

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

# PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.

## FOURTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT.

*The Parliament was prorogued on 9th January, 1914, until 28th May, 1914. It was further prorogued to 30th June, 1914, when it met for the despatch of business; and the Fourth Session commenced on that day.*

*Parliament was opened by His Excellency the Governor.*

### Legislative Council,

*Tuesday, 30th June, 1914.*

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ter, East Province; Hon. H. Carson, Central Province; Hon. J. Duffell, Metropolitan-Suburban Province; Hon. J. J. Holmes, North Province; Hon. H. Milington, North-East Province.

The return to the writ for the South-East Province, showing that Hon. C. A. Piesse had been elected, was also produced by the Clerk.

### OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Legislative Council met at 3 o'clock p.m., pursuant to proclamation, which was read by the Clerk of Parliaments (Mr. G. F. Hillman).

The President took the Chair.

The PRESIDENT: Hon. members, His Excellency will, at a future time, declare the cause of his calling Parliament together.

### NEW MEMBERS.

The following members, elected since the prorogation, then took and subscribed the oath of allegiance and signed the members' roll:—Hon. A. G. Jenkins, Metropolitan Province; Hon. E. M. Clarke, South-West Province; Hon. J. W. Kirwan, South Province; Hon. J. F. Allen, West Province; Hon. C. F. Bax-

### THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency Major-General Sir Harry Barron, K.C.M.G., C.V.O., entered the Council Chamber at 3.16 p.m.; and the members of the Legislative Assembly having also attended in the Chamber obediently to summons, His Excellency was pleased to deliver the following speech:—

*Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council—*

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—*

Since the termination of the last session of Parliament, opportunity was taken by our Agent General in London, the Hon. Sir Newton J. Moore, K.C.M.G., to revisit the State on the occasion of his commencing a further term of office as our representative, in order to acquaint himself with the progress of the State since 1911.

Since the close of last Session, the position of Chief Justice became vacant owing to the retirement of Sir Henry Parker. Mr. Justice McMillan was elevated to the vacant position, and John Alfred Northmore, Esq., K.C., was appointed the third Puisne Judge of the Supreme Court.

Satisfactory arrangements have been concluded by which the banking accounts operated on by my advisers will be transferred to the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

The system adopted by my advisers of providing homes for workers continues to increase in popularity. Over 1,000 homes have been erected within the last two years, representing a capital value of £427,000; whilst 322 homes have been purchased, completed, or cleared of existing mortgages, at a cost of approximately £100,000. Up to date 2,154 applications have been received for loans, amounting to approximately £670,000. Inquiries have been received from various Australian States, and from America and Africa, concerning this beneficent provision and its administration.

During the past season the aggregate production of crops within the State showed a record increase, furnishing further evidence of the capabilities of our soil.

The most gratifying feature characterising the development of our agricultural areas is that there has been a very considerable increase in the amount of improvements effected on selected lands; the increase in the areas ringbarked, cleared, fallowed, and otherwise improved constituting a record in the history of the State.

Substantial increases are shown in the export of wheat, flour, and fruit, and the opportunities for expansion in these activities furnish an encouraging guarantee for all those who are engaged in these industries.

The record harvest has been handled successfully and economically by the Government railways.

The relaying of the Great Southern and South-Western railways with heavier rails has been completed, and

these works—which enable locomotives of greater tractive power to be used—contributed to the result just mentioned. Two thousand nine hundred and sixty-seven miles of main line are now operated by the Railway Department.

The tramway system of Perth and suburbs has been successfully operated by the Railway Department, and will disclose a satisfactory result for the year. The central power house at East Perth, and other electrical works connected therewith, are making such progress as should enable power and light to be supplied throughout the metropolitan area by January, 1915.

The prospects of the great mineral industry are very encouraging, the output of gold for 1913 exceeding that of the previous year by 31,385 fine ounces. This increase is largely due to the renewed activity of the old fields of Yilgarn and the Murchison.

The total dividends paid by gold mining companies last year amounted to £910,326, an increase of £9,234 over the previous year.

The output of coal in quantity and value has been well maintained, constituting a record for the Collie field.

Substantial assistance is being given by my advisers with a view to the revival of the Phillips River field, while the development of lead mining in the Northampton area is of a very gratifying nature.

Under the Public Works Department good progress has been made with the large number of works in hand. Small abattoirs at North Fremantle, representing the first portion of what will ultimately be developed into large export works, have been opened, and those now in course of erection at Midland Junction will be completed in August next.

Railway construction has been vigorously carried on, and, in addition to those lines handed over since 1st July, 1913, other railways, involving a total of 290 miles will, it is anticipated, be handed over to the Railway Department by December next. There will, at that date, be a further 295 miles of railway in process of construction.

Surveys of new railway lines totalling 378 miles have been authorised.

The three sawmills in the karri forest have been duly completed, but, owing to the cancellation of the original contract by the Commonwealth Government, it has been impossible to work the mills to their full capacity. In view of the latest communication from the Prime Minister it is, however, confidently anticipated that a new agreement will be concluded in the near future.

My advisers have continued to give special consideration to the requirements of the North-West, with the result that the buildings, jetties, and tramways generally are now in a good state of repair, while water supplies have been extended and improved.

The first portion of the machinery for the State brickworks has been installed, and bricks have been manufactured for the erection of the Hoffman kiln. When the kiln and the necessary machinery have been completed, an output of 180,000 bricks per week can be maintained.

The future of the meat trade in Australia, and particularly in this State, has engaged the careful attention of my advisers.

Plans are now being matured by which the stock-raising industry in our Northern districts will receive encouragement without endangering the interests of consumers within the State.

Harbour improvements at Fremantle are being actively proceeded with. Schemes for the improvement of the harbours at Albany and Bunbury have been approved, and plans for Geraldton are under consideration. A commencement has been made at Albany, and the work at Bunbury is to be undertaken without delay, whilst a quarry for the supply of stone for the breakwater at Geraldton has been located.

The amalgamation of the water supplies under one Department has concentrated varied activities under this head.

In the metropolitan area the completion of the reservoir at Mt. Eliza, with a capacity of ten million gallons, and the enlargement of many small mains, have

enabled the Department to meet the increased requirements of the metropolitan district.

The reservoir at Mt. Hawthorn is approaching completion, thus ensuring a better service to the Northern suburbs.

The demands for water have made it necessary to investigate other sources of supply, in order to meet the needs of our rapidly growing population.

Water mains from the Goldfields Water Supply undertaking have been largely extended in the agricultural districts. This is in addition to the large expenditure involved in providing supplies to settled areas not served by this scheme.

The completion of a service reservoir, with a capacity of ten million gallons, at Kalgoorlie, ensures continuity of supplies to this centre.

A new pumping plant has been installed at Randalls, while at Ora Banda and Meekatharra existing schemes have been further improved.

New and improved water supplies at Albany, Geraldton, Roebourne, and Derby have been brought into operation, while projects for Katanning, Collie, and Bridgetown are under investigation.

Four new filter beds at Burswood Island will shortly be in full operation, with the result that effective treatment of the effluent from the septic tanks is confidently anticipated.

The improvement in the Public Health administration has shown very gratifying results.

The death rate last year was the lowest recorded in the Commonwealth and in any country where statistics are regularly kept.

The infantile mortality rate reached the lowest on record in Western Australia, and, indeed, the lowest of any State in the Commonwealth.

The improved water supplies throughout the State, the provision of pure milk to the Children's Hospital and Government institutions, together with the extension of the sewerage system in the metropolitan area, and further assistance for the maintenance of children under maternal care, are in no small measure responsible for these happy results.

The need for properly trained midwives will be met by the erection of a maternity hospital, which will be proceeded with at an early date.

Substantial progress is being made with the erection of the consumptive sanatorium at Wooroloo, and it is expected that it will be open to receive patients during October next.

My advisers have approved of a grant and subsidy to assist in the establishment of a fund to provide financial aid to the victims of miners' phthisis and their dependants. Legislation will be introduced to create a board for the management of the fund.

The Inebriates Act has been put into operation, and steps have been taken to establish homes at Cottesloe and Whitby Falls for the treatment of the victims of alcohol. They are also providing a home for unfortunate women afflicted with inebriety, and have thus given full recognition to the testimony of modern science that drunkenness is a disease and not a crime, and that the hospital and not the gaol is the proper place for its cure.

The number of children in the schools under the Education Department continues to increase rapidly. At the end of the first quarter of this year the rolls of the primary schools had nearly reached 43,000. There are now 563 schools open.

The evening continuation schools have grown very rapidly, and are evidently now much appreciated. The numbers of students this year have nearly doubled.

A new secondary school has been opened at Kalgoorlie to serve the population of the Eastern Goldfields.

The fees at the technical schools have been abolished, and education is now free from the kindergarten to the University.

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—*

You will be asked to grant temporary supplies for the requirements of the public service during the period which must necessarily elapse between now and the meeting of the next Parliament.

*Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council—*

*Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—*

Among the measures that will be submitted for your consideration will be Bills dealing with—

Constitutional reform;  
Rights in natural waters, and the irrigation and drainage of land;  
Land Act Amendment;  
Initiative and referendum;  
Regulation of traffic.

You will further be asked to give authority for the construction of railway lines from—

Esperance northwards;  
Dwarda to Narrogin;  
Kondinin to Merredin;  
and lines to connect—  
Lake Grace;  
Lake Pingarup; and  
the Margaret River  
with existing railways.

I now leave you to your labours, trusting that, by the blessing of Divine Providence, they will prove of material advantage to the people of Western Australia.

The Governor then retired, and the President (Hon. H. Briggs) took the Chair and read prayers.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew) laid on the Table reports and papers similar to those presented by Ministers in the Legislative Assembly.

#### BILL—ROAD CLOSURE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew): In order to assert and maintain the undoubted rights and privileges of this House to initiate legislation, I move, without notice, for leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act for the closing of certain Roads and Streets."

Leave given: Bill introduced, and read a first time

# OBITUARY—HON. R. W. PENNEFATHER.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew): Since we last met death has removed one of our esteemed members. The hon. Mr. Pennefather has gone to his long rest. Mr. Pennefather was for many years a member of Parliament; he was also a Minister of the Crown, and he ably and conscientiously discharged the duties of the various public positions which he filled. I think I am quite safe in saying that, while a member of this House, he earned the respect and esteem of hon. members; and I desire, on behalf of members, to express the deepest sympathy with the widow and relatives of the deceased gentleman. I move—

*That a letter of condolence be sent by the Hon. the President to the widow and family of the late Mr. Pennefather.*

Hon. Sir E. H. WITTENOOM (North): I have much pleasure in supporting the motion, owing to the fact that the deceased gentleman was a colleague of mine, and represented that portion of the State which I also have the honour to represent. He was known to me for a great many years. He was a man who conscientiously tried to carry out his duty in all respects. Unfortunately he was overtaken with bad health and, in consequence, was unable to devote as much time to his work as he would have liked. I had the privilege of knowing him as a member of the Forrest Government when I also was a member. He occupied the position of Attorney General with great credit to himself, and I have always regretted that he never succeeded to that high position which nearly all members of the legal profession desire to attain, namely, a judgeship. I have much pleasure in supporting the motion.

Question put and passed, members standing.

# CONDOLENCE—THE LATE MRS. R. G. ARDAGH.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew): While the House has been in recess, the hon. Mr. Ardagh has sus-

tained a bereavement in the loss of his wife, and I have to offer him the sincere condolences of myself and of hon. members of this Chamber.

# ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

## *First Day.*

The PRESIDENT (Hon. Henry Briggs): His Excellency the Governor has been pleased to deliver a Speech, and for the sake of accuracy a copy of the Speech will be placed before each member.

Hon. H. MILLINGTON (North-East): I desire to move that the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor in reply to the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to us:—

*May it please your Excellency, We, the Legislative Council of the Parliament of the State of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign and to thank your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to deliver to Parliament.*

In speaking to the subject matter contained in the Speech delivered by His Excellency it naturally affords me much pleasure as a supporter of the present Government, who are responsible for the administration of the affairs of the State, to draw attention to the manner in which the administration has been carried out, and to the record of the present Government. I think those who have listened attentively to the Address delivered must conclude that every interest in the State has been attended to and that the various departments have been efficiently and faithfully administered. This is particularly noticeable on account of the policy of the present Government in assuming more and more of the control of the affairs of State. Naturally this policy involves a considerable amount of work on each department. The manner in which those departments have carried out their work is to a certain extent set out in the Speech, but it would be impossible in the time to call attention to many things that have been done and which have had a beneficial effect on the State.

In the first place the success of the Workers' Homes Act has been noted, together with the efficiency of its administration. Already a thousand homes have been built at a cost of £470,000, and over 2,000 applications have been received from those desirous of taking advantage of the Act. It is hardly necessary to make further reference to this, as the manner in which the measure is appreciated and taken advantage of is quite sufficient. It will be noticed that the agricultural industry of the State is still on the improve. To a certain extent, of course, this is not altogether within the control of the Lands Department. At the same time there are many advantages which have been conferred on the agriculturists by the present Government, not only by the sympathetic administration of the Lands Department, but also by the assistance of the Railways and of the Water Supply Department. Everyone will agree that the agricultural industry requires fostering and should have the sympathy of everyone in the State. Although I happen to represent a gold-mining constituency, I am sure it is the wish of all members that every encouragement should be given to agriculture, as we recognise how much depends upon it. At times comparisons have been instituted as to the relative positions of the gold-mining and the agricultural industries. It is not necessary for me to refer to that further than to affirm that the present Government have carried out their duties in this respect. The present Administration have attended to the relaying of the Great Southern and the South-Western railways. This shows that the railways of the State have not been allowed to drift into disrepair, and that the present Government, although recognising the necessity for economy in the Railway Department, have at least seen that everything in connection with the railroad and the rolling stock are kept up to date instead of being allowed to drift. I am pleased to know that the mining industry is on the improve. Some seem to consider that mining in Western Australia, especially gold mining, is on the down-grade. However, it will have been noted in the Speech delivered that the output of gold for 1913

is over 31,000 ozs. above that of the previous year. This to a great extent is owing to the renewed output of the older fields such as Yilgarn, places which had previously been worked and had received a temporary set back. When we notice that goldfields have been renewed, naturally we look for a reason therefor, and I have no hesitation in saying that this is to a great extent due to the assistance given by the present Administration, assistance in the shape of water supplies and other facilities. It is due to this that some of the older goldfields have received a new lease of life, and it is on that account that the output is now on the upgrade. I am sure even those who think they have not much interest in the gold mining of the State will be prepared to concede that the increase in the yield is gratifying to everyone and means a great deal to those who are directly interested in the prosperity of the industry. I have already said there are those who are inclined to draw comparisons between the mining and the agricultural industries, and inclined to belittle the importance of the gold-mining industry. Although a representative of a goldfields constituency I have no wish to disparage the importance of agriculture. At the same time those engaged in agricultural pursuits have to realise that in point of production the agricultural industry is not of the same importance as the gold-mining industry. If ever it is to be of the same importance I hope it will mean, not that the gold-mining industry declines until coming on a level with the present output of the agricultural industry, but that the output of the agricultural industry will come up to the level of that of gold mining. I hope the agricultural industry will come up to the importance of the gold-mining industry and that there will not be a levelling down of the gold-mining industry, but a levelling up of the agricultural industry to a point of equal importance with the gold-mining industry. This, to a great extent, is a matter of administration. I notice also a very encouraging report in connection with the Health Department. This, again, is a matter which every responsible Government must consider of the most serious

importance. Those who realise the importance of this will give the present Administration credit for the report which they have been able to place before members, which shows that the present death-rate in the State is the lowest on record, and also that the infantile mortality is the lowest on record in the State, and that the State also holds the record for the Commonwealth. This, I am sure, is satisfactory to those responsible for the administration, and is a matter of congratulation to every elector in the State. Also in regard to this, the present Administration have established a consumptive sanatorium at Wooroloo and are engaged in the establishment of a fund to provide financial assistance to the victims of the fell disease miner's phthisis, and not only to the victims thereof, but to their dependants also. As a representative of a constituency where this disease is particularly prevalent, I must say it is with great satisfaction that I notice the Government intend taking this step and establishing this fund for the relief of those who are the unfortunate victims. It is, however, difficult for those who do not come into contact personally with this question to understand the gravity of the situation, but many members of the Government, who have had personal experience and who are aware what the position is in regard to the unhealthy conditions which must prevail in the working of the underground mines at the depth they are at Kalgoorlie, I am sure quite realise the gravity of the position and would see the necessity for supporting the scheme in every possible way without attempting to delay this question or the alleviation of the distress dependent upon it. This is a matter which could be enlarged upon to a great extent, but I recognise that probably on future occasions when this and other matters have been dealt with we will be able to deal more effectively with a question of this description. The question of education is also one which would require a considerable amount of time to go thoroughly into. At the same time the present Government have established free education from the primary school to the University, a matter which has been very largely advertised and one for which, I

maintain, the present Government should receive every credit. I think the Address which has been delivered this afternoon by His Excellency the Governor goes to prove that although the present Government have not been successful, owing to the obstructive methods of this Chamber, in placing all the legislation they intended upon the Statute Book, they have at least established a record in regard to careful and efficient administration, which means that as far as lay in their power they have done their utmost to carry out the wishes of those to whom they are responsible. It appears to me that they have done about as much as it was possible for them to do considering that, where new legislation was required or where some of the old Acts required amending in order to effectively put into force the policy of the party, though that could not be done, they have at least done their utmost to keep faith with those to whom they were responsible. So much for what the Government have done. We know now that it is proposed to introduce certain measures, one in the first place providing for constitutional reform. It is not a very long intimation, running as it does into only two words. I presume these are ominous words. I think also that the hon. members who were here last session must have expected that the present Government would have acted in the direction to which these two words point. The position so far as this Chamber was concerned was becoming intolerable. Of course, so far as I am concerned, I am safe in referring to this. At the same time, I can assure you that, at the time, as an outsider myself, it appeared to me to be very difficult for mere outsiders to understand how it was that a section of the community, at least a Chamber representing the community, considered that they were justified in ignoring what was undoubtedly a mandate from the whole of the electors, or a very large majority of the electors of this State. The time will come, undoubtedly, when this will have to be decided—when we will see whether the great majority of the electors of this State are to have their ideas put into effect in regard to legislative enactments, or whether a section of the community is to ignore

the wishes of those who should have the control of the legislation of this State. There are those here who dearly love a precedent. Those who consider this the greatest of all arguments I would like to refer to the Old Country, about which we hear so much. You will see that there, where they are supposed to move slowly, where there is nothing in the nature of hasty legislation, they have moved in the direction which is indicated by the reform which is to be introduced by the present Government. Now, it will be sufficient time to discuss the method which the Government propose to adopt when the measure comes before the Chamber. At the same time, it is to a certain extent, perhaps, necessary to call attention to the fact that the present Government are undoubtedly justified in their intention to move in this direction of constitutional reform. I notice here a few old friends or acquaintances from last session—old acquaintances of yours, but new acquaintances of mine in this capacity. In the first place there is a measure here, the Rights in Water and Irrigation Bill. This is a measure which I think was considered from a non-party basis, or rather one which could be considered by this Chamber on its merits. At that time I am not quite sure what arguments were used, but as far as logic was concerned, if my recollection serves me rightly, I think the arguments against the introduction of this Bill were very weak, while the vote at the time was particularly strong, and votes count in a place like this. Further, I believe there was a decided objection to some of these measures being introduced because it was thought at the time there was not sufficient time allowed for their consideration. I do not know whether you could call it hasty legislation, if you have had time to consider a measure in one session and think over it during the recess and you now find it introduced again. You will have to find some new form of argument than one introduced on these lines, namely, that we shall have attempted to pass it in a hasty manner. I think on this occasion this Bill will be considered on its merits and hon. members will have ample opportunity of again passing their opinion

of the measure in that direction, and later on they will have an opportunity of justifying to the electors of the State the attitude adopted in regard to it. I notice also an intention to introduce a Bill for the Initiative and Referendum. I understand every member of this Chamber claims to have democratic principles. If so, they will have an opportunity when this Bill is being discussed of saying whether they are prepared to trust the people or whether they would sooner, as at present, place the power in the hands of a section of the community. Further, all those who are at heart democrats will have an opportunity of voting for this and thus showing, whatever their opinions, that they are quite prepared to take the expression of opinion of the majority of the people of this State upon any given question. Those who are not prepared to place their reliance upon the people will have an opportunity of saying so and we will know where we are. The Regulation of Traffic is also a measure which can easily be considered from a non-party point of view, but which was thrown out last session. You will have an opportunity of again discussing this measure, and here again we will find the same position as we found in the Rights in Water and Irrigation measure, namely that of now having had time to consider the measure, and will not be able to get rid of it merely on the plea that it is in the nature of hasty legislation. Now we come to the matter of the construction of railways. I notice there are six agricultural railways upon the Notice Paper. There is one in particular to which I wish to draw attention. The others are no doubt of importance to their particular districts, but I think if there has been one railway project which has been well discussed and advertised throughout the length and breadth of this State it is the Esperance railway, which now becomes an agricultural railway, because it is only proposed to build it from Esperance northwards to serve that agricultural area. Although representing a goldfields constituency, I feel that I would not be doing my duty if I did not accord this my hearty support. I believe you will find that although this comes within the



category of an agricultural railway, the whole of the members of the Eastern Goldfields in both Houses will be prepared to support the measure. You will also have an opportunity of finding out the attitude of the Country party in regard to agricultural railways. I believe they are pledged to support railways which will be beneficial to the agricultural districts, and therefore we look with confidence to the new party to give their support in this respect. I believe that the leader and the deputy leader of the Country party will see that the full party vote is in favour of this measure when it comes before the Chamber. In respect to this railway I would like to point out that it is of greater importance than the other agricultural lines on account of the fact that it will open up practically a new district; and that it is not so much in the nature of an experiment as some of the lines would be, because the agricultural area which it will serve has already been tested. Therefore, the Government are justified in introducing this Bill and in persisting in introducing it until it is finally carried, as it must be. In regard to the other railways, they go to prove that the present Government are anxious in regard to all these agricultural districts in this State that such districts should be served by railways, and that it is their policy to continue construction in this respect in every part of the State. With the few remarks I have made I will conclude. I sincerely hope that the measures which are to be introduced by the Government will receive the earnest consideration of all members of this Chamber.

Hon. J. CORNELL (South): I rise to second the motion moved by my friend Mr. Millington. May I be permitted at the outset to offer my salutations to you, Mr. President, on again seeing you occupying your position as President of this House. During recess a change has taken place in the personnel of the Legislative Council, and whether it will be for weal or woe time alone will tell. Before proceeding with the subject-matter of the Governor's Speech I would like to offer one or two remarks in regard to two gentlemen who were formerly with us and who are not now members of this Cham-

ber. I refer to the hon. Mr. Moss and the hon. Mr. Davis. With Mr. Moss, who was a political opponent of mine, in the course of my eighteen months' acquaintance with him, I formed a strong personal friendship, and that gentleman's absence must be regarded by all as a distinct loss. With regard to my friend Mr. Davis, I think those who came into contact with him, even though they were politically opposed to him, became strongly endeared to him and I, and I am sure many others, regret that he and Mr. Moss are not with us now. Reference has been made by the leader of the House to the death of Mr. Pennefather. That gentleman's ill-health prevented my coming into very close contact with him on the floor of this House, but as a boy I knew the late Mr. Pennefather when he was practising his profession in Victoria, and I always heard him well spoken of. I join the leader of the House in the sentiment he expressed towards the late member, and I would like to add also that for his political sins and omissions the late Mr. Pennefather will have less to answer for than many hon. members who are now in this Chamber. I also desire to briefly touch on the reference which was made by the leader of the House to the death of Mrs. R. G. Ardagh. I was acquainted with that lady for a considerable number of years, and I strongly sympathise with the hon. Mr. Ardagh in the loss he has sustained, especially as he has been left with a large family. Still, the hon. member can console himself with the knowledge that it is the end which inevitably awaits us all. There is yet another hon. member in this House to whom I would like to make reference, an hon. member whose illness will prevent him from attending the deliberations of this Chamber for a little while. I refer to the Hon. C. A. Piesse. I sincerely trust that he will very soon be restored to health and that we shall see him in his place on the floor of the House. Though a political opponent of mine I have the highest regard for that gentleman. The time at my disposal this afternoon is limited, but with the indulgence of the House I will digress somewhat from matters which are contained in the Governor's Speech. I would like, first

of all, to refer to some of the features of the recent elections and the advent into this Chamber of the Country party. Since last session a new sphere has been created in this House. It has always been held by hon. members politically opposed to me that there were no parties in this House, but I would like to tell hon. members of the Country party that they will discover, as I have discovered, that that utterance is just about on a par with the ostrich which buries its head in the sand and believes itself wholly concealed from view. Personally I think that the Country party is simply another joint on the table of the Liberal party, but I hope that the opinion which I have formed of that party is not correct. I have taken a considerable interest in its formation and in its doings, and there is no question about its latest action in regard to Federal politics. The action of that party concerning the Dampier seat must lead one to believe that it is only a small joint on the table of the Liberals.

Hon. J. Duffell: You got that out of the *Worker*.

Hon. J. CORNELL: I would like to remind the hon. member that new members should be heard in silence, and I would say that if he desires that the courtesy which he expects shall be extended to him he will hold his peace. With regard to the Country party, I will give them the benefit of the doubt, and I will judge them by their attitude in this House. I shall appeal to them to support a decentralisation policy which has been absent ever since the introduction of responsible Government in Western Australia. If the Country party are successful in this direction they will prove that they are not the joint to which I have referred. There is another matter which appeals to me in connection with the North Province election, and it was amusing to discover the amount of ferocity which existed in the ranks of Liberalism over that contest. Anyone who has taken the trouble to read the speeches of three of the candidates who contested the North Province seat must come to the conclusion that those three candidates were not only prepared to destroy one another but to almost devour one another. I am not

Scotch and therefore I possess a certain amount of humour, and I saw the humorous side of that contest. There is another matter which is not contained in the Speech, and to which I desire to refer briefly, and it is a matter that concerns not only myself but a great majority of the people of the metropolis, and also a majority of the people of the State, I refer to the recent industrial trouble. We have had in Perth recently one of the gravest crises which has ever been experienced, and it had its basis on one point. The position—and I am not going to quibble—was brought about by the carpenters making a certain demand. That demand was that preference to unionists should be granted. To gain that the carpenters struck, and in retaliation the employers locked out other employees and closed down the whole of the timber yards in the metropolitan area. I say that the attitude of the employers was as much a lock-out as the attitude of the carpenters was a strike. I say that this House is responsible for that recent industrial trouble, and that is a great charge to make. In two sessions of this present Parliament this House has had referred to it by the Legislative Assembly, supported by the united voice of the community, the mandate to grant preference to unionists. This House had the opportunity on two occasions of granting preference to unionists. In 1911 the amending Conciliation and Arbitration Bill provided that preference should be granted to unionists, and in 1912 a Bill containing a similar proviso was sent to this Chamber. It was rejected by this Chamber on both occasions, and the other place went so far as to allow the unreserved right of granting preference to unionists at discretion of the Arbitration Court. The same applies to-day under the Federal Arbitration Act, but this House turned down the proposition, and that being the case there was nothing left for the workmen recently but to strike. I favour law as against force, but when this Chamber is given the opportunity of providing the means for the settlement of these difficulties which have cropped up for years and must crop up in the future, and persists in turning

down the proposals of the Government, one cannot but conclude that force is favoured as against law and order. Another aspect which has been brought into this question was that the object of Millar's men in striking was to augment the vote of the Labour party. To that I give an emphatic denial. We want men and women who are prepared to meet their obligations, and that is provided for in the Conciliation and Arbitration Act, which sets forth that to avail yourself of it you must be a registered union, and then you are called upon to maintain an existing standard of living and wages, and also to effect improvements. Persons who will not subscribe their just amounts towards law as against force are not an asset to our movement, though they may be an asset to other movements, and the other movements can have them. I will now allude to the Governor's Speech. With regard to the workers' homes, the attitude adopted by the Scaddan Government in passing the Workers' Homes Act was claimed, during Mr. Allen's campaign by the supporters of that gentleman, as a Liberal measure. That statute, however, will stand as a monument to the Scaddan Government. I do not desire to go into figures relating to workers' homes, as Mr. Millington has referred to them, but there are hon. members here who, were they candid enough, would admit that had they known the gun was loaded they would have voted against the proposition. The hon. Mr. Colebatch, during the course of his remarks on the first Address-in-Reply which I, as a member of this Chamber listened to, drew a very lurid picture of a three-roomed house having no place for the baby. In fact he enlarged on it. The picture was enlarged from cabinet size to something bigger, but the tenor of his remarks was that there was no place for the baby, and he referred to three-roomed houses in which the workers would spend week-end holidays. The hon. Mr. Kingsmill also referred to the workers' homes scheme and objected that all of them would be built the same. The administration of the Workers' Homes Act has conclusively proved that on that occasion both the

hon. Mr. Colebatch and the hon. Mr. Kingsmill were wrong.

Hon. H. P. Colebatch: I referred only to those under leasehold.

Hon. J. CORNELL: I am referring only to those under leasehold.

Hon. H. P. Colebatch: Oh no!

Hon. J. CORNELL: I have one under the leasehold system and I have room for the baby and for another one, too. The leasehold homes erected by the Workers' Homes Board are a credit to them and they are more than comparable with some of the jerry-built tenements which are being erected by landlords in the metropolitan area at the present time. The only accusation urged against them now is that they are too good for the workers. I have heard the old story to the effect that nothing is too good for the Irish and I will carry it further and say that nothing is too good for the workers. Hon. members will be at a loss to condemn this portion of the Governor's Speech at any rate. There is one phase of the leasehold system to which I would like to refer. It is well known that under the Workers' Homes Act the worker has the option of availing himself of either leasehold or freehold. Therefore, he goes into it with his eyes open. But the hon. Mr. Allen on the hustings, while commending the Government in connection with the Workers' Homes Act, did not agree with the principle of leasehold and stated that, if returned, he would support legislation to give the present holders the freehold.

Hon. J. F. Allen: Hear, hear!

Hon. J. CORNELL: I thank the hon. member, but I do not want his support. I do not desire to convert my leasehold into freehold. It may have been that this remark made by the hon. member to the electors had the effect of pulling wool over the eyes of those who had freehold and throwing dust into the eyes of those who did not have it. When a man enters into an obligation and does so with his eyes open, as in this case, when he is at liberty to avail himself of either the leasehold or freehold conditions, it is ridiculous, hypocritical and wrong to advise that man to

return a certain candidate to Parliament on the understanding that if he is returned he will support the granting of the fee simple. I desire to compliment the Railway Department on the handling of the wheat crop during the past season, and I think it can be safely said that the work of the Department in this respect will compare more than favourably with similar work done in any other State. Having lived in several other States, I desire to pay a tribute to the railway officials of Western Australia for their work in this connection during the past season. The tramways purchase measure, which had a very rocky passage through this House, and the sortie against which was led by the hon. Mr. Colebatch—

Hon. W. Kingsmill: I wish I had led it.

Hon. J. CORNELL: The hon. Mr. Kingsmill wishes he had led the attack. Perhaps the hon. member has his re-election in view or perhaps he may not. Speaking from my limited experience of the trams as run under the tramway company, I say that the service under the Government is infinitely better, and when the new power house is available next year there must of necessity be a resultant improvement in the tramway facilities. The purchase of the tramways will be another monument to the Scaddan Government and will be viewed as such by posterity. The mining industry interests me considerably and it must be pleasing to all of us, even though we may disagree politically, that the gold production is on the increase. There are pessimists in this State who sling mud, and among them are men who have made their money out of the mining industry, and have since dissociated themselves from it. There are such men who say that the industry is declining. I contend that a man who has made his money out of the mining industry, and who states that the production is on the decline, deserves very little consideration from any section of the community. The figures have proved that the production is not on the decline, but, on the other hand, is increasing. I hope that the production of the mines will increase still

further, and I have little doubt that it will do so. I desire to refer to the encouragement which the mining industry has received from the Government. The present Administration have been responsible for restarting the smelters at Phillips River. They have provided water-works at Ora Banda, Randalls, Marvel Loch, and Meekatharra, and in many other parts of the State, and, whatever may be the fate of the Scaddan Government—I have a fairly good idea of what it will be—I am confident that whoever have the temerity to oppose Government supporters in the gold mining constituencies will help to wipe off the deficit of the State to the extent of the amount of their deposits. The Governor's Speech contains many matters relating to public works and, although the Minister for Works has been accused by the Press of being a promiser, it must be admitted that he has made good. I do not intend to take up the time of the House by discussing the directions in which he has made good, but the Minister has carried out a system of development which will compare more than favourably with the work of his predecessors in office. In regard to public works, I desire to refer to the State sawmills. The sawmills, like the State butcher shops, have constituted a peg on which hon. members have hung their hats for a long time, but the peg did not mature until the advent of the Cook Government in the Federal arena. When the Cook Government took office one of their first actions was to cancel the sleeper contract made with the Government of Western Australia. This action did not rebound to their credit, and I am of opinion that they were actuated only by party motives, and party bias. The Government of this State retaliated in the direction of curtailing the licenses for the cutting of jarrah and so long as the Cook Government, or their successors, treat the Government of Western Australia in this way, we have every right to close down and prevent them from exploiting the jarrah forests of this State. I do not desire to enter into any controversy as regards the merits or demerits of powellised karri, but I hold that we

must accept expert advice, and experts have recommended the use of powellised karri. The Federal Royal Commission, which was appointed to inquire into the question of powellised timber, may not report favourably upon it, but there is such a thing as having made up one's mind beforehand. I have had a little experience of this sort of thing in connection with select committees appointed by this Chamber; I have found that they have made up their minds beforehand. I think that the Federal Royal Commission on powellised timber has done the same and that it will bring in a report derogatory to powellised karri for use as sleepers. The State brickworks, when in working order, will, it is estimated, turn out 180,000 bricks per week. The production of bricks is urgently needed in the building industry, especially in the metropolitan area, and I have every reason to believe that, with the advent of the State brickworks, there will be a considerable reduction in the price of this material, which at the present time is altogether exorbitant. This reduction will prove beneficial to the workers of this State because it is the policy of the Government to supply their own needs first, and by doing so they must confer a boon on the community in thus enabling houses to be erected under the Workers' Homes Act more cheaply. Another matter I desire to refer to is that of the sanatorium at Wooroloo. I regret that the majority of the patients who will occupy this sanatorium will come from the district I represent, and from other mining districts of the State. The present Government are not responsible for this. Past Governments who would not attend to the lives and health of the miners by providing decent regulations and inspection, as they should have done, are responsible for the great number of cases of miners' phthisis in this State. The present Government have been compelled to come to the rescue. They have been compelled, as it were, to provide the ambulance at the bottom of the precipice, a precipice created by previous Administrations. Though I am not one who does not believe in providing ambulances but

would rather favour the fencing off of the precipice, the only thing that could be done, after the precipice had been created through no fault of ours, was to bring along an ambulance in order to take care of those who did fall over. The present Government propose to introduce a scheme whereby financial support will be extended to the victims suffering from miners' phthisis and to their wives and families. This proposal is to be commended and my only regret is that the mining companies have done absolutely nothing for such sufferers. When we consider that over 117 million pounds worth of gold has been won in Western Australia since 1884, and that over 24 million pounds has been distributed in dividends, and that the only thing to which we can point as an example of the philanthropy of the mining magnate is a drinking fountain in Victoria Park, Kalgoorlie—

Hon. H. P. Colebatch: A water fountain?

Hon. J. CORNELL: Yes. This is the only gift by those who have received 24 million pounds in dividends, and I venture to say that it will be their only legacy, judging by the attitude of the Council when an opportunity was afforded to give the miner of this State what he most needs, and the only thing which will be of utility to him, namely the mines regulation measure. There is no reference in the Governor's Speech on this occasion to the Mines Regulation Bill, because, I take it, time is the essence of the contract this session. But until the miner gets an up-to-date Act he can receive very little help. Yet on the hustings we had the hon. Mr. Duffell blindly saying that, while he was desirous of preserving the lives and health of the miners, he considered that the Mines Regulation Bill contained provisions which would have been prejudicial to the industry.

Hon. J. Duffell: I did not say anything of the kind.

Hon. J. CORNELL: The hon. member is reported in the *West Australian* as having used those words, and I have seen no contradiction of them. I will provide

the hon. member with a copy of the report.

Hon. J. Duffell: Very well.

Hon. J. CORNELL: I would ask the hon. member if he would place consideration for the industry before consideration for the lives and health of the men employed in it.

Hon. J. Duffell: I will talk to you later on.

Hon. J. CORNELL: This is an instance of some of the things which men, new to the political arena, often do; they walk in where angels fear to tread. I know the hon. Mr. Duffell will have the opportunity after the general election—he will have no opportunity before, because a Mines Regulation Bill is not coming down—of stating on the floor of the House whether he is prepared to be guided by those who know something of the industry; and unfortunately there are very few here that know anything of the conditions of mining. He will have an opportunity of saying whether he will be guided by them or whether he will be guided by the blind fetish of property and of the increments that accrue from the industry. There is another monument that has been erected; and for the first time in the history, I think, of the world, we have free education from the kindergarten to the university. Now, that is an achievement of which any Government must be proud, and I am proud of the fact that the Government with which I am identified have been successful in making education absolutely free, as I said, from the kindergarten to the university. Now there is a little matter which I would like to refer to, and that is one that will probably be hurled at me and other hon. members with whom I am associated—the defeat of our candidates and our party at the recent election. I will admit that we did not return candidates, but I do not admit that we did not record votes; and when the history is given, say, of four years of the advance of the Labour party in this State, I think that in the very near future we shall have some hon. members turning and looking for and seeking the love of the Labour party. The Labour party in 1910 for the first time seriously

tackled the Council. At that period 39,536 electors were on the Council roll. Three provinces were contested by Labour, the Metropolitan-Suburban province, the South, and the South-East. The South province was won, and 2,593 votes were polled by the Labour party, and 3,443 were recorded against them. Contests occurred in the remaining provinces, other than the North, in which 8,340 votes were polled. The votes polled may be summed up thus: Labour, 2,593; Liberal, 11,783; percentage, 36.07. The Council was again seriously tackled in 1912, when eight provinces were contested: Central, East, Metropolitan, Metropolitan-Suburban, North-East, South, South-East, and West. The remainder were not contested by any party. The Central, North-East, and South were won. There were 47,153 electors then on the roll, or an increase of 7,617. Labour polled 10,204, or an increase of 7,611. Liberal polled 15,599 votes, an increase of 3,816, making a total poll of 25,803. Therefore, it will be seen that 3,810 electors who were on the roll and did not vote in 1910, did so in 1912. So that if the Labour party has done nothing else, it has woke up the peaceful serenity in which the average Tory elector for the Legislative Council slumbered, and it brought him to the poll. The Labour vote has increased as I have pointed out, and the percentage of effective votes recorded was 59.58. Five provinces only were contested in 1914: the Central, the Metropolitan-Suburban, the North-East, the South-East, and the West. It was decided not to contest the South Province—although it had been won twice previously—thereby assuring the Hon. Mr. Kirwan a walk-over. The Metropolitan Province was not contested. Now, in totting up the votes I propose to include Mr. Kirwan's votes as votes that have been polled for a Labour candidate, and I do not think any hon. member of this Chamber will dispute that.

Hon. H. P. Colebatch: Mr. Kirwan may object.

Hon. J. CORNELL: I do not think Mr. Kirwan will object either. There were 55,722 electors on the rolls, an increase of 8,569. Labour polled 10,696 votes, still increasing its strength; and the Liberal

and Country parties polled 17,681. The percentage was the highest on record, 60.22. Now, contrast the figures of 1914 with those of 1912, and it will be seen that with two less candidates 492 more votes were polled, whereas the increased votes recorded by the other two parties were only 2,262 on a roll that had been augmented by 8,569. A generalisation will show that in 1910 there were 39,536 electors on the roll. This had been increased in 1914 by 16,186. Labour in 1910 polled 2,593; in 1914 10,696, or an increase of 8,103. Liberal in 1910 polled 11,173. In 1914 the Liberal and Country parties combined polled 17,681, an increase of 6,078. It will, therefore, be seen that despite the fact of Labour returning only Mr. Millington—Mr. Kirwan being elected with the support of the Labour party—that the Labour vote has increased out of all comparison to the Liberal vote. It is interesting to make a comparison of the distribution of the seats and observe the need for members of this Chamber following their colleagues in the Federal House and introducing proportional representation forthwith. If they were sincere and honest, they would do so.

Hon. H. P. Colebatch: We have already passed a motion in favour of it.

Hon. J. CORNELL: We have passed a motion in favour of it, but passed out the Bill in favour of it. In 1910 Labour got only one member out of 2,593, while Liberal got eight members out of 11,173. In 1912, under more equitable distribution, Labour got three members out of 10,204, while Liberal got five out of 15,599. In 1914 we find, despite the fact that Labour polled 10,696 votes, it returned only two members, Mr. Millington and Mr. Kirwan, whereas the Liberal party, polling only 13,008 votes, got five members, and the Country party, polling 4,853 votes, got two members. Therefore, I say that it is no criterion of the strength that we are in the country, to adduce the fact of our depleted numbers in this Chamber. The real explanation of the situation lies in the restricted nature of the franchise under which the Legislative Council operates, and in the bad division of the provinces. We have the spectacle of Mr. Davis and Mr. Sommerville polling very

nearly 6,000 votes in the Metropolitan area, and despite the fact of their doing that the Metropolitan area having no representation. I say it is about time that some consideration was given to the unequal distribution of members of this Chamber in comparison with the votes polled at the elections. I desire now to refer to the prospective portion of the Governor's Speech, and that is constitutional reform. Well, if I know of any institution that needs something either to strengthen or to disorder its constitution, that institution is this Council. An opportunity will be given to the Council to deal with the question of constitutional reform this session; and if the Council do not deal with the question in a fair and honourable manner, I, as a member of this institution, will not hesitate to tell the people of Western Australia my opinion of the Council, and of its ideas as to how the country should be run, and of the constitution under which it works. I will keep on telling them.

Hon. C. Sommers: The constant dripping of water will wear away a stone.

Hon. J. CORNELL: The hon. Mr. Sommers says that constant dripping of water wears away the hardest stone. Well, then the hon. member will not want many drops on him; he will reform. Does the Council's action during the last three years warrant any alteration in the constitution of this country? When we take the figures of three years' Liberal administration that preceded the present Government, and we find that the Liberal Government introduced 172 measures, of which 115 were passed and two were rejected by this Chamber, and then compare that with three years of the present Government and find that out of 173 measures 122 were passed and 32 rejected by the Council—

Hon. W. Kingsmill: There was a lot got through.

Hon. J. CORNELL: There was a lot got through, but the present Government would rather have seen you and the hon. members who supported you reject the 122 and let the 32 get through. Amongst the 32 that were rejected were measures embodying the principles and platform on which the present Government went to

the hustings, and this institution turned everyone of them down. Some of them the Council did not even take the trouble to discuss. When this story comes to be told, well, I think that the people of this State will give a mandate to the Assembly to do something towards mending or ending the state of legislative chaos that invariably exists under the present Constitution; and if this Chamber will not bow to the will of the people as expressed through the voice of the people of this State, then I say the present Government have every right on behalf of the people of Western Australia to appeal to the authority which gave this country its constitution, equally as the Commons of Britain appealed to the King against the prerogative of the Lords. Probably that will be done, and I assure hon. members that we are out for gore. You have got either to mend or end your ways, or we will do all that is absolutely possible to either mend or end this Chamber and thereby give expression to the will of the people as expressed in the will of another place. There is another little remark that I think would very well fit in, and it is a remark made by the hon. Mr. Duffell in his pre-election speeches.

Hon. J. Duffell: Oh!

Hon. J. CORNELL: The hon. member does not like it.

Hon. J. Duffell: I do not mind it; you can go on.

