Production, and, to the 21st Senator the Honorable Donald Cameron. February, 1942, Minister assisting the Minister for Munitions Minister for Transport and Minister assisting the The Honorable George Lawson.

(*) War Cabinet.
(*) Designation changed on the 14th April, 1942, from Minister for Defence Co-ordination.
(*) Designation changed on the 17th October, 1942, from Minister for Supply and Development.

Postmaster-General

AUSTRALIAN ADVISORY WAR COUNCIL.

Government Representatives

The Right Honorable J. Curtin, the Honorable F. M. Forde, the Right Honorable H. V. Evatt, LL.D., K.C., the Honorable N. J. O. Makin, the Honorable J. A. Beasley, and, from the 16th March, 1942, to the 17th June, 1942, the Honorable J. B. Chifley.

Opposition Representatives

The Right Honorable A. W. Fadden, the Right Honorable W. M. Hughes, C.H., K.C., the Right Honorable R. G. Menzies, K.C., the Honorable P. C. Spender, K.C., and the Honorable J. McErren

Co-opted Member .. The Right Honorable Sir Earle Page, G.C.M.G., C.H.

THE MEMBERS OF THE SENATE.

(FROM THE 1ST JULY, 1941.)

SIXTEENTH PARLIAMENT-FIRST SESSION: SEVENTH PERIOD.

President-Senator the Honorable James Cunningham.

Chairman of Committees-Senator Gordon Brown.

Temporary Chairmen of Committees—Senators Stanley Kerin Amour, James Jarvist Arnold (appointed, 21st November, 1941), Walter Jackson Cooper, Benjamin Courtice (appointed, 25th November, 1941), and the Honorable Herbert Hays.

Leader of the Opposition—Senator the Honorable George McLeay.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition-Senator the Honorable Philip Albert Martin McBride.

Amour, Stanley Kerin				 	New South Wales
Armstrong, John Ignatius				 	New South Wales
Arnold, James Jarvist				 	New South Wales
Arthur, Thomas Christopher				 	New South Wales
Ashley, Hon. William Patrick				 	New South Wales
Aylett, William Edward				 	Tasmania
Brand, Charles Henry, C.B., C.M.	.G., C.V.C)., D.S.O.		 	Victoria
Brown, Gordon				 	Queensland
Cameron, Hon. Donald				 	Victoria
Clothier, Robert Ernest				 	Western Australia
Collett, Hon. Herbert Brayley, C.	.M.G., D.8	8.O., V.D)	 	Western Australia
Collings, Hon. Joseph Silver				 	Queensland
Cooper, Walter Jackson, M.B.E.				 	Queensland
Courtice, Benjamin				 	Queensland
Crawford, Hon. Thomas William				 	Queensland
Cunningham, Hon. James				 	Western Australia
Darcey, Richard				 	Tasmania
Foll, Hon. Hattil Spencer				 	Queensland
Fraser, Hon. James Mackintosh				 	Western Australia
Gibson, Hon. William Gerrand				 	Victoria
Hayes, John Blyth, C.M.G.				 	Tasmania
Hays, Hon. Herbert				 	Tasmania
(1) Johnston, Edward Bertram				 	Western Australia
Keane, Hon. Richard Valentine				 	Victoria
Lamp, Charles Adcock		••		 	Tasmania
Large, William James				 	New South Wales
(2)Latham, Charles George				 	Western Australia
Leckie, Hon. John William				 	Victoria
McBride, Hon. Philip Albert Mar	tin			 	South Australia
MacDonald, Hon. Allan Nicholl				 	Western Australia
McLachlan, Hon. Alexander John	1			 	South Australia
McLachlan, James				 	South Australia
McLeay, Hon. George				 	South Australia
Sampson, Burford, D.S.O., V.D.				 	Tasmania
Spicer, John Armstrong				 	Victoria
Uppill, Oliver				 	South Australia
Wilson, Keith Cameron				 	South Australia

⁽¹⁾ Died, the 6th September, 1942.
(2) Elected, the 8th October, 1942, to fill casual vacancy; sworn, the 10th December, 1942.

THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIXTEENTH PARLIAMENT—FIRST SESSION: SEVENTH PERIOD.

Speaker—The Honorable Walter Maxwell Nairn.

Chairman of Committees-John Henry Prowse.

Temporary Chairmen of Committees—Albert Oliver Badman, the Honorable James Allan Guy, George William Martens, George James Rankin, D.S.O., V.D., John Solomon Rosevear, Fred Hurtle Stacey, and David Oliver Watkins.

Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the Country Party—The Right Honorable Arthur William Fadden.

Deputy Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the United Australia Party—The Right Honorable William Morris Hughes, C.H., K.C.

