

dustries are increasing every day, and it is impossible to conceive that these primary industries should prosper as they are doing without at the same time benefiting the city, the large towns, and the community generally. I look forward with certainty to the time when the tide of prosperity in the agricultural, mining, and timber industries will flow into the towns and benefit the country as a whole. I do not think it is advisable to continue a speech of this sort to any great length. The session is intended to be a short one, and it is advisable for us to get it over at the earliest possible date so as to give us an opportunity, as is suggested in the Speech, to go to the people, and that before important legislation is introduced the views of the people upon it should be heard and their mandate expressed on election day. I have very much pleasure in seconding the motion for the adoption of the Address-in-Reply.

On motion by *Mr. Taylor*, debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Premier moved that the House at its rising do adjourn until the next Tuesday, at 4.30 p.m.

Question passed.

The House adjourned accordingly at 4.15 o'clock, until the next Tuesday.

Legislative Council.

Tuesday, 28th July, 1908.

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The PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

Swearing-in.

Hon. C. J. Piessé (South-East), who was absent at the previous sitting, took the oath, and subscribed the Roll.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By *the Colonial Secretary*: Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1902—Return of Registered Industrial Unions, 31st December, 1907; The Land Act, 1898 (Section 109)—Resumption from Pastoral Leases; Cemeteries Acts, 1897 and 1899—Notices and By-laws published under the provisions of the Cemeteries Acts; Land Act, 1898, and Amendment Act, 1902—Timber Tramway Permits; Fishing and Pearl Shell Industries for year ending 31st December, 1907—Report on; Regulation relating to the management and control of Gaols and Prisoners; Fremantle Harbour Trust Regulations; Superintendent of Labour Bureau—Report of for year ending 31st December, 1907; Roads Act, 1902, Public Works Department—By-laws of the following Road Boards:—Nullagine, Marble Bar, Victoria Plains, Yalgoo, Nelson, Brunswick, Marble Bar, Beverley, Minilya, Northampton, Geraldton, Kelmscott, Northam, Kojonup, Perth, Upper Chapman; Government Railways Refreshment Rooms, By-laws under; Land and Income Tax Assessment Act, 1907—Regulations.

COMMITTEES FOR THE SESSION.

On motions by *the Colonial Secretary*, Sessional Committees were appointed as follow:—

Printing Committee—The President, Hon. G. Randell, and the mover.

House Committee—The President, Hon. R. F. Sholl, Hon. R. D. McKenzie, Hon. C. Sommers, and Hon. A. G. Jenkins.

Standing Orders Committee.

As to Lapsed Bills.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved—

That the Standing Orders Committee for the present session shall consist of the following members—The President, the Chairman of Committees, Hon. M. L. Moss, Hon. G. Randell, and the mover.

Hon. W. KINGSMILL (Metropolitan-Suburban): Early last session a motion was passed that the consideration of a Standing Order in relation to proceedings in connection with lapsed Bills should be made a subject of conference between the Standing Orders Committee of this House and the Standing Orders Committee of another place. That motion on being sent to the Assembly was carried, so that it was a substantial mandate of the Parliament of the State to the committees to do this work. It was to be regretted that although the Clerk of the Council had written two or three times to the Clerk of the Assembly, it had been found impossible by the Assembly to appoint, as it was their due, a time and place for the sittings of the conference to take place. He (Mr. Kingsmill) might be accused of attaching too much importance to this Standing Order, but the merits of the question had been gone into by both branches of the Legislature. It was to be hoped no farther delay would take place, but that an expression of opinion might be obtained as to the suitability or unsuitability of the Standing Order proposed. This session was a very opportune time for such a Standing Order to be passed, because of the imminence of a general election. It was to be hoped the new Standing Orders Committee, when appointed, would make it their business to press this matter on.

Hon. M. L. Moss: What was the Standing Order?

Hon. W. KINGSMILL: To enable lapsed Bills to take their place again on the Notice Paper in the next session at

the stage at which they reached in the preceding session.

Question put and passed.

Library Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. D. Connolly) moved—

That the Library Committee for the present session shall consist of the President, the Hon. W. Kingsmill, and the Hon. J. W. Hackett.

Hon. J. W. HACKETT: How many times had the committee met during the last two or three years?

The Colonial Secretary: The hon. member was on that committee.

Hon. J. W. HACKETT had received no notice of the business to be transacted by this committee. Was not the Library in a state of chaos? The committee should either be abolished or given some work to do.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: Not being a member of the Library Committee, he did not know whether that committee met or not; but it was within the hands of the member himself if he wished to have a meeting, to ask the secretary of the committee to call a meeting.

Hon. J. W. HACKETT: What for, if there was no business?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: Then there was no need for a Library Committee.

Hon. W. KINGSMILL: If the President was not occupying his present position, no doubt he would have something to say in regard to this matter. The Library Committee had done a great deal of work during the past session. Furthermore, he wished to disabuse the minds of members of the suggestion made by Dr. Hackett that the Library was in a state of chaos. He (Mr. Kingsmill) had been a member of the Library Committee during the last eleven years, with the exception of one session, and he could say the Library was in a far better position now than it ever had been. The Library Committee, although it held few meetings, did good work indeed. He did not know what information Dr. Hackett possessed, but probably he would furnish members with that information. The present state

of the Library was good, and was far from being in a chaotic condition.

Hon. J. W. HACKETT: The evidence which he possessed pointed to a different conclusion. If the member would see that a meeting was held at a reasonable date, and he (Dr. Hackett) got notice of it, he would give the evidence which he was in possession of.

