WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Second Session of the Seventh Parliament under Responsible Government was convened for the despatch of business on the 29th July, 1909.

Parliament was opened by His Excellency the Governor.

Legislative Council,

Thursday, 29th July, 1909.

				PAG			
Opening of Parliament	, Seco	ond Se	asion			1	
Papers presented						3	
Bill (Privilege) Bills of	Sale	Act A	.mendi	ment		3	
Address in Reply, first	day					4	
Adjournment, Supply						9	

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Legislative Council met at 3 o'clock p.m., pursuant to proclamation, which was read by the Clerk of Parliaments (Mr. G. F. Hillman).

THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

His Excellency Sir Gerald Strickland, K.C.M.G., entered the Council Chamber at 3.3 p.m.; and the members of the Legislative Assembly having also attended in the Chamber obediently to summons, His Excellency was pleased to deliver the following speech:—

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council-

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—

Since the termination of the preceding Session, His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to appoint me Governor of this State in succession to Admiral Sir Frederick G. D. Bedford, G.C.B., whose long and brilliant career in the service of his country has been closed by five years' successful occupancy of the position which I now have the honour to fill.

It is with deep gratitude that I acknowledge the hearty welcome extended to me and to the Lady Edeline Strickland by all classes of the community upon our arrival in the State, and also the expressions of loyalty and attachment to the Throne and Person of His Majesty the King on that occasion.

The financial arrangements between the States and the Commonwealth have demanded and received continued attention from my Advisers.

An Inter-State Conference was held in Hobart in March last, at which your representatives were strongly fortified by the fact that Parliament had confirmed the resolutions of the previous Melbourne Conference, with the result that they were successful in securing that special consideration to which this State is entitled.

Another Inter-State Conference, at which the Commonwealth Government will also be represented, has been called to meet in Melbourne on the 13th of next month. My Advisers consider it to be of paramount importance that this

State shall be fully represented on that occasion. You will, therefore, be asked to agree to such arrangements as may be deemed reasonable and necessary to enable this to be accomplished.

The development of the agricultural industry, which has been so remarkable a feature in the progress of the State for several years past, continues in accelerated volume.

Exclusive of applications for pastoral leases, over two million acres were applied for last year, as against 1,142,000 acres during the preceding twelve months, which constitutes a record in land settlement, and active development is, as a consequence, taking place on every hand, both as regards clearing and cultivation.

Every effort is being made to open up the vacant lands of the State. Surveys are being pushed on rapidly, roads are being cleared, and water supplies provided in the drier areas.

The Agricultural Bank, which has been so great a factor in the development of the land, is putting forth every endeavour to cope with the increased agricultural activity, and as a result my Advisers will require to ask Parliament to increase the capital of that institution. It is also intended to introduce a Bill to still further liberalise the provisions of the Agricultural Bank Act, which, while extending additional assistance to settlers, will also encourage the establishment of agricultural implement manufactories in the State.

Provision will also be made for handling agricultural products. Plans are now in preparation for coping with the export of meat, wheat, and fruit at Fremantle, and similar facilities will be provided at other ports as occasion demands.

The recent copious rains that have fallen throughout the rural districts give promise of a bountiful season for pastoralists and agriculturists alike. At the same time there is a gratifying, steady, and unchecked increase in the area under crop, in the numbers of stock depastured, and in the area under fruit.

The recent important developments in many of our mines at great depth give an assurance of permanency and wealth which should go far towards inducing greater activity in the development of our varied mineral resources, affording to the investor and prospector alike undoubted opportunities of a profitable return

The construction of the railways to Norseman and Ravensthorpe has caused renewed activity in those centres. The Sandstone railway is nearing completion, and tenders are now being called for the Meekatharra extension.

Tenders have been called for the construction of the railway from Port Hedtand to Marble Bar, and it is believed that the completion of this line will open up the vast resources of a large portion of our North-Western territory.

In pursuance of the policy of development by means of railway construction, during the last Session of Parliament Bills were passed authorising the building of Railways from Bridgetown to Wilgarrup; from Nannine to Meekatharra; and a line to serve the Upper Chapman Valley; and arrangements have been made for an early commencement of these extensions of our railway system; in addition to which the harbour improvement works at the ports of Fremantle, Bunbury, Geraldton, and Busselton, authorised during the last Session of Parliament, are well in hand.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure are now in course of preparation, and will be submitted for your approval at the earliest opportunity.

The finances of the State continue to demand the greatest care at the hands of Ministers, and wherever possible economies are being inaugurated.

A scheme for the reduction of Municipal subsidies has been adopted, and the re-organisation of the public hospitals, with a view to a considerable reduction in cost, is in progress.

The Public Service Commissioner, in conjunction with an Assistant Commissioner, has been requested to inquire into the several Government departments, with a view to further economy, and the hours of the service have been extended to assist in that object.

Mr. President and Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council-

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly—

My Advisers are convinced that the well-being of the people and the prosperity of the State demand a continuance of that forward policy which has marked the administration of the Government during the past four years.

Further powers will be sought for the extension of our agricultural railways, notably to open up the vast areas of cultivable land to the East and North of Goomalling, and to the South of the Eastern Goldfields Railway, while the question of extending railway facilities to serve certain of our more Eastern mining centres will be a subject for consideration.

You will be asked to agree to an Amendment of the Constitution Act in order to liberalise the qualification of the electors of the Legislative Council, and thus to bring that branch of the Legislature more closely into touch with popular desires and aspirations.

My Advisers are of opinion that, with a view to securing such a Redistribution of Seats in the Legislative Assembly as will provide for the movements of population in the various districts of the State, brought about mainly by the development of agriculture and the great expansion in the settlement of our wheat-producing lands, action to re-adjust representation should be taken in the near future.

The question of introducing a comprehensive measure of Liquor Law Reform has engaged the earnest attention of my advisers, and a Bill will be presented for your consideration which, while recognising the principle of popular control, will at the same time render practicable the curtailment of licenses on principles beneficial to the community and equitable in their incidence.

In addition to the measures already referred to, you will be asked to consider, amongst others, Bills dealing with Mining, Road Boards, Public Health, Metropolitan Sewerage and Water. Education Endowment, and the Public Service.

In declaring this Session of Parliament open I trust that your labours, assisted by Divine Providence, will add to the prosperity, advancement, and good Government of the State.

The Governor then retired, and the President (Hon. H. Briggs) took the Chair.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Colonial Secretary: 1, Roads Act, 1902, By-laws of the following Roads Boards:-Cue. Warren, Upper Irwin, Irwin, Ashburton, Peppermint Grove, Jandakot. Special by-laws for regulating lights to be carried by vehicles; 2, Mining Act, 1904.-Addition to regulation 97, and new regulation; 70A; 3. Statement Aborigines Department—(a)of receipts and payments for 1908, govern-Regulations for the ment and management of the Aborigines Lock Hospital on Bernier and Dorre Islands; 4, Municipal Corporations Act, 1906-By-laws of various nunicipalities; 5. Report of the Royal Commission on Metropolitan Sewerage and Storm Water Works; 6, Local Boards of Health-By-laws of the following boards: Bayswater. Boulder. Bridgetown, Davyhurst, Mulwarrie, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Maylands, Meekatharra; 7, Fremantle Harbour Trust Regulations; 8, Government Railways Act, 1904-(a) By-law No. 55, (b) Reports and returns in accordance with Clauses 54 and 83; 9, Report of the Chief Protector of Aborigines, 1908; 10, Report of the Education Department, 1908.

BILL-BILLS OF SALE ACT AMENDMENT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. D. Connolly): In order to assert and maintain the undoubted rights and privileges of this House to initiate legislation. I move (without notice) for leave to in-

troduce a Bill entitled "An Act to amend the Bills of Sale Amendment Act, 1906." Leave given; Bill introduced and read a first time.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

First Day.

The PRESIDENT (Hon. H. Briggs): His Excellency the Governor having been pleased to deliver a Speech declaring the reasons for calling Parliament together, for the sake of convenience a copy of the Speech will be placed before each member.

HON. C. SOMMERS (Metropolitan): I desire to move that the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor in reply to the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to us:—

May it please your Excellency, We, the Legislative Council of the Parliament of the State of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to address to Parliament.

