

Mr. Speaker: I give my casting vote with the Noes.

Motion thus negatived.

*Debate resumed.*

Mr. LAMBERT (Coolgardie) [11.38]: I move—

*That the debate be adjourned.*

The Attorney General: You cannot do that, you have already spoken.

Mr. HUDSON (Yilgarn) [11.39]: I move—

*That the debate be adjourned.*

Motion put and passed.

*House adjourned at 11.40 p.m.*

## Legislative Council,

*Tuesday, 20th February, 1917.*

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

### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Colonial Secretary: 1, Audited Accounts and Balance Sheets for year ended 30th June, 1916, of (a) Government Refrigerating Works, (b) Albany Cold Stores, (c) Perth City Markets, (d) Metropolitan Abattoirs and Sale Yards, (e) Kalgoorlie Abattoirs. 2, Abattoirs Act Amendment, Regulations. 3, Health Act 1911/15 Amendment of Regulations. 4, Municipal Corporations Act, additional by-law for the regulation of motor and other traffic.

### QUESTION NOT ASKED.

Hon. J. M. DREW: I intend to let the question standing in my name lapse. I find that the preparation would entail a considerable amount of time and trouble and involve expenditure, and the reply would not be ready within two or three weeks, so I understand.

### QUESTION—POLICE DUTY AT HAY AND KING STREETS.

Hon. J. DUFFELL asked the Colonial Secretary: Whether he will instruct the Commissioner of Police to station a constable on point duty at the intersection of Hay and King-streets as a safeguard to the public, seeing that in consequence of the two streets being partly blocked for traffic by reason of the construction of the Government tramway's line, alterations to the telephones by the Commonwealth Government, and by the laying down of new cables by the city council, there is now only 13 feet available for traffic in Hay-street and nine feet in King-street at its northern intersection with Hay-street?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied: It is not the duty of the police to provide an officer to control traffic at the intersection of Hay and King-streets, as it is the business of the civic administration to meet such requirements. However, as the cause of the present obstruction is mainly due to the work of construction of the Government tramway line, a constable will be placed on duty temporarily to regulate the traffic at the point mentioned.

### BILL—APPRENTICES.

Introduced by the Colonial Secretary and read a first time.

### ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. H. P. Colebatch—East) [4.37]: In view of the fact that a certain motion is still undecided in another place, I do not propose to ask members to proceed with further

business. That I might meet the convenience of country members, I caused notices to be sent to them stating that the House to-day would only transact formal business and then adjourn until Tuesday next. I therefore move—

*That the House at its rising adjourn until Tuesday next.*

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned at 4.39 p.m.*

## Legislative Assembly,

*Tuesday, 20th February, 1917.*

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

### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Honorary Minister: Amendment of regulations under the Health Acts, 1911-15.

By the Minister for Mines: 1. Report by the Commissioner of Forests on the proposed permanent reservation of classified karri country. 2. Amended timber regulations under the Land Act, 1898. 3. Additional Regulation No. 205B under the Mining Act, 1904 (asked for by Mr. Willmott).

### QUESTION—TIMBER AREA RESERVED.

Mr. WILLMOTT asked the Minister for Mines: 1. In view of the information recently collected by him, will he state what

area is at the present time permanently reserved for karri and jarrah, tuart, and other timbers? 2. Does he propose to increase this area? 3. Has the Inspector General of Forests made any report on the subject? 4. Will he supply the report to the House, and state the policy to be pursued?

The MINISTER FOR MINES replied: 1, 1,995 acres. 2, Yes. 3, Yes. 4, I will lay a copy of the report on the Table of the House. It is proposed to consider the matter of further permanent reservations in Cabinet at an early date, after which I shall be glad to inform the House of the policy to be pursued.

### QUESTION—FRUIT, WHOLESALE PRICES.

Mr. SMITH asked the Minister for Agriculture: 1, Is he aware that large quantities of fruit are at present being sold wholesale at prices ruinous to the grower? 2, What steps does his department intend taking to ensure the orchardist a fair reward for his labour?

The MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE replied: 1, Yes, considerably large quantities of fruit, much of it of very inferior quality, has been placed on the market. 2, The Government have advanced on loan £2,500 towards forming a co-operative canning and drying company. This company has been in operation for some months and it is doing good work, but requires financial support from the growers to enable it to widen its scope and increase its output. Fruit-growers in this State are relying entirely on marketing the fruit in its fresh state, and must in future dry, can, and jam a portion of the output. The department is doing its best to encourage drying and preserving of fruit. The production of fresh fruit has overtaken the demand, but we are importing annually nearly £200,000 worth of dried and preserved fruits. The Government are not in a position to guarantee a minimum price for fruit. If the producers will, through their organisations, point out how legitimate assistance can be granted, the question will be fairly considered.