

ADDRESS TO HER MAJESTY.

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom): I beg to move, by leave, without notice, that the following resolution be adopted:—

"The members of the Legislative Council, moved by loyalty and affection for Her Majesty the Queen, desire to present an address of congratulation on the completion of Her Majesty's long and beneficent reign. They therefore authorise the President, in conjunction with the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, to prepare such an address on their behalf, embodying the above sentiments, for transmission to Her Majesty."

Question put and passed.

MESSAGE—ASSENT TO BILLS.

A Message from the Governor was received and read, assenting to the following Bills:—Supply Bill (£750,000); Australasian Federation Enabling Act Amendment Bill.

THE PROROGATION.

THE ACTING PRESIDENT (Hon. J. W. Hackett) announced the receipt of the following proclamation proroguing Parliament until the 12th day of April, 1897:—

"Western Australia, }
"to wit, }
"GERARD SMITH, }
" (L.R.) }
"Proclamation by His Excellency Lieut.-Colonel Sir Gerard Smith, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Western Australia and its Dependencies, &c., &c., &c."

"Whereas under the provisions of 'The Constitution Act, 1889,' and 'The Constitution Act Amendment Act, 1893,' it is made lawful for the Governor of Western Australia for the time being to fix the place and time for holding the first and every other Session of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of the said Colony as he may judge advisable, and also to prorogue the said Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly from time to time, by Proclamation or otherwise, whenever he shall think fit: Now there-

"fore I, Lieut.-Colonel Sir Gerard Smith, K.C.M.G., being Governor as aforesaid, in exercise of the powers so in me vested, deeming it advisable to prorogue the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, do hereby announce and proclaim that the said Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly are prorogued accordingly to Monday, the twelfth day of April next."

"Given under my hand and the Public Seal of the said Colony, at Government House, Perth, this 12th day of March, 1897."

"By His Excellency's Command,

"JOHN FORREST.

"God save the Queen!!!"

The session then closed.

Legislative Assembly,

Friday, 12th March, 1897.

Diamond Jubilee Celebration: Address to the Queen—
Harmony of the Proceedings: Expression of Thanks
—Prorogation.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 3 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION— ADDRESS TO THE QUEEN.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): Sir,—As this Assembly will probably not be in session on the 21st or 22nd of June, when Her Majesty will complete the sixtieth year of her reign, and when the people of the whole British Empire will be rejoicing and congratulating Her Majesty on that very important and happy event, it seems desirable that this Legislative Assembly, being now in session, should take steps—and I am sure the same course will be taken by the Legislative Council—to arrange that an

address should be presented to Her Majesty from the Parliament of Western Australia. With that view, I propose to submit a motion to this House, authorising you, Mr. Speaker, in conjunction with the President of the Legislative Council, to prepare an address embodying our sentiments of loyalty and affection to Her Majesty, and congratulating her upon the attainment of the longest reign in our history. I feel sure that the hearts of everyone in this House, and everyone in the colony, will go out towards Her Majesty on the 21st of June next; and it is but fitting, and altogether in accord with everyone's feelings and sentiments, that the Parliament of this colony should take an important part in congratulating Her Majesty upon this great event. I beg to move the following resolution:—"The members of the Legislative Assembly, moved by loyalty and affection for Her Majesty the Queen, desire to present an address of congratulation on the completion of the 60th year of Her long and beneficent reign. They therefore authorise the Speaker, in conjunction with the President of the Legislative Council, to prepare such an address on their behalf, embodying the above sentiments, for transmission to Her Majesty."

MR. LEAKE: Sir,—I most heartily second the motion which the hon. the Premier has thought fit to propose to this House; and it is gratifying to think that, following the practice of unanimity which we have adopted throughout this short session, we are likely to be again unanimous upon this our final resolution of the session. It is admitted on all hands, and in all communities, that the present occasion is an exceptional one; and it is gratifying to this Parliament, I am sure, that on the occasion of this important celebration in London our colony, in common with the whole of the Australian colonies, shall be represented on the spot by its leading man. I refer, of course, to the contemplated visit of the Premier to London, to take part in those celebrations. This Parliament has, by its efforts during this short session, shown to the Government, and shown to the colony, that Parliament can be unanimous when the occasion requires it; and, where we have an exceptional occasion, I say we may congratulate ourselves that we have

also an exceptional opportunity of paying our respects to Her Most Gracious Majesty. The resolution which is proposed is a fitting one. It will enable you, Mr. Speaker, together with the acting President of the Council, to prepare a suitable address; and, fortunately for us, we shall have the representative of Western Australia in London, in the proper place, to present it to Her Majesty when the proper time comes. Again, sir, I heartily second the resolution, and commend it to the favourable consideration of this House.

MR. LOTON: I desire to most cordially support the resolution.

MR. ILLINGWORTH: Sir,—I scarcely need to say—after having already expressed, in another place, my desire that the Premier should be present in London on this auspicious occasion—that I have great pleasure in supporting the motion now before the House. My object in rising, however, is simply to ask whether it would not be desirable to add to the motion the words "And that it be presented by the hon. the Premier on his coming visit to London."

MR. RANDELL: I rise to make a suggestion—that is, that when the Speaker puts the motion, every member of this House should rise from his seat, as a token of loyalty and esteem for Her Majesty the Queen.

Question put (every member rising in his place) and passed.

The National Anthem (first verse) was then sung, all the members joining in unison.

HARMONY OF THE PROCEEDINGS— EXPRESSION OF THANKS.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): Sir,—The business of the session being now, I believe, concluded, I expect a Message from the Governor will be delivered to us in a few minutes, proroguing the House. I should not like to separate, however, without expressing to hon. members my very deep thanks for the way in which they have treated the Government during this short session. I think it is a matter for congratulation to all of us, now when we are parting—this being probably the last time that the present members will sit together before the dissolution

—that there has been such good feeling throughout the House between members generally. My thanks are especially due to the hon. member for Albany, the leader of the Opposition, and also to the hon. member for Nannine, for the consideration and assistance which they have given to the Government on this occasion. I think it is a lesson to me as well as a lesson to all of us—that is, that when the time comes, as it may come hereafter, when we on this side of the House are in another position, and when some consideration is asked from us, we too will act as generously and in as cordial a spirit as those members opposite have acted on this occasion. I can only again express to you my sincere thanks, on behalf of the Government and members on this side of the House, for the very cordial and generous way in which the Government have been treated during this short session. Before

I sit down, I should also desire alike to thank you, Mr. Speaker, for your kindness to us; and especially I think the thanks of the country are due to you, sir, for coming back more quickly than you had intended, from your visit to the other colonies, in order that you might be here to assist us in our deliberations during yesterday and to-day. I feel myself under personal obligation to you, and I am sure I can say the same for all hon. members. (General applause.)

PROROGATION.

At 3-30 o'clock a proclamation was received from the Governor, and the same was read, proroguing Parliament until the 12th day of April next.

THE SPEAKER then left the Chair, and the proceedings of the session terminated.