Before dealing with the Speech I desire to offer the congratulations of myself and other hon, members to His Excellency the Governor on his appointment to the position he now holds. feel sure that both he and the Lady Edeline Strickland will uphold the high traditions of the office and follow the worthy example set by their many predecessors. I have another duty-a sad one inis to refer briefly to the deed—that death of the late Sir George Shenton, who was for so many years President of this Council. He was a man under whom every member was glad to serve, and who was very highly respected. believe he was the first President of the Council, and he was President until illhealth compelled him to retire. I very much regret, and I feel members generally regret the necessity for these remarks. I am gratified that at last the other States of the Commonwealth admit that the needs of Western Australia deserve special consideration. Prime Minister, Mr. Fisher, was also of

this opinion, and now that Sir John Forrest is Treasurer, it is to be hoped that while protecting the rights of the Commonwealth, he will grant to this State that special consideration that its size and growing needs require if it is to progress side by side with the sister States. I note with satisfaction that the Premier has invited Mr. Bath. Leader of the Opposition, to accompany him to the forthcoming Conference at Melbourne. At this time, a critical period in the State finances, all party feeling should be sunk and all should unite in endeavouring to obtain the best possible terms for the State. I hope the Leader of the Opposition will be able to see his way clear to accept the very courteous invitation of the Pre-The Premier certainly deserves the warmest praise of this House for sinking party differences and thus showing the other States that we are united in demanding that we should receive liberal and fair treatment. Since last session the growing demands of the agricultural and pastoral interests have necessitated the appointment of a special Minister who can devote his whole energy and attention to the department. The appointment of Mr. Mitchell has given the most general satisfaction to all those who have these great interests His wide experience, energy, and enthusiasm, coupled with his unbounded confidence in the future of the State, will be of the greatest service. I feel certain that this House will assist the Minister in every way to develop the agricultural interest, for on the success of this industry so much depends. Survey before selection, conservation of water, fixed advances by the Agricultural Bank-these will remove those vexatious delays of which, in the past, selectors have so justly complained. What the State now requires is that the proper class of people shall be settled on the land; and it behoves the Agent General to use the greatest care in selecting immigrants. While speaking of Agents General I think we owe a deep debt of gratitude to our Premier, who has sacrificed his personal ambitions to the welfare of his State by continuing

in the local Parliament. I fail to see position of Agent General why the should be looked upon as a political perquisite. I think, myself, that what the State requires is a good, sound, up-todate business man who would run the department on sound commercial lines. If a suitable man is not to be found in Parliament, the Government should have a wide choice outside. I am glad to see from the Premier's speech that it is the intention of the Government to reorganise the London office and to send there men who are thoroughly in touch with local requirements. This is the only way to make the office a success. A constant interchange of officers could result in nothing but good. Reverting to agricultural interests, it is gratifying to note that, exclusive of applications for pastoral leases, over 2.000.000 applied for last year, as were against 1,142,000 acres in the preceding year; and so far as can be seen, the aggregate area applied for will be even greater in the coming year. learn from all parts of Australia of men who are intending to visit this State, and we know full well that many of them will remain here permanently. In regard to mining it is most pleasing to note how well our great mines are opening up. All along the Golden Mile a steady and consistent output continues, and the values are being well maintained at depth. And, apart from these great mines on the Golden Mile, the improvement at the North end of the Kalgoorlie field is most gratifying and tends to show that for many years to come the pros-pects are well assured. Another most gratifying feature is the good news received from the Great Fingal, as well as from the Phillips River field. latter is now yielding 10 tons of copper per day which, with the gold also won in that district, averages in value £1,000 per day. The Port Hedland-Marble Bar Railway, which is of course to be constructed for the development of the mining interests in that portion of the State, is still looked upon by many as an experiment, but it is gratifying to know encouraging reports have lately been received as to the existence of valu-

able deposits of silver, lead, bismuth, asbestos, and copper, as well as thousands of acres of tin-bearing country, and taking all theses things into consideration I think it justifies the construction of this railway. Telegrams received during the past few days lead us to the hope that a new goldfield has been discovered on our eastern border, and if it proves a success it will mean a great increase in the trade of the State. I notice with great satisfaction that the Government intend to submit the Estimates at an earlier date this session than in past sessions. For many years past we have complained that the Estimates have been rushed down to this Chamber at the closing hours of the session so that we were not permitted to give them that close attention their importance demanded; and many leaders of the House have promised session after session that they would remedy this. I hope the Colonial Secretary will take it this session that this House expects him to carry out his promise in this direction. With regard to our finances I think the time has more than arrived when the drift should be arrested. It is all very well to blame the Commonwealth for the shortage in our revenue, but this should have been foreseen, as it has been common knowledge that our revenue from customs returns must decrease as the sliding-scale disappeared. I trust the Ministry will make a serious effort to adjust the revenue and expenditure and make them balance. I think it can be accompanied with economy and without additional taxation. We have a good harvest and generally a good outlook in our pastoral and mining industries, and these should mean increased revenue and should assist the Treasurer to carry out this most desirable end. Reference has been made to the agricultural railways, and every effort to extend them will receive my utmost support. Every mile agricultural railway constructed means an increase in the permanent wealth of the State. If we are to supply the increasing demand for land these railways must be extended. the good land exists-and it does existby sending out these railways we need