		•				
Abbott, Hon. Joseph Palmer, M.().					New England (N.S.W.)
Anthony, Hon. Hubert Lawrence						Richmond (N.S.W.)
Badman, Albert Oliver						Grey (S.A.)
Baker, Francis Patrick						. Maranoa (Q.)
Th						Bass (T.)
TO 1 TO THE						West Sydney (N.S.W.)
Beck, Arthur James, M.C.						Denison (T.)
Bell, Hon. Sir George John, K.C.I		OVD	••			Darwin (T.)
Blackburn, Maurice McCrae		.O., T.D.		• •	• •	
	••	• •	• •	• •	• •	Bourke (V.)
Blain, Adair Macalister	••	• •	• •	• •	• •	(N.T.)
Breen, John Patrick	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	Calare (N.S.W.)
Brennan, Hon. Frank	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	Batman (V.)
Calwell, Arthur Augustus		• •	• •	• •	• •	Melbourne (V.)
Cameron, Hon. Archie Galbraith						Barker (S.A.)
Chifley, Hon. Joseph Benedict						Macquarie (N.S.W.)
Clark, Joseph James						Darling (N.S.W.)
Coles, Arthur William						Henty (V.)
Collins, Hon. Thomas Joseph						Hume (N.S.W.)
Conelan, William Patrick						Griffith (Q.)
Corser, Bernard Henry						Wide Bay (Q.)
Curtin, Rt. Hon. John						Fremantle (W.A.)
Dedman, Hon. John Johnstone					::	Corio (V.)
Drakeford, Hon. Arthur Samuel						Maribyrnong (V.)
Duncan-Hughes, John Grant, M.V.		• •	••	• •	• •	
			••	• •	• •	Wakefield (S.A.)
Evatt, Rt. Hon. Herbert Vere, Li			• •	• •	• •	Barton (N.S.W.)
Fadden, Rt Hon. Arthur William		• •	• •	• •	• •	Darling Downs (Q.)
Talstein, Sydney Max	• •	••	• •	• •	• •	Watson (N.S.W.)
forde, Hon. Francis Michael	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	Capricornia (Q.)
Francis, Hon. Josiah	• •	• •	• •	• •	• •	Moreton (Q.)
		• •	• •	• •		Franklin (T.)
Guy, Hon. James Allan						Wilmot (T.)
Harrison, Hon. Eric John						Wentworth (N.S.W.)
Holloway, Hon. Edward James						Melbourne Ports (V.)
Holt, Hon. Harold Edward			• •			Fawkner (V.)
Hughes, Rt. Hon. William Morris	. C.H., K	.C.				North Sydney (N.S.W.)
						Deakin (V.)
			••			Hunter (N.S.W.)
James, Rowland Johnson, Herbert Victor Jolly, William Alfred, C.M.G.						Kalgoorlie (W.A.)
Jolly William Alfred CMG	••	••	••		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	Lilley (Q.)
Langtry, Joseph Ignatius	• •					Riverina (N.S.W.)
		••	• •	• •	• •	Brighana (O.)
Lawson, Hon. George		••	• •	••	• •	Brisbane (Q.)
		• •	• •	• •	• •	Werriwa (N.S.W.)
Makin, Hon. Norman John Oswal			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	w n	• •	Hindmarsh (S.A.)
Marr, Hon. Sir Charles William C	lanan, K.	C.V.O., 1).6.U., M.	C., V.D.	• •	Parkes (N.S.W.)
		• •	• •	• •	• •	Herbert (Q.)
	• •		• •			Swan (W.A.)
McCall, William Victor						Martin (N.S.W.)
McDonald, Hon. Allan McKenzie						
McEwen, Hon. John		• •				Corangamite (V.)
					• •	Corangamite (V.) Indi (V.)
McLeod, Donald						Indi (V.)
McLeod, Donald Menzies, Rt. Hon. Robert Gordon	 . K.C.				• •	Indi (V.) Wannon (V.)
McDonald, Hon. Allan McKenzie McEwen, Hon. John McLeod, Donald Menzies, Rt. Hon. Robert Gordor Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron	 , K.C.				::	Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.)
Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron	• •	••				Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.) Reid (N.S.W.)
Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron Mulcahy, Daniel	• •					Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.) Reid (N.S.W.) Lang (N.S.W.)
Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron Mulcahy, Daniel Nairn, Hon. Walter Maxwell	••	••				Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.) Reid (N.S.W.) Lang (N.S.W.) Perth (W.A.)
Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron Mulcahy, Daniel Nairn, Hon. Walter Maxwell Page, Rt. Hon. Sir Earle Christm	as Grafto	 n, G.C.M.				Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.) Reid (N.S.W.) Lang (N.S.W.) Perth (W.A.) Cowper (N.S.W.)
Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron Mulcahy, Daniel Nairn, Hon. Walter Maxwell Page, Rt. Hon. Sir Earle Christm Paterson, Hon. Thomas	as Grafto	 n, G.C.M.	 G., C.H.			Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.) Reid (N.S.W.) Lang (N.S.W.) Perth (W.A.) Cowper (N.S.W.) Gippsland (V.)
Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron Mulcahy, Daniel Nairn, Hon. Walter Maxwell Page, Rt. Hon. Sir Earle Christm Paterson, Hon. Thomas Perkins, Hon. John Arthur	as Grafto	 n, G.C.M. 	 			Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.) Reid (N.S.W.) Lang (N.S.W.) Perth (W.A.) Cowper (N.S.W.) Gippsland (V.) Eden-Monaro (N.S.W.)
Morgan, Charles Albert Aaron Mulcahy, Daniel Nairn, Hon. Walter Maxwell Page, Rt. Hon. Sir Earle Christm Paterson, Hon. Thomas	as Grafto	 n, G.C.M.	 G., C.H.			Indi (V.) Wannon (V.) Kooyong (V.) Reid (N.S.W.) Lang (N.S.W.) Perth (W.A.) Cowper (N.S.W.) Gippsland (V.)

THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—continued.

SIXTEENTH PARLIAMENT—continued.

Prowse, John Henry		 		 Forrest (W.A.)
Rankin, George James, D.S.O., V.I).	 		Bendigo (V.)
Riordan, William James Frederick		 		Kennedy (Q.)
Rosevear, John Solomon		 		Dalley (N.S.W.)
Ryan, Rupert Sumner, C.M.G., D.S.	3.0.	 		Flinders (V.)
Coulling Di II'on Tours II'on		 		Yarra (V.)
Soully Was William Tames		 		Gwydir (N.S.W.)
Sheehan, Thomas		 		Cook (N.S.W.)
Spender, Hon. Percy Claude, K.C		 		Warringah (N.S.W.)
Spooner, Hon. Eric Sydney .		 		Robertson (N.S.W.)
Stacey, Fred Hurtle		 		Adelaide (S.A.)
Stewart, Hon. Sir Frederick Harold	ì	 		Parramatta (N.S.W.)
Ward, Hon. Edward John				East Sydney (N.S.W.)
Watkins, David Oliver		 	••	Newcastle (N.S.W.)
White, Hon. Thomas Walter, D.F.(••	Balaclava (V.)
Wilson Alex				Wimmers (V.)
TI MISON, PILOZ		 		

THE COMMITTEES OF THE SESSION.

(SEVENTE PERIOD.)

JOINT STANDING.

Broadcasting.—Mr. Calwell (Chairman), Senator Amour, Senator Cooper, Senator Herbert Hays, Mr. Barnard, Mr. Johnson, Sir Charles Marr, Dr. Price, and Mr. Riordan.

House.—The President (Chairman), Senator Amour, Senator Arthur, Senator Aylett, Senator Brand, Senator Cooper, Senator Uppill, Mr. Speaker, Mr. Badman, Mr. Barnard, Mr. Francis, Mr. Guy, Mr. Mulcahy, and Mr. Watkins.

Library.—Mr. Speaker (Chairman), the President, Senator Armstrong (appointed, 20th November, 1941), Senator Cameron, Senator Collett, Senator Collings (discharged, 20th November, 1941). Senator Fraser, Senator J. B. Hayes, Senator Sampson, Mr. Brennan, Mr. Coles, Mr. Hutchinson, Mr. Paterson, Mr. Riordan, and Mr. Rosevear.

PRINTING.—Mr. Conelan (Chairman), Senator Arnold, Senator Aylett, Senator Courtice, Senator Gibson, Senator J. B. Hayes, Senator Johnston (died, 6th September, 1942), Senator Allan MacDonald, Mr. Beck, Mr. Falstein, Mr. McCall, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Rankin, and Mr. Ryan.

Public Works.—Senator Brand (Chairman), Senator Cooper, Senator Lamp, Mr. Badman, Mr. James,

Mr. Jolly, Mr. Martens, Mr. Sheehan, and Mr. Stacey.

JOINT.

PROFITS.—Senator Spicer (Chairman), Senator Armstrong (discharged, 12th November, 1941), Senator Courtice (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Senator Large (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Mr. Clark (discharged, 25th March, 1942), Mr. Marwick, Dr. Price, and Mr. Watkins (discharged,

12th November, 1941).

12th November, 1941).

RURAL INDUSTRIES.—Mr. Francis (Chairman), Senator Aylett (discharged, 25th March, 1942), Senator Herbert Hays, Senator Johnston (died, 6th September, 1942), Senator Uppill, Mr. Baker (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Mr. Breen (appointed, 2nd October, 1942), Mr. Frost (discharged, 12th November, 1941), Mr. Langtry (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Mr. McLeod, Mr. Marwick (appointed, 30th September, 1942), Mr. Pollard (discharged, 25th March, 1942), Mr. Scully (discharged, 12th November, 1941), and Mr. Wilson.

Social Security.—Mr. Barnard (appointed Chairman, 12th November, 1941), Senator Arnold (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Senator Cooper, Senator Keane (discharged, 12th November, 1941), Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Perkins (resigned chairmanshin, 12th November, 1941), and Mr.

1941), Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Perkins (resigned chairmanship, 12th November, 1941), and Mr.

