

Item, Magistrates and District Allowances, £2,333;

Mr. HAWKE: The Northam magisterial district, owing to the continued development of the wheatgrowing areas, and the establishment of an increasing number of local courts, has become unwieldy. A great deal of the time and energy of the magistrate are expended in travelling from one part of the district to another in the discharge of his duties. I should like the Minister to look into the question of readjusting the boundaries so that the district may be made more workable and that no magistrate is called upon to carry out what is practically an impossible task.

The MINISTER FOR JUSTICE: It is a large district. Some four or five years ago there was a proposal to make Merredin the headquarters of a new magisterial district so that all the work at that end of the Northam district might be carried out there. Had the position developed as was expected, a new magistrate would have been appointed at Merredin. Since the depression, however, the expenditure has had to be kept down, and anything that meant further outlay has had to be frowned on. We could not, therefore, give the facilities the district warranted. It may be possible to rearrange the boundaries so that some of the duties of the magistrate at Northam may be carried out by other magistrates. We might even alter the boundaries of both the Albany and the Northam magisterial districts so that there may be greater equity between them as regards the amount of work to be performed. The hon. member was quite right to bring the matter forward, and I can assure him it will receive attention.

Vote put and passed.

Progress reported.

*House adjourned at 9.28 p.m.*

## Legislative Council,

*Tuesday, 16th October, 1934.*

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

### ASSENT TO BILLS.

Message from the Lieutenant-Governor received and read notifying assent to the following Bills:—

- 1, Roman Catholic Church Property Act Amendment.
- 2, Supreme Court Criminal Sittings Amendment.

### BILL—ELECTORAL ACT AMENDMENT.

*Second Reading.*

THE CHIEF SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [4.36]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put.

Hon. J. Cornell: Under the Standing Orders it is necessary that the bells be rung.

The PRESIDENT: Following the inviolable practice of the House, since there are more than 16 members, an absolute majority, present and there has been no dissentient voice, I declare the second reading carried.

Question passed.

Bill read a second time.

### BILL—CONSTITUTION ACTS AMENDMENT.

*Second Reading.*

THE CHIEF SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [4.38]: I move—

That the Bill be now read a second time.

Question put.

The PRESIDENT: There being more than a constitutional majority present and there being no dissentient voice, I declare the second reading carried.

Question passed.

Bill read a second time.

### SUSPENSION OF SITTING.

The PRESIDENT: The Leader of the House desires me to say he will be very glad if an absolute majority of the members will remain, as he expects the Supply Bill (No. 2) to arrive from another place presently, and he would like to have it passed at this sitting.

*Sitting suspended from 1.39 to 4.51 p.m.*

### BILL—SUPPLY (No. 2), £700,000.

*All stages.*

Received from the Assembly and read a first time.

*Standing Orders Suspension.*

THE CHIEF SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [4.55]: I move—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as is necessary to enable the Bill to pass through all stages at one sitting.

Question put.

The PRESIDENT: As there is more than an absolute majority of members present, and as there has been no dissentient voice, I declare the motion carried.

Question thus passed.

*Second Reading.*

THE CHIEF SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [4.56] in moving the second reading said: The purpose of the Bill is to enable the Government to finance operations pending the passing of the Estimates. One Supply Bill has already been passed for a total amount of £2,200,000. That amount was estimated to cover the expenditure from the first three months of the financial year. The actual expenditure for that period amounted to £2,266,238 and was allocated as follows:—

|                        | £          |
|------------------------|------------|
| Special Acts .. ..     | 976,728    |
| Governmental .. ..     | 585,693    |
| Public Utilities .. .. | