

PUBLIC OFFICIALS TITLES BILL.

Read a first time.

GENERAL LOAN AND INSCRIBED STOCK ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Read a first time.

BANKRUPTCY BILL.

Read a first time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 10.5 p.m.

Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 15th December, 1891.

New Member—Report on Irrigation Settlements—Third Judge: Provision for—Leave of absence to Members—Chairman of Committees: Election of—Police Bill: referred to Select Committee—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Sir T. Cockburn-Campbell, Bart.) took the chair at 3 o'clock.

PRAYERS.

NEW MEMBER.

THE HON. EDWARD TIMOTHY HOOLEY, having been introduced, took his seat, in the place of the Hon. E. R. Brockman, resigned.

REPORT ON IRRIGATION SETTLEMENTS.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST: I beg to ask the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Whether the Government intend to take action on the Report of Messrs. Richardson and Paterson of a visit to the Irrigation Settlements of Mildura and elsewhere, more especially as to the establishment of a Central Agricultural Bureau in Perth.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) replied: The Gov-

ernment propose to consult the Agricultural Societies throughout the Colony on this subject.

THIRD JUDGE: PROVISION FOR.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: I have to ask the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, Whether it is the intention of the Government, this session, to provide for a fully constituted Court of Appeal, by the appointment of a third Judge of the Supreme Court.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) replied: The Government is considering the matter.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE TO MEMBERS.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST moved, That leave of absence for one month, on account of urgent private business, be granted to the Honorable R. E. Bush.

Question—put and passed.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT moved, That leave of absence for one month, on account of urgent private business, be granted to the Honorables T. Burges and M. Grant.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): Is it necessary to grant so long a leave to these hon. members. In the case of the Hon. J. H. Monger, we know he is out of the colony, and is ill, and we are aware that the Hon. Mr. Bush cannot get down from the Upper Gascoyne; but I fail to see that there are equally urgent reasons in the cases of the hon. members now referred to. I should think it would be quite sufficient to grant the leave until after the vacation.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: Can the hon. gentleman name a day?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I propose this day week to ask for an adjournment for a fortnight—until the 5th January.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I am in the hands of the House, and I will alter the motion so that the leave may be granted until 5th January.

THE HON. E. T. HOOLEY: I would like to mention that I have received a letter from the Hon. Mr. Grant, which has been written by that gentleman's secretary, stating that he was very ill.

THE PRESIDENT (Sir T. Cockburn-Campbell, Bart.): It was on this account

that I asked the hon. member to move for leave of absence; but whether it be for a month or not is a matter of no importance, because, if necessary, the leave can be extended.

Motion, as amended by the substitution of the words, "until 5th January, 1892," in lieu of "for one month," agreed to.

CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That during the present Session of the Council the President (the Honorable Sir T. Cockburn-Campbell) do perform the duties of Chairman of Committees.

Question—put and passed.

POLICE BILL.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That the House resolve itself into a committee of the whole to consider this Bill.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: I think this is the proper time to suggest that the Bill be referred to a select committee. I propose this course, not for the purpose of embarrassing the Government, but in order that that due attention may be given to the bill which devolves upon us. I have had a long experience of these Police Acts; in fact I drew the bill from which this one, as far as I can gather from a cursory perusal of it, has been taken, and I think we should send it down to the Lower House in as perfect a state as our experience will permit us. I do not think the work of the committee would occupy more than a couple of sittings of two hours each, and therefore no very great amount of time will be lost. I move, therefore, that the Bill be referred to a select committee.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I beg to second the motion of the Hon. Mr. Leake. I have already spent a little time in running through this Bill, and I find that in a number of ways it differs from the legislation of the other colonies. If it is referred to a select committee we shall be able to get what information we may require on the different clauses in a better way than we can hope to in a committee of the whole House, and therefore I second the motion of the hon. member,

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): As far as the Government are concerned, I may say that we have no objection to the amendment proposed by the Hon. Mr. Leake. At the same time we thought that a committee of the whole of a small House like this would be able to go through the Bill quite as well as a select committee.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: The great advantage of a select committee is that persons and papers can be called for. The select committee could have before them the Attorney General, the Commissioner of Police, or anyone else, but such could not happen before a committee of the whole.

Amendment—put and passed.

Ordered—That the committee have power to call for persons and papers, and to report on Friday, 18th December.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council at 3.40 p.m. adjourned until Friday, 18th December, at 3 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 15th December, 1891.

Game Bill: second reading—Boyanup-Minninup Railway Bill: second reading—Bill of Sale Act, 1879, Amendment Bill: second reading—General Loan and Inscribed Stock Act Amendment Bill: second reading—Mineral Lands Bill: in committee—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 2.30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

GAME BILL, 1892.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): I beg to move the second reading of a bill entitled an Act to provide for the preservation of imported game and of