

"to a Bill intituled 'An Act to establish a Pharmaceutical Society of Western Australia; to repeal 'The Poisons Sale Act of 1879,' and to enact other provisions in lieu thereof,' subject to the amendments contained in the Schedule annexed; in which amendments the Legislative Council desires the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

"GEO. SHENTON,
"President.

"Legislative Council Chamber, Perth,
"22nd November, 1894."

*Schedule of Amendments made by the
Legislative Council in "The Pharmacy and Poisons Bill."*

No. 1.—On page 4, Clause 13.—Add the following, to stand as Sub-clause (2):—
The Council may, in its own name, by its Registrar or any person thereunto authorised in writing, under the hand of the President, commence, carry on, prosecute, and defend any action, complaint, information, or proceeding whatsoever, both civil and criminal. Every court of law shall take judicial notice of the signature of the President to any such authorisation.

No. 2.—On page 10, Clause 37.—Strike out the whole.

No. 3.—On page 10, Clause 39, Sub-clause (b).—Strike out the whole, and insert the following in lieu thereof:—"A person or company registered under 'The Companies Act, 1893,' carrying on the business of a chemist and druggist or of a pharmaceutical chemist by an agent, manager, or servant who is a pharmaceutical chemist."

No. 4.—On page 10, Clause 39, Sub-clause (c), line 1.—Strike out all the words after "practitioner."

No. 5.—On page 16, Schedule 9.—Strike out the whole.

C. LEE STEERE,

22-11-94. Clerk of the Council.

Ordered—That the consideration in Committee of the foregoing Message be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting of the House.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 9 o'clock, p.m., until Friday, 23rd November, at 7-30 p.m.

Legislative Council,

Friday, 23rd November, 1894.

Medical Bill: third reading—Closure of Streets in Bunbury Bill: third reading—Insect Pests Bill: Legislative Council's amendment—Perth Waterworks Purchase Bill: rejected—Imported Labour Registry Act Amendment Bill: rejected—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair at 7-30 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

MEDICAL BILL.

THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, and passed.

CLOSURE OF STREETS IN BUNBURY BILL.

THIRD READING.

This Bill was read a third time, and passed.

INSECT PESTS BILL.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL'S AMENDMENT.

IN COMMITTEE.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): It will be observed that the Legislative Assembly has accepted the amendment proposed by the Hon. Mr. Hardey, by which an inspector must, if required, produce his authority. The Assembly, however, has added the words "when requested to do so." I do not think there is any objection to this. I move that the Assembly's amendment on the Council's amendment be agreed to.

Question put and passed.

PERTH WATERWORKS PURCHASE BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I do not know whether any hon. member has been asked to take charge of this Bill, which was introduced in another place by a private member. I do not wish to take upon myself any duties in connection with it if any hon. member has been asked to take charge of it. No one has ever mentioned the subject to me, but I do not desire to see the Bill lapse. As hon. members are aware, there is a company which contracts

with the City Council for a water supply, and, under the agreement, the Council has the right to purchase the works at a certain price. I believe, at the present time, the Council may purchase at a price less than that agreed upon, and the Bill is to enable the Council to make the purchase on satisfactory terms. It is highly desirable, it seems to me, that the water supply of the city should be in the hands of the civic authority, and power is asked by this Bill for the City Council to raise, by means of debentures, the necessary funds to buy the works. The rights of the citizens are fully guarded by the Bill, because no money can be borrowed if the citizens object. It will be observed that by the last clause of the Bill a Board of Works, if established, shall have the right of purchasing from the City Council the works upon certain terms. The reason for this is that some persons have a strong objection to the waterworks being vested in the Council. It is questionable whether this view is right, but no doubt this clause has been inserted to satisfy those who object to the council having control. I now move the second reading of the Bill.

THE HON. F. T. CROWDER: I rise to move that this Bill be read a second time this day six months. It is a measure which is very important and which affects the whole of the residents of Perth, and seeing that this is the tail end of the session it is inexpedient to pass it just now. I admit that the waterworks should not be in the hands of private individuals, but it must be remembered that at the present time there is the greatest dissatisfaction existing as to the works. For some months the water has been in a filthy condition, and for three or four days recently the City has been without any water at all, and it has been broadly hinted that the existing condition of things has been brought about on purpose to force the hands of the Council. Strong representations have been made as to the value of the works. Not only has the strength of the dam been impaired, but the mains communicating with the City are said to be of inferior quality. It was only the week before last that the whole of Perth was deprived of water, and if a fire had taken place there would have been no means of

extinguishing it. From inquiries made up to the present we have been able to obtain no satisfactory statement as to the cost of the works, and unless this is done it is impossible to arrive at a proper estimate of what is a fair value for them. Looking at the matter from all points of view, I think the best thing we can do at this stage of the session is to postpone the consideration of the Bill until next year. I trust, therefore, hon. members will vote for the amendment I have moved.

THE HON. F. M. STONE seconded the amendment.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: There can be no doubt that this Bill is an important one, because it will affect 10,000 or 15,000 people, and I regret very much the manner in which it has been brought forward. I notice the Hon. Colonial Secretary did his best to explain the Bill, but in speaking of the last clause he, himself, was unable to tell us what the object of it was. This shows how much in the dark we are. We all know it is a most important thing that the supply of water should be in the hands of the Corporation, and I am, therefore, constrained to vote for the second reading of the Bill; but when it comes into committee, I am afraid we shall have to make many alterations in order to make it a satisfactory measure. I should like to see some provision inserted in the Bill by which the Council will be prevented from buying unless with the approval of the Director of Public Works or the Governor. I think the Company should also be compelled to show the cost of the works. I shall not say any more now, but I hope when the Bill comes into committee we shall learn more about it.

THE HON. H. MCKERNAN: I shall have very little to say in regard to this Bill, because I think the best argument in favour of its being read this day six months has been that made use of by the Hon. Mr. Foulkes. The Bill has come down to us in a hurry, and we have had no time to consider it. Knowing that this Bill was coming on, I made it my business to visit the catchment area. There is a mill there, and about 300 horses, besides a slaughtering establishment, the offal from which makes its way into the stream which supplies the City with water. I do not think we should purchase the works in this state, and, in

order to give every one an opportunity of knowing really what we are about to buy, I shall support the second reading of the Bill this day six months.

Amendment put and passed.

Bill laid aside.

IMPORTED LABOUR REGISTRY ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): At the last session of Parliament I had the pleasure of introducing to this House a similar Bill to this. The object of the Bill is to secure that imported labourers, which term includes natives of China, India, and Africa, as well as Malays, shall be returned to their native land at the end of their term of engagement, and not be allowed to go abroad and enter into competition with the people of the colony. It is recognised by all, that so far as the Northern portion of the colony is concerned, it is necessary to allow the introduction of this class of labour, and there is no desire on the part of the Government or the people of the South to deprive the people of the North from having the labour they require; but what we say is, that if they import these coloured labourers they must return them when the term of their engagement has expired, and that they must not be allowed to travel to the South and enter into competition with the whites. With this view the Bill is brought in. It purports to repeal the 16th section of the Act of 1884, which allows an imported labourer to enter into a new contract with someone else after the term of his service with his first master has expired. It may be said that these imported labourers do not do any harm to the community, but we have only to look round Perth and Fremantle to see that there is a considerable number of them who are entering into a very strong competition with the whites. I am sorry to say also that a number of them are finding their way into our Lunatic Asylum. I do not know how many.

THE HON. D. K. CONGDON: Fully one-third.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I was astonished when I visited the asylum to see the large number of Malays that were there. If this law had been in force, the country would have been saved the expense of

keeping these men. Bearing in mind that this coloured labour is imported for the benefit of certain persons, I do not think it should become chargeable to the State. I can see no harm in asking the importer to send them back when their engagement has expired; or, if they become a charge on the public revenue, that those who imported them should bear the cost. I notice that similar provisions to these prevail in Queensland, in connection with the Kanaka labour, and therefore there is nothing new in our insisting upon them being returned immediately after they have fulfilled the terms of their engagement. These are the principal provisions of the Bill, which I now move be read a second time.