have no fear in regard to an increase of population. Reference has been made in the Speech to a proposed reduction in the franchise for this House. I am not in accord with this proposal. given my reasons on previous occasions and will not do it now, but I favour a redistribution of seats and a reduction of members in both Houses; because I believe there are far too many members for the wants of this State, and I believe many constituencies might well be amalgamated and the business of the country carried on just as well. is one very big question the Government are going to grapple with, and I wish them every success. They intend grapple with the all important liquor law question. It is certainly a burning question all over the civilised world, and I think with the experience at our command of the different liquor laws in various parts of the world we should be able to frame a Bill to meet with the approval at any rate of moderate people. It is, of course, impossible to frame a measure that will please the extremists, but I take it it behoves us to assist the Government in passing a workable measure that will give the people the fullest power but will not impose any undue hardships on any section of the com-The burning question will be the principle of compensation, and I may say at once that I am totally opposed to any compensation being paid out of the coffers of the State or out of the coffers of the ratepayers. The principle I advocate is that the trade should provide its own compensation by means of some properly adjusted tax. I have read the able reports of Mr. Carson, and I think the Government deserve all praise for having sent that gentleman to examine and inquire into the liquor laws of the sister States and of New Zea-The concluding paragraph of the Speech deals with other measures to be introduced. With regard to these, I would like to remark that I am thoroughly in accord with the Premier in the statement made in his speech to the effect that it was his intention to amend the Public Service Act with a view to throwing more responsi-

bility on the Government and, I presame, to give the Government more control of the public servants. The copious rains justify us in believing that we shall have a most bounteous harvest. Agricultural, pastoral, and mining interests never looked brighter, we have every reason for expecting a prosperous future. What we now reequire is careful administration, sound legislation, and a harmonious working of all parties for the general welfare of the State. In conclusion I quote the words of His Excellency's Speech in which he expresses the confident hope that our labours, assisted by Divine Providence, will add to the prosperity, advancement, and good government of this State. I beg to move the motion which I have read.

Hon. C. A. PIESSE (South-East): In rising to second the motion moved by Mr. Sommers I wish to state that I will not take up very much of the time of the House. I desire to endorse the remarks that have fallen from Mr. Sommers with reference to the appointment of His Excellency the Governor to his position in this State: I would like also to say a few words in reference to another matter which Mr. Sommers touched namely, the decease of the late Sir George Shenton, who for so years so ably filled the chair you. Sir. now occupy. The of his death came as a shock to all of us, and I am sure we are all sorry from our immost hearts to have lost so worthy a son of Western Australia. For my own part I feel as though I had lost someone near and dear to me; for I had for many years been in very close touch with him. Broadly speaking, Parliament, especially in the earlier days, has necescitated our attendance for six months in every year; and while here we were constantly in touch with our late President. Such were his qualities that the longer one knew him the better one liked him. His loss will be felt, not only in these precincts, not only in the City, where he was so well known, and in the province which he for so long represented, but throughout the State generally. There is

another matter which I would like to touch upon: and I do not think I am going outside the rules of the House in It is the honour conmentioning it. ferred by His Majesty the King upon the Hon. George Throssell. I consider this honour well merited, and I think also it is one in which the House can share. is a credit to this House as well as to the hon, member who has actually received the distinction, and I take this opportunity of congratulating Mr. Throssell on the honour conferred upon him. Now to get to more practical matters, naturally in a short speech like this with the same opportunity I possessed Mr. Sommers has made notes of the same measures and has covered most of the ground I wanted to cover. I wish to say with reference to the inter-State Conferences that our best thanks are due to our representatives who have at inconvenience to themselves—because there is inconvenience attached to it-attended those Conferences and done good work for us on every occasion. sincerely trust they will be able to do equally as good work at the forthcoming Conference. I think I have the agricultural industry at heart as much as any member of this House. There was a time when I could not get members to listen to anything connected with agriculture. It was all mining then, but to-day we find the tables turned, and now we rejoice to hear such statements as Mr. Sommers has mentioned just now, and where we now hear mining mentioned once we hear agriculture mentioned ten times. No doubt it is going to assist the State; mining development also. Once the development of the State was about by mining, and agriculture came in somewhere, but now the tables are turned. I want to say that mining will further progress, from my knowledge of it-and I have spent some time on the goldfields -and that there is room for development and no doubt we will have further discoveries. However I want to congratulate the Government on the intention to survey before selection. I think that half a million of money could be spent in this direction at a great saving to the State. Let us survey all of it and

have not only the two million acres we are credited with as having disposed of during the season, but let us go to five million acres. There is nothing to stop After all with all this boasted development we have only succeeded in developing fifteen million acres out of 620 million acres—a mere fleabite. to stop our having an army of surveyors classifying the land and, instead of having two million acres taken up annually, having at least five million acres taken up each year? If we go on as we are doing now it will take another hundred years before we settle the enormous areas of this State. We cannot spend money better, and it would do away with the huge Lands Department in Perth. Once the land is surveyed the principal trouble is over. A man will take his litho, with him to country he fancies, select what he wants, make his application and the matter is done with. Afterwards it is only a matter of seeing that he carries out his improvements. This matter of land settlement is one that at times I have let run away with myself: I do not intend to let it do so to-day; but I say the Government should do away with homestead farms. It is time we stopped giving away this enormous extent of land and, instead, give relief wherever it is required, to the settler in his earlier years of occupation. Give him a chance of having the land free for the first three or four years.

Member: Have you changed your mind?

Hon. C. A. PIESSE: I have not changed my mind. I have always pleaded for the settlers in their earlier stages, and as one who has tried to carry a good many of them financially I have no hesitation in saying it, because it is true—the trouble these men have in trying to make ends meet. That is why I say the little relief the Government could give would be most beneficial while not affecting the revenue very much. I would only make it permissive. Most of these men will not require it. They go on the land with the idea of paying for it as soon as they can.

Hon. V. Hamersley: It will encourage dumnying.

Hon. C. A. PIESSE: Nothing of the sort. Some of them want relief badly enough. If you lay down the principle in the earlier stages you will find it lead to a large increase in the occupation of the land. With regard to the Agricultural Bank, I trust the Government will make the limit £1,000. There is no reason on earth why it should not be up to this amount. The securities are good-there are no better securities in Western Australia to-day than the security of the land. The position is this: with our interests in the hands of the trustees of the Agricultural Bank we cannot go wrong. They always have a good margin, and I cannot for the life of me see why, relying on his security, we should not allow the farmer to borrow up to £1,000.

Hon. R. F. Sholl: It is only a question of interest.

Hon. C. A. PIESSE: They pay their interest. They owe you nothing.

Hon. R. F. Sholl: I say it is only a question of rate of interest.

Hon. C. A. PIESSE: I think there has only been some paltry £7 lost by the Bank, and that occurred a long time ago. There is another matter which Mr. Sommers touched upon, namely, the finances of the State. I do think it is a cruel thing to ask our people to continue to carry the enormous Sinking Fund. It is a quarter of a million this year; surely there is a way of easing us for the time being. It does not seem to me to be a sensible thing to take every penny of our money away from us. Fancy a quarter of a million of money from 270,000 people. It is out of all reason. It may be a good thing theoretically; but very often things that are theoretically good are not practicable. I say it is unfair, and I say that we, as a sensible community, should begin to look into this matter and ask if it is altogether a fair thing. A quarter of a million has been taken this year and put into the Sinking Fund-close upon £1 per head of the population. I have no desire to repudiate, but it is time we put our heads together and sought to relieve our people of this huge burden. It seems to me to be utter nonsense to ask our community

to continue to pay this amount of money. One matter which seriously affects the country places is the question of proposed reform of the system of subsidising hospitals. I wish to impress upon the Colonial Secretary the necessity of giving greater consideration to the country hospitals. It will be of no use attempting to treat the country places as he proposes to treat the larger centres. It must not be forgotten that these small towns and outlying districts have not the conveniences obtainable in more thickly populated settlements. I trust that more liberal treatment will be extended to them than is the case to-day.

Hon, R. F. Sholl: What about the North?

Hon. C. A. PIESSE: My argument applies with greater force in respect to those places which are the greater distance away from the centre. One matter which is of the utmost importance to me, representing as I do one of the most progressive agricultural districts in this State, arises from the word "notable" in that paragraph of His Excellency's Speech referring to these agricultural Seemingly it is intended to railways. apply to the lands East and North of Goomalling. I think it must be a mistake that the words "East and West of the Great Southern" were left out. cannot possibly picture the Government leaving out such an important locality while specially mentioning these other places. The people are there in hundreds sixty to ninety miles out from the Great Southern Railway, yet here we are told there is no promise. I trust the Colonial Secretary will tell me it is a printer's error that the words "East and West of the Great Southern Railway" are omitted. I want to say in conclusion that I will not support the proposal to amend the Constitution by liberalising the qualification for electors of this Chamber to the extent the Government see fit to go. Because I am seconding the Address-in-Reply I do not want to make it appear that I am going to blindfoldedly support a proposal of this kind. I wish that distinction to be made. Otherwise I think the Speech is a good one. Every clause of it is worth careful perusal and is full

of interest and shows how the advisers of His Excellency have the interests of the State at heart. I desire to second the adoption of the Address-in-Reply.

On motion by the Hon. A. G. Jenkins, debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT-SUPPLY.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. J. D. Connolly): As it is very probable the Legislative Assembly will not meet next week and as a Supply Bill will possibly be before that Chamber to-morrow and as this House cannot receive a Message except when the other House is sitting, it will be necessary for this House to sit to-morrow in order to deal with the Supply Bill. I therefore move:

That the House at its rising do adjourn until 1.30 o'clock to-morrow.

Question passed.

House adjourned at 3.53 p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 29th July, 1909.

		PAGE					
Opening of Second Session	n				9		
Election Returns (3) .					9		
Papers presented			•••		9		
Bill (Privilege) Sea Carri	age of	Goods			10		
Address in Rep'y, first de	LÝ				10		
Adjournment, Supply, Pr	remier	s' Confe	rence		20		

OPENING OF SECOND SESSION.

The Legislative Assembly met at 3 p.m. pursuant to Proclamation, which was read by the Clerk (Mr. C. Lee Steere).

In obedience to summons, Mr. Speaker (Hon. T. F. Quinlan) and hon. members proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber; and having heard His Excellency deliver the opening Speech (vide Council report. ante) they returned to the Assembly Chamber.

ELECTION RETURNS (3).

The Clerk announced the return of writs for the election of members for Murray, Northam, and Greenough, showing that Mr. W. J. George, Mr. J. Mitchell (Minister for Lands), and Mr. J. L. Nanson (Attorney General) respectively had been duly elected.

Mr. W. J. George and the Hon. J. Mitchell and the Hon. J. L. Nanson took the oath and subscribed the roll.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Premier: 1, Report of Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the construction of the Sewerage and Stormwater Works in the Metropolitan Area; 2, Report of the Government Labour Bureau and its branches 1908-9; 3, By-laws of the Local Boards of Health of Bayswater, Boulder, Bridgetown, Davyhurst-Mulwarrie, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Maylands, and Meekatharra; Department - Regulations 4. Aborigines and Statement of Receipts and Expenditure : 5, Boat Licensing Act. 1878-Extension of Boundaries of Port of Onslow; 6, Jetties Regulation Act, 1878-Regulations for Derby Jetty: 7. Amended Port Regulations; S. Municipal By-laws of Boulder, Bunbury, Claremont, Coolgardie. Cottesloe, Fremantle. Geraldton, Kookynie, Menzies, Narrogin, North Perth. Perth City. South Perth, Subiaco, Wagin, and Collie: 9, Regulations of the Fremantle Harbour Trust: 10. Rules of the Fremantle Public Hospital: 11, University Endowment Trustees-Financial Statement; 12, Aborigines Department-Report of Chief Protector for 1908-9.

By the Minister for Works: By-laws passed by the Roads Boards of Ashburton. Upper Irwin, Warren. Cue. Peppermint Grove. Irwin, and Jandakot.

By the Minister for Mines and Railways: 1, Report and Returns under Sections 54 and 83 of "The Government Railways Act. 1904"; 2, By-laws under "The Government Railways Acts": 3, Additional Regulations under "The Mining Act, 1904"; 4, Report of the Department of Mines for 1908.