Question put and passed.

DEBATE—ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

Resumed from Thursday, 23rd July.

Hon. W. PATRICK (Central): Considering the tenor of the Governor's Speech, I do not think it is necessary to say much on the present occasion. In all probability we shall require to deal with all the measures foreshadowed, in the coming session which cannot be far away. We are all pleased to hear that the primary industries of the State are in a satisfactory condition, and I think that most of us agree that the Government are perfectly right in taking so optimistic a view of the future of the primary industries of Western Australia. The settlement on the land has extended very largely during the last year; the pastoral industry is in a very satisfactory condition; we have a magnificent season before us, and the mining industry looks a great deal better to-day than it did a year ago; a great deal better because there has been a revolution going on as far as mining is concerned. To a very large extent mining is becoming as much a matter of metallurgy and chemistry as it is pick and shovel work. The ore which was considered practically worthless a few years ago is to-day being made payable. I saw a number of such instances a few weeks ago on the occasion of a visit to Meekatharra, where at the Ingleston Extended Mine they were crushing ore which gave practically no result from the battery. There was practically no gold in the boxes, but after the slimes had gone through their process, there was a payable return where a few years ago the ore, had it been sent to the battery alone, would have been declared worthless. There is not the least doubt in my mind that the mining industry has a long career

ahead of it. The most important portion of this Speech from my point of view is that which states "Notwithstanding the labours of the recent Premiers' Conference no satisfactory solution of the financial arrangements between the States and the Commonwealth was arrived at, but my advisers consider the proposal of the Commonwealth Government was of such a nature that if accepted it would have dangerously imperilled the financial stability of the State." I think most hon. members in this House will agree with the statement, and it is a very great pity that such a statement has become necessary. I am quite in accord with the action of the Government in testing the constitutional right of the Treasurer of the Commonwealth to take away the whole of our revenue for June. Apart from that we are about £200,000 behind at the present time. In a State such as ours, with such tremendous recuperative powers—and as the Hon. Mr. Kirwan pointed out, with our vast potentialities the matter of £200,000 should be one which could be treated very lightly in ordinary circumstances. But when on the top of this we have an action such as that of the Federal Treasurer we do not know where it will stop. We have no idea whether there will be taken from us three-quarters or a quarter of a million of our customs in the future; because after the recent action of the Treasurer it is just as likely that he will take away the whole of our revenue after 1910. I am quite sure that our representatives in the Commonwealth Parliament are acting as Australian patriots and will see from their point of view that the best will be done in the interests of Australia. Still, good intentions do not always pave the way to Paradise. This will be our great trouble in the near future, and I think the Government were wise in not placing any scheme before us to show how they are going to square the books in the future. I suppose we will hear about this during the approaching electoral campaign. There are many important Bills foreshadowed in this Speech. One of them, my friend Mr. Pennefather, had he been here, might have referred to as a perennial measure, the measure to deal with the reform of this

Chamber. We are also told that a consolidating law in connection with the sale of intoxicating liquor will be submitted. If the Government will solve this question then it will be a very great achievement indeed. As the Speech farther says, "As my advisers consider that these important matters can only receive due consideration at the hands of a Parliament coming to its work with a renewed mandate from the people," I think there is no need to discuss matters which we will be able to discuss much more satisfactorily when the actual measures come before us for our consideration. I would only say, I join with the proposer and seconder of the motion, submitted so ably by my friends, Mr. Kirwan and Mr. Stubbs, I join with them in congratulating the leader of the Government in achieving such a splendid victory during the recent campaign, and I am pleased to see so many of our old friends returned to this House. I have much pleasure in supporting the Address-in-Reply.

No other member rising to speak, the question was put and passed, the Address was adopted and ordered to be presented.

ADJOURNMENT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, in moving the adjournment, said: As members know this will be a very short session—it may terminate next week or probably the week after—there will be nothing but formal business to be transacted, but I will ask the House to meet again tomorrow when I may be in a position to say to what day we should adjourn. There is a Supply Bill to be passed, and I want to see how business progresses in another place to-day, and then I will be able to state when the Supply Bill will be brought down.

The House adjourned at five minutes to 5 o'clock, until the next afternoon.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 28th July, 1908.

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 o'clock p.m.

Prayers.

QUESTION—WOOD CUTTERS' LICENSE FEE.

Mr. COLLIER asked the Premier: What amount has been received for wood cutters licensed each month during the half-year ending 30th June last from—
(a) The Kalgoorlie and Boulder Firewood Company. (b) The West Australian Goldfields Firewood Company, Limited. (c) The Westralia Timber and Firewood Supply Company?

The PREMIER replied: (a) The Kalgoorlie and Boulder Firewood Company: January, £7 8s.; February, £6 10s.; March, £5 11s.; April, £6 3s.; May, £9; June, £9 1s. (b) The West Australian Goldfields Firewood Company, Limited: January, £14 10s.; February, £16 5s.; March, £17 19s.; April, £19 17s.; May, £20 1s.; June, £20. (c) The Westralia Timber and Firewood Supply Company: Nil. Note.—This Company does not employ any woodcutters of its own, but does the work through subcontractors.

QUESTION—PUBLIC SERVICE CLASSIFICATION.

Mr. DAGLISH asked the Premier: 1, Is he aware that considerable inconvenience and dissatisfaction prevail in the General Division of the Public Service owing to the delay in publication of the classification of that Division? 2, Will he take steps to have the said classification published without farther delay?