THE HON. F. M. STONE: I move that this Bill be read a second time this day six months. We have been sitting here for some months now, and no attempt has been made to bring in a measure of this importance until the last moment. It could have been brought in a long time ago, when we were waiting for something to do, and when we should have had ample time to consider it. All the country members are away, and I understand the House is to be prorogued to-morrow. I ask hon. members to do justice to the North, and not to allow a measure of this kind to be brought in at the fag end of the session, and when there is very little chance of discussing it. If hon. members will look at the Bill they will see it is very stringent, and that it means ruin to the pearling industry of the North. We know that there white labour cannot be made use of. Coloured labour is necessary for the purpose of drawing water and looking after small gardens, a class of labour white men will not undertake. I ask hon. members whether they intend to do an injustice to the settlers at the North by passing this Bill at this late stage of the session, when several hon. members are away? For a long time the colony depended to a great extent on the pastoral industry. It is not in a flourishing condition now, and that is all the more reason why we should be careful how we handicap it. Under this Bill, if a settler in the North wishes to get down five or six men, he will have to deposit between £200 and £300, and, if the labourer happens to be imprisoned, that

sum may have to be left in the hands of the Resident Magistrate for perhaps fifteen years, until the man gets out of gaol, and he can be sent back. I feel sure hon. members will not agree to that. Next session the Bill can be brought in again, and in the meantime the Northern settlers will have an opportunity of considering it. I ask hon. members, therefore, without voting on the merits of the Bill, to delay passing it for six months.

THE HON. E. HENTY: I rise to second the amendment, because I think this measure is of far more importance than appears on the face of it. This is a question which has been racking the brains of people in Queensland for years past. It has nearly led to separation there, and it is likely to raise a very great question here. Considering its importance, I agree with the Hon. Mr. Stone that we should delay further consideration of it until next session.

THE HON. J. E. RICHARDSON: I must support the amendment, because I think a Bill of this kind ought to have been brought down earlier in the session. If we pass the Bill now we may be doing a great injustice to the North, where Chinese must be employed. Perhaps, during the recess, we may be able to get a Bill which will meet the requirements of both North and South.

THE HON. D. K. CONGDON: It is my intention to support the amendment, because I am opposed to the Bill itself. We have plenty of these coloured men in the South for all requirements, but in the North we know we must employ them, because white men will not do the class of work which is required of them.

THE HON. E. ROBINSON: I shall support the amendment, because I agree that we should not do an injustice to the settlers at the North. The people there cannot get white cooks or men to draw water and the actual work of the station, and they must employ coloured labour.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: I quite agree this Bill should have been brought in earlier in the session; and I think, considering the many weeks we were idle, this is a measure that might well have been introduced here and have afforded us something to do. Next session, I hope at least half the Bills will be introduced here. There is not the slightest doubt

that coloured labour is not wanted in the South, but, from what the Hon. Mr. Stone states, it is wanted in the North; and I would suggest, therefore, that this Bill should only have effect North of Geraldton. The Bill will do much good in the South, and, that being so, I am obliged to vote for it.

THE HON. H. McKERNAN: After the speeches we have heard, I feel it is quite useless to say much in favour of the Bill. It is an important Bill, and I agree that it should have come down to us earlier. All hon. members, however, must be agreed that it is necessary to restrict the influx of coloured labour in the South. They are coming here now in hundreds and entering into competition with the whites in several classes of trade. I should like to see some provision in the Bill by which every coloured man who comes here should be compelled to declare his trade. While regretting the late hour at which the Bill has been brought down to us, I shall give my vote with the Hon. Colonial Secretary.

THE HON. E. W. DAVIES: I do not think we shall lose much by letting this Bill stand over until next session. I agree that some attempt should be made to prevent coloured labour coming to the South and entering into competition with whites.

THE HON. F. T. CROWDER: It is my intention to support the Hon. Mr. Stone, on two grounds: one because I do not think this Bill is stringent enough, and the other because it has been brought in at a late hour of the session. We have been told that this very Bill was introduced last session and thrown out, and, therefore, there was no reason why it should not have been brought in earlier this session. I shall support the amendment.

Amendment put and passed.

Bill laid aside.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 9-10 o'clock p.m., adjourned until Monday, 26th November, at 7-80 o'clock p.m.