Kyan.
WAR EXPENDITURE.—Senator A. J. McLachlan (Chairman), Senator Arthur (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Senator Ashley (discharged, 12th November, 1941), Senator Clothier (discharged, 12th November, 1941), Senator Darcey (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Senator Lamp (appointed, 12th November, 1941), Mr. Badman, Mr. Beck (discharged, 6th May, 1942), Mr. Conelan (discharged, 12th November, 1941), Mr. Johnson, Mr. Jolly, Mr. Lawson (discharged, 12th November, 1941), Mr. McCall, Mr. Morgan (appointed, 12th November, 1941; discharged, 5th March, 1942), Mr. Mulcahy, Mr. Paterson, and Mr. Rosevear (appointed, 4th June, 1942; discharged, 3rd September, 1942).

SENATE.

DISPUTED RETURNS AND QUALIFICATIONS.—Senator Armstrong, Senator Collings, Senator Courtice, Senator Crawford, Senator Gibson, Senator Sampson, and Senator Uppill.

REGULATIONS AND ORDINANCES.—Senator Spicer (Chairman), Senator Cameron (discharged, 20th November, 1941), Senator Clothier, Senator Cooper, Senator Courtice, Senator Herbert Hays, Senator Large (appointed, 20th November, 1941), and Senator Allan MacDonald.

STANDING ORDERS.—The President (Chairman), the Chairman of Committees, Senator Crawford, Senator Darcey, Senator Herbert Hays, Senator Johnston (died, 6th September, 1942), Senator Keane, Senator Lamp, and Senator A. J. McLachlan.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

STANDING ORDERS.-Mr. Speaker (Chairman), the Prime Minister, the Chairman of Committees, the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Beasley, Sir George Bell, Mr. Blackburn, Mr. Makin, and Sir Earle Page.

PARLIAMENTARY DEPARTMENTS.

SENATE.

Clerk-Until the 30th November, 1942, R. A. Broinowski; from the 1st December, 1942, J. E. Edwards. Clerk Assistant-Until the 30th November, 1942, J. E. Edwards; from the 1st December, 1942, R. H. C. Loof.

Usher of the Black Rod-Until the 30th November, 1942, R. H. C. Loof; from the 1st December, 1942,

W. I. Emerton.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Clerk—F. C. Green, M.C. Clerk Assistant—A. A. Tregear. Second Clerk-Assistant—S. F. Chubb. Serjeant-at-Arms—H. A. Dodd.

PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING STAFF.

Principal Reporter—G. H. Romans. Second Reporter—A. P. Adams.

LIBRARY.

Librarian—K. Binns.
Assistant Librarian—H. L. White.

JOINT HOUSE.

Secretary—Until the 30th November, 1942, J. E. Edwards; from the 1st December, 1942, A. A. Tregear.

THE ACTS OF THE SESSION.

(SEVENTH PERIOD.)

APPROPRIATION ACT 1942-43 (No. 44 of 1942)

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-three and to appropriate the Supplies granted by the Parliament for that year.

Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Act 1942-43 (No. 45 of 1942)-

An Act to grant and apply a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year ending the thirtieth day of June, One thousand nine hundred and forty-three for the purposes of Additions, New Works, Buildings, &c., and to appropriate such sum.

BLACK MARKETING ACT 1942 (No. 49 of 1942)-

An Act to provide for the Prevention of Black Marketing.

CUSTOMS TARIFF (CANADIAN PREFERENCE) VALIDATION ACT 1942 (No. 40 of 1942)-

An Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Customs Tariff (Canadian Preference) Proposals.

Customs Tariff (Exchange Adjustment) Validation Act 1942 (No. 37 of 1942)-

An Act to provide for the Validation of Adjustments in Duties of Customs under Customs Tariff (Exchange Adjustment) Proposals.

CUSTOMS TARIFF (NEW ZEALAND PREFERENCE) VALIDATION ACT 1942 (No. 39 OF 1942)-

An Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Customs Tariff (New Zealand Preference) Proposals.

CUSTOMS TARIFF (SPECIAL WAR DUTY) VALIDATION ACT 1942 (No. 38 of 1942)-

An Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Customs Tariff (Special War Duty) Proposals.

CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION ACT 1942 (No., 36 OF 1942)-

An Act to provide for the Validation of Collections of Duties of Customs under Customs Tariff Proposals.

DAIRYING INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE ACT 1942 (No. 58 of 1942)-

An Act to provide for the granting of Assistance to the Dairying Industry with the object of aiding the Prosecution of the War, and for other purposes.

ENTERTAINMENTS TAX ACT 1942 (No. 42 of 1942)-

An Act to impose Tax upon Payments for Admission to Entertainments.

ENTERTAINMENTS TAX ASSESSMENT ACT 1942 (No. 41 of 1942)-

An Act to provide for the Imposition, Assessment and Collection of a Tax upon Payments for Admission to Entertainments.

INCOME TAX ACT (No. 2) 1942 (No. 51 of 1942)-

An Act to amend the Income Tax Act 1942.

INCOME TAX ASSESSMENT ACT (No. 2) 1942 (No. 50 of 1942)-

An Act to amend the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936-1941, as amended by the Income Tax Assessment Act 1942, and for other purposes.

LOAN ACT (No. 3) 1942 (No. 47 of 1942)-

An Act to authorize the Raising and Expending of a certain Sum of Money.

PAY-BOLL TAX ASSESSMENT ACT 1942 (No. 48 of 1942)—

An Act to amend the Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act 1941.

SALES TAX ASSESSMENT ACT (No. 1) 1942 (No. 54 of 1942)-An Act to amend the Sales Tax Assessment Act (No. 1) 1930-1940.

STATES GRANTS ACT 1942 (No. 46 of 1942)-

An Act to grant and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund sums for the purposes of Financial Assistance to the States of South Australia, Western Australia and Tasmania.

STATES GRANTS (ENTERTAINMENTS TAX REIMBURSEMENT) ACT 1942 (No. 43 of 1942)-

An Act to make provision for the Grant of Financial assistance to States, and for other purposes

STATUTE OF WESTMINSTER ADOPTION ACT 1942 (No. 56 of 1942)-

An Act to remove Doubts as to the Validity of certain Commonwealth Legislation, to obviate Delays occurring in its Passage, and to effect certain related purposes, by adopting certain Sections of the Statute of Westminster, 1931, as from the Commencement of the War between His Majesty the King and Germany.

SUPERANNUATION ACT 1942 (No. 53 of 1942)-

An Act to amend the Superannuation Act 1922-1937, and for other purposes.

WAR SERVICE ESTATES ACT 1942 (No. 57 of 1942)—

An Act relating to the Estates of Decoased Members of the Naval, Military and Air Forces of the Commonwealth, and for other purposes.

War-time (Company) Tax Assessment Act 1942 (No. 52 of 1942)-

An Act to amend the War-time (Company) Tax Assessment Act 1940-1941.

Women's Employment Act 1942 (No. 55 of 1942)-

An Act to Encourage and Regulate the Employment of Women for the purpose of aiding the Prosecution of the present War.

THE BILLS OF THE SESSION.

(TO END OF SEVENTH PERIOD.)

COMMONWEALTH BANK BILL 1942. Initiated in the House of Representatives; second reading. COMMONWEALTH CONCILIATION AND ARBITRATION BILL 1941. Initiated in the House of Representatives. Leave to bring in granted in Third Period.

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (WAR AIMS AND RECONSTRUCTION) BILL 1942. Initiated in the House of

Representatives; second reading.

EXTRADITION BILL 1941. Initiated in the House of Representatives. Leave to bring in granted in Second Period.

NAVIGATION BILL 1941. Initiated in the House of Representatives. Leave to bring in granted in Fourth Period. (Bill initiated in Senate in Sixth Period of Session and passed through both Houses; reserved for Royal Assent.)

PATENTS BILL 1941. Initiated in the House of Representatives. Leave to bring in granted in Second Period.

TRADE MARKS BILL 1941. Initiated in the House of Representatives. Leave to bring in granted in Second Period.

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Special Adjournment	

bide in the manufacture of synthetic rubber. Senator COLLINGS.—I have not read the article referred to by the honor-

is produced for the purpose of using car-

Senator COLLINGS.—I have not read the article referred to by the honorable senator, but I shall obtain a copy of it and take action along the lines suggested by him.

ABOLITION OF STATE PARLIAMENTS.

Senator FOLL.—In view of the statement by the Government yesterday to the effect that it proposes to submit at an early date certain proposals for an alteration of the Constitution, will the Leader of the Senate state whether at the same time the Government will give to the people of Australia an opportunity to record their vote as to whether they are in favour of the abolition of State Parliaments?

Senator COLLINGS.—The honorable senator is aware that the intentions of the Government with regard to matters of policy are not disclosed in reply to questions.

Senator Foll.—Will the Government give consideration to the proposal?

Senator COLLINGS.—I shall give no answer other than that already supplied.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAR EXPENDITURE.

Senator A. J. McLACHLAN.—In accordance with its terms of reference, I present a statement from the Joint Committee on War Expenditure indicating subjects on which confidential memorandums have been addressed to the Prime Minister for the consideration of the War Cabinet.

DISTRIBUTION OF MOTOR TYRES.

Senator AYLETT.—Will the Minister representing the Minister for Supply and Development state the number of motor tyres applied for in Tasmania, for which delivery is now awaited under priorities Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4? What was the number of tyres sold in Tasmania in each month for the year 1940, or for the year 1941, whichever is the easier to obtain? If the Minister does not wish to make the information public, will he give it to me privately?

Senate.

Thursday, 8 September, 1942.

The PRESIDENT (Senator the Hon. J. Cunningham) took the chair at 3 p.m., and read prayers.

SYNTHETIC RUBBER.

Senator LAMP.—Has the Leader of the Senate read an article published in the Sydney Daily Telegraph on the 20th August last, and written by Mr. A. R. Penfold, Curator of the Sydney Technological Museum, pointing out the possibility of manufacturing synthetic rubber in Tasmania? If he has not read the article, will he do so and bring it to the notice of the Prime Minister, with a view to having action taken to develop the deposits in Tasmania from which carbide

Senator FRASER.—I shall give consideration to the honorable senator's question.

MANUFACTURE OF MUNITIONS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Senator COLLETT asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon

- 1. Has the right honorable the Prime Minister had brought under his notice the statements made in the Western Australian Legislative Assembly on the 11th August of this year, by Mr. J. T. Tonkin, the member for North-east Fremantle, reflecting upon the administration of the Department of Muni-tions and the Department of Air in respect to the manufacture or proposed manufacture of certain munitions of war in Western Australia?
- 2. In any event, will the Prime Minister have the statements examined and give the Senate the benefit of his views thereon?

Senator COLLINGS.—The Minister has supplied the following answers:-

1. I have read the statements made by Mr.

J. T. Tonkin, M.L.A.

2. The circumstances of the case mentioned have already been inquired into, but in view of the representations of the honorable senator further consideration will be given to the matter, as well as to the other matters relating to the manufacture of munitions in Western Australia.

PUBLIC SERVICE.

TEMPORARY CLERKS COMMONWEALTH Association — Preference to Re-TURNED SOLDIERS-APPOINTMENTS.

Senator COLLETT asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice-

1. Is there in existence a duly registered association known as the Commonwealth Tem-

porary Clerks Association?
2. If so, is it a fact that the Public Service Board has issued a direction that all persons temporarily employed in a clerical capacity in the Commonwealth Public Service must join this association if they desire to benefit from any later determination of the Public Service Arbitrator!

If such a direction has been issued, does the Government approve of the action of the Public Service Board in this instance?

COLLINGS.—The Senator Prime Minister has supplied the following answers:--

2. and 3. At the direction of the Government the Public Service Board notified all departments that the provision of any determination made by the Public Service Arbitrator and not in force on the 19th May, 1942, and any determination made subsequent to that date should be applied only to returned soldiers and to members of an organization within the meaning of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.

Senator COOPER asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice-

- What is the number of male non-returned soldiers appointed to permanent positions in the Commonwealth Public Service, Third Division, during the present war?
- 2. What is the number of returned soldiers appointed to permanent positions in the Commonwealth Public Service, Third Division, during the present war?
- 3. What is the number of male non-returned soldiers appointed to permanent positions in other divisions of the Commonwealth Public Service during the present war?
- 4. What is the number of returned soldiers appointed to permanent positions in other divisions of the Commonwealth Public Service during the present war?
- 5. What is the probable number of vacancies in permanent positions in the Common-wealth Public Service, all divisions, during the next three years?
- 6. What steps have been taken to ensure that the greatest number of returned soldiers will be absorbed in permanent positions in the Commonwealth Public Service?

Senator COLLINGS.—The Prime Minister has supplied the following answer:---

The information is being obtained and a reply will be furnished to the honorable senator as early as possible.

Senator COLLETT asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice-

Is the Government prepared to now announce its policy in respect to returned soldiers and preference in appointment and/or promotion in the Commonwealth Public Service?

COLLINGS.—The Senator Minister has supplied the following answer :--

All matters associated with returned soldiers and their repatriation to private life are being considered and the Government's policy will be announced at as early a date as practicable.

WHEAT INDUSTRY.

Senator COLLETT asked the Minister representing the Minister for Commerce, upon notice-

1. Is the Minister satisfied that the price of wheat, as recently fixed by him, is appropriate and equitable when applied to the farmers in Western Australia who grow the greater part of the annual crop of that State?

2. (a) Is it proposed to appoint Mr. T. H. Powell to be a member of the Australian Wheat Board; (b) if so, what are Mr. Powell's qualifications for such an appoint-

Senator FRASER.—The Minister for Commerce has supplied the following answers :-

 Yes.
 The Government has under consideration the reconstitution of the Australian Wheat Board and an announcement concerning the personnel of the board will be made at the appropriate time.

NIGHT BAKING.

Senator COLLETT asked the Minister representing the Minister for Labour and National Service, upon notice-

- 1. Is it a fact that the Operative Bakers Union in Western Australia has approached the Minister for Labour and National Service with a request that he take action, under the powers conferred by the National Security Act, to abolish night baking?
- 2. Is it also a fact that the Minister has promised to take action as requested and is in communication with the union as to the terms of the proposed regulation and this without any reference to the master bakers or regard for the needs of the community?

Senator ASHLEY.—The Minister for Labour and National Service has supplied the following answers:

l. Yes.

2. No. The promise was that the matter would receive the consideration of the Government. As a result of investigations made by the Department of Labour and National Service, a recommendation was made that-(i) baking of bread to be prohibited between the hours of 6 p.m. and 5 a.m.; and (ii) no bread to be sold until it is out of the oven twelve hours. It has now been decided that an expert committee representing all sections of the baking industry be appointed by the Minister for War Organization of Industry to examine all aspects of the question.

INTEREST ON LOANS.

Senator J. B. HAYES asked the Minister representing the Treasurer, upon notice

- 1. What was the amount paid in interest on loans—both Federal and State—for the years ending 30th June, 1922, 1932, and 1942, and the capital amount owing on each of the above dates?
- 2. What were the interest payments per head of population on the same dates?

Senator KEANE.—The Treasurer has supplied the following answer:-

Inquiries are being made and a reply will he furnished as soon as possible.

NATIONAL DEBT.

ACTIVITIES OF PRIVATE BANKS.

Senator DARCEY asked ' . Minister representing the Treasure., upon notice-

- 1. By what amount has Australia's national debt been increased since the declaration of
- 2. By what amount has it been increased

by the present Government?
3. What amounts in inscribed stock, war bonds and treasury-bills have the private banks purchased since the declaration of war!

4. What amounts in treasury-bills have the banks converted in the same period?

5. Will the private banks be allowed to purchase bonds in the forthcoming loan, and will they be permitted to advance money to enable the public to subscribe to this loan?

Senator KEANE.—The Treasurer has supplied the following answer:

Inquiries are being made, and a reply will be furnished as soon as possible.

PRIVATE W. H. LE BROCQUE.

Senator JAMES McLACHLAN asked the Minister representing the Minister for Labour and National Service, upon notice-

1. Will the Minister representing the Minister for Labour and National Service advise the Senate whether it is a fact as reported in the Sydney Morning Herald of the 1st September, that Mr. Ward has made efforts to secure the discharge from the Army of Private Wallace Henry Le Brocque, who is at present before a military court martial on charges of desertion?

2. If so, and in view of the charges against this soldier, will the Minister make available to the Senate the reasons which have prompted Mr. Ward to take such action?

Senator ASHLEY.—The Minister for Labour and National Service has supplied the following answer:—

A statement regarding this matter will be made by the Minister for Labour and National Service to-morrow, furnishing full information.

AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING COMMISSION.

ENGAGEMENT OF MR. NEVILLE CARDUS.

Senator LAMP asked the Postmaster-General, upon notice—

What are the terms of the engagement of Mr. Neville Cardus with the Australian Broadcasting Commission?

Senator ASHLEY .- It is undesirable that the commission should disclose regarding the terms information engagement of its artists because such information would be useful to competitive stations.

VOLUNTEER DEFENCE CORPS.

Senator LAMP asked the Minister representing the Prime Minister, upon notice-

Will the Government issue instructions that all men exempt from military duty who are not engaged on munitions work are to perform a stated number of hours' duty with the Volunteer Defence Corps each week?

Senator COLLINGS.—The Prime Minister has supplied the following answer :-

Inquiries are being made and a reply will be furnished to the honorable senator as early as possible.

VENEREAL DISEASE.

Senator LAMP asked the Minister representing the Minister for Health, upon notice-

1. Is it a fact that the incidence of venereal

disease is increasing in Australia?
2. If so, will the Government call a conference of all State Health Departments to formulate and put into operation a comprehensive campaign against this disease?

Senator KEANE.—The Minister for Health has supplied the following answers :-

1. There has recently been a slight increase. 2. A special conference is not considered necessary in view of the efficient legislation and administration under State control. The subject will be considered at the next meeting of the National Health and Medical Research Council in November.

The matter was considered at the Premiers Conference recently in Melbourne.

VEGETABLE SEEDS.

Senator LAMP asked the Minister for Trade and Customs, upon notice-

1. Will the Minister have an investigation made into the price of vegetable seeds now on sale in the retail market?

2. Is it a fact that there is a difference of 2,200 per cent. between the retail price of onion seed and that offered by the Vegetable Seeds Committee?

3. If so, will the Minister instruct the Prices Commissioner to fix the retail price more in keeping with the price offered by the Vegetable Seeds Committee?

Senator KEANE.—The answers to the honorable senator's questions follows:--

- 1. The matter is at present being investigated.
 - 2. No.
 - 3. See answer to No. 2.

LOAN FLOTATION.

Senator DARCEY asked the Minister representing the Treasurer, upon notice-

1. What was the total cost of floating the

First Liberty Loan of £35,000,000?

2. What commission was paid to the private banks for their services in connexion with its flotation?

3. When will the Government use the national credit through the Commonwealth Bank to raise the necessary credit for the prosecution of the war with interest-free money?

Senator KEANE.—The Treasurer has supplied the following answers:-

1. £134,332.

The rate of commission has 2. £32,678. since been varied from a flat rate of 5s. per cent. to 5s. per cent. up to £5,000 and 2s. 6d. per cent. thereafter.

3. This subject is dealt with in my budget

speech.

CUSTOMS TARIFF VALIDATION BILL 1942.

Bill received from the House of Representatives.

Standing and Sessional Orders suspended.

Bill (on motion by Senator Keane) read a first time.

SECOND READING.

Senator KEANE (Victoria-Minister for Trade and Customs) [3.21].—I move-

That the bill be now read a second time.

The purpose of this bill is to validate up to, and including, the 5th March, 1943, the collection of duties under Customs Tariff Proposals No. 7, of the 5th March, 1942. As honorable senators will realize, time has not permitted the debating of these proposals, and unless they are validated by the 5th September, 1942, the authority to collect duty thereunder will lapse, and the revenue will be seriously affected.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time, and passed through its remaining stages without requests or debate.

OUSTOMS TARIFF (EXCHANGE ADJUSTMENT) VALIDATION BILL 1942.

Bill received from the House of Representatives.

Standing and Sessional Orders suspended.

Bill (on motion by Senator KEANE) read a first time.

SECOND READING.

Senator KEANE (Victoria—Minister for Trade and Customs) [3.25].—I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

This measure is incidental to the Customs Tariff Validation Bill 1942 and proposes to validate until the 5th March, 1943, the exchange adjustment alterations made by Customs Tariff (Exchange Adjustment) Proposals of the 5th March, 1942.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time, and passed through its remaining stages without requests or debate.

CUSTOMS TARIFF (SPECIAL WAR DUTY) VALIDATION BILL 1942.

Bill received from the House of Representatives.

Standing and Sessional Orders suspended.

Bill (on motion by Senator KEANE) read a first time.

SECOND READING.

Senator KEANE (Victoria—Minister for Trade and Customs) [3.29].—I

That the bill be now read a second time. This bill is introduced for the purpose of validating until the 5th March, 1943, the collection of the special war duty imposed by proposals of the 5th March, 1942. The special war duty was imposed for war-time revenue purposes. Time does not permit the debating of the proposals at present, and validation of the collections of duty thereunder is necessary in order to protect the revenue.

Question resolved in the affirmative. Bill read a second time, and passed through its remaining stages without requests or debate.

CUSTOMS TARIFF (NEW ZEALAND PREFERENCE) VALIDATION BILL 1942.

Bill received from the House of Representatives.

Standing and Sessional Orders suspended.

Bill (on motion by Senator Kraws) read a first time.

SECOND READING.

Senator KEANE (Victoria—Minister for Trade and Customs) [3.32].—I move—

That the bill be now read a second time.

The Customs Tariff (New Zealand Preference) proposals of 5th March, 1942, provide for the imposition of a special duty on chewing gum confectionery of New Zealand origin, and this bill seeks to validate the collection of duty under the proposal until the 5th March, 1943.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time, and passed through its remaining stages without requests or debate.

CUSTOMS TARIFF (CANADIAN PREFERENCE) VALIDATION BILL 1942.

Bill received from the House of Representatives.

Standing and Sessional Orders suspended.

Bill (on motion by Senator Krane) read a first time.

SECOND READING.

Senator KEANE (Victoria—Minister for Trade and Customs) [3.36].—I move—

That the bill be now read a second time. This bill provides for the validation of the collection of the protective duty imposed on lifting jacks of Canadian origin by Customs Tariff (Canadian Preference) proposals of the 5th March, 1942. The period of validation is the same as for the other tariff proposals, namely, until the 5th March, 1943.

Question resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time, and passed through its remaining stages without requests or debate.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON WAR EXPENDITURE.

Message received from the House of Representatives intimating that Mr. Rosevear had been discharged from attendance on the Joint Committee on War Expenditure.

BROADCASTING COMMITTEE.

Message received from the House of Representatives intimating that the following members had been appointed members of the Broadcasting Committee: Mr. Barnard, Mr. Calwell, Mr. Johnson, Sir Charles Marr, Dr. Price, and Mr. Riordan.

Motion (by Senator Ashley)—by leave—agreed to—

That, in accordance with the provisions of the Australian Broadcasting Act 1942, the following senators be appointed members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Broadcasting:—Senator Amour, Senator Cooper, and Senator Herbert Hays.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

REVIEW OF WAR SITUATION.

Senator ASHLEY (New South Wales—Postmaster-General)—by leave—read a copy of the ministerial statement delivered in the House of Representatives by the Minister for External Affairs (Dr. Evatt) (vide p. 78), and moved—That the paper be printed.

Debate (on motion by Senator MoLEAY) adjourned.

WAR SITUATION.

SECRET MEETING OF SENATORS AND MEMBERS.

Motion (by Senator Collings)—by leave—agreed to—

That a joint meeting of members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives be convened this day for the purpose of discussing in secret the present war and hearing confidential reports in relation thereto.

SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT.

Motion (by Senator Collines) agreed

That the Senate, at its rising, adjourn to Thursday next at 3 p.m.

PAPERS.

The following papers were presented:

Defence Act—Royal Military College— Report for 1941.

National Security Act— National Security (General) Regula-

tions—Orders—
Prohibiting work on land (12).

Prohibiting work on land [12]. Taking possession of land, &c. (84). Use of land (8).

Senate adjourned at 4.18 p.m.