Hon. J. CORNELL: If you did not mind it you would keep quiet. The hon. member in speaking at Subiaco, I say, and I say it advisedly, insulted 50,000 electors of this State. He referred to 50,000 electors of this State as the flotsam and jetsam who represented ordinary life. As one who represented up to the last two years, and who would probably do so now if my creditors foreclosed, the flotsam and jetsam Mr. Duffell referred to, I ask if Mr. Duffell can devise some ways and means to prevent a floating population in this or any other State; if so, then his brain capacity is such that he has no right in this Chamber, but should occupy a higher sphere. Mr. Duffell says it is no sin. But on the hustings he approached it as if it were a

sin. I say the sin, if any, is with those workers who voted for Mr. Duffell at the elections. With them I sympathise, because if his pre-election speeches can be accepted as an indication of the love and regard he has for the working class, I think they would be well rid of him. He now says he has done more for the workers than I have ever done. I have done a little for them, but I never mount the rostrum and say I have done this or that for the workers. I say that if Mr. Duffell has done one for the workers, he has done five for himself and will continue to do so in like proportion. There are three hardy annuals which appear in the prospective legislation. The Government have tried to plant one of them twice, two of them three times, and one of them four times; but every time the Government have tried to plant these annuals—I refer to the Initiative and Referendum, the Rights in Water and Irrigation, the Esperance Railway, and the Traffic Bills—every time they have tried to plant them this House has rooted them up.

Hon. W. Kingsmill: There has been a frost.

Hon. J. CORNELL: And despite the frost they have survived everything, even the hot air blown on them in this Chamber, and they are just as hardy and strong as ever and will stand the close scrutiny, not only of this House, but of the general public. An opportunity will be given hon. members to pass the Initiative and Referendum Bill, and I hope some of the new members will introduce into the second reading discussion a little of the intellectual side of the question and not augment that grand array of bias which characterised the discussion last year. The Rights in Water and Irrigation Bill does not concern me. I do not care whether it is passed or not. I have never spoken on the Bill, for I try to restrain my speeches to subjects of which I know something, and therefore I did not speak on the measure. But I voted for the Bill, because I thought it was in the interests, not only of the South-West, but of the State generally. Hon. members will have an opportunity



of again dealing with the Traffic Bill, and I suppose the all-important question of the Fremantle road will come on again, together with the horrors and dangers which the owners of motor cars are faced with in driving over it. The story will probably be told of the working bee which defied wind and weather and the gospels in trying to repair the road. But, as one who possesses no motor car, it does not concern me one iota. I do not view the Traffic Bill from the point of view of the Fremantle road, but from the point of view of the whole State. This is the third time it has been trotted out, and if hon. members do not agree with it I hope the Minister for Works will convey it to the hothouse and give them still another try at it later on. There is among the projected legislation another old friend, namely the Esperance Railway Bill. Since last session I have been through the Esperance district. I am not going to tell hon. members what I saw or what I did not see; it is sufficient that I should tell them I am perfectly satisfied that the Esperance district is the equal and more than the equal of many other agricultural districts in the State. But I am convinced that until such time as the railway is constructed it would be suicidal to encourage people to grow wheat down there; because under present conditions it costs more to cart seed wheat, fertilisers and the other necessities of the farmers than they could get for an average crop of twelve bushels, so it is absolutely impossible for them to successfully cultivate the Esperance district. Again, I say that Mr. Duffell on the bustings blindly stated, with his party bias, that if returned he would oppose the Esperance railway.

Hon. J. Duffell: You are wrong again.

Hon. J. CORNELL: Well, if I am wrong, I will withdraw. I hope the hon. member did not say it, and I accept his statement. When the Bill does come down I hope the hon. member will not only speak his mind on it, but will make himself conversant with the district, its utility and its prospects, and not view it from the point of the Fremantle pier or

the overhead bridge at Subiaco, and so regard it as detrimental to the interests of the metropolitan area. I ask hon. members to be guided by the speeches and reports which will be put forward in favour of the Esperance line, and I am perfectly confident that if they regard it from that standpoint—which is the only one it should be viewed from—the Esperance line will be an accomplished fact next session. This session must of necessity be a short one; the general elections are coming on and the Government are anxious to get to the country. And why? Because they can appeal to the country confidently and with assured success. So, if the session is prolonged, I will be unkind enough to say that it is for one reason only, namely, that those in Opposition to the Government are afraid to go to the country because undoubtedly they will come back with weakened forces. I hope we will make greater progress this session than we did last, and as this is the only opportunity I will have on the Address-in-Reply I say that I will take no offence if hon. members spare me no more than I have spared them.

On motion by Hon. H. P. Colebatch, debate adjourned.

BILL—SUPPLY, £1,379,650.

*Standing Orders Suspension.*

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew) moved—

*That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as is necessary to enable the Bill transmitted by Message No. 1 to be taken into consideration and passed through all its stages at one sitting.*

Motion passed.

*First Reading.*

Bill received from the Legislative Assembly and read a first time.

*Second Reading.*

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew) in moving the second reading, said: This is the usual Supply Bill

which appears with never-failing regularity on the first day of each session of Parliament. The passing of last year's Appropriation Act gave the Government supplies up till to-day. This Bill provides further supplies until the end of August. The measure requires no explanation from me. It is necessary in order to enable the public administration to be carried on, to provide funds for the continuance of public works already authorised by Parliament and to pay the salaries of civil servants and other Government employees. I move—

*That the Bill be now read a second time.*

Question put and passed.  
Bill read a second time.

*In Committee, etcetera.*

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment and the report adopted.

Read a third time and *passed*.

#### ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew): I have given the matter of adjournment careful consideration, and come to the conclusion that it is advisable we should proceed with the business during the week, and not adjourn until next Tuesday. Members have come down from the country, probably at great inconvenience, and I presume they have come down to work. Instead of moving for the adjournment until Tuesday or Thursday next, I propose to move that we adjourn until to-morrow. I therefore move—

*That the House do now adjourn.*

Question passed.

*House adjourned at 5.17 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly,

*Tuesday, 30th June, 1914.*

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#### MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Legislative Assembly met at 3 p.m., pursuant to proclamation by His Excellency the Governor, which proclamation was read by the Clerk (Mr. A. R. Grant). The Speaker took the Chair.

#### ELECTION RETURN— KALGOORLIE.

The Speaker announced the return to a writ issued for the election of a member for Kalgoorlie, showing that Mr. George McLeod had been duly elected.

Mr. McLeod made and subscribed the affirmation in lieu of the oath of allegiance and signed the roll.

Mr. Speaker and hon. members, in response to summons, proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber to hear the Governor's Speech in formally opening the session of Parliament (*vide* Council report *ante*) and having returned to the Legislative Assembly Chamber, the Speaker resumed the Chair.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Premier: 1, Memorandum of agreement between the Government of Western Australia and the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank of Australasia, dated 30th June, 1914. 2, Workers' Homes Act, 1911, and Workers' Homes Act Amendment Act, 1912, amendments to regulations and schedule. 3, Land and Income Tax Assessment Act, 1907, amended regulations.

By the Minister for Lands: 1, Agricultural Bank, report for year ended 30th June, 1913. 2, Land Act Amendment