

Legislative Assembly.*Thursday, 24th May, 1934.*

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

QUESTION—FREMANTLE WHARF, PRE-COOLING STORES.

Mr. SAMPSON asked the Minister for Agriculture: 1, Have plans been prepared for the construction of pre-cooling stores for fruit on the Fremantle wharf? 2, If so, what is the estimated cost? 3, In view of the loss sustained by fruit exporters, because of the non-provision of such stores, do the Government intend to provide pre-cooling facilities on the Fremantle wharf, and, if so, when?

The MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE replied: 1, Rough sketches, following on receipt of Mr. Crowe's report on this question, were made. 2, £70,000. 3, It is not the practice to disclose Government policy when replying to questions.

ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS (Hon. A. McCallum—South Fremantle) [4.32]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn till Wednesday, the 30th May, at 4.30 p.m.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 4.33 p.m.

Legislative Council,*Tuesday, 29th May, 1934.*

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The DEPUTY PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 p.m., and read prayers.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion by Hon. C. B. Williams, leave of absence for six consecutive sittings granted to Hon. A. M. Clydesdale (Metropolitan-Suburban) on the ground of urgent private business.

On motion by Hon. J. Nicholson, leave of absence for six consecutive sittings granted to Hon. L. B. Bolton (Metropolitan) on the ground of urgent private business.

BILL—SECESSION.

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the 24th May.

HON. W. J. MANN (South-West) [4.36]: I do not intend to occupy much of the time of the House on this occasion, because in my opinion the position is simple and there is no need to go over all the arguments for and against Secession. We have had those arguments in previous sessions at considerable length, and they do not affect the present position at all. It appears to me that the House has been called together to give effect to what may be termed a mere machinery clause attached to a measure which this Chamber has already passed. The merits and demerits of Secession have been debated at great length, and a decision has been arrived at by the people. So far as I see, the Government, in accordance with that decision, are doing the correct thing in taking the step proposed in this Bill. The passing of the measure or of another of a like nature, is really the first step towards implementing the people's mandate. If we reject the present Bill without putting in its place another having the same objective, we shall be deliberately flouting the expressed wish of a majority of the people who voted at the Secession referendum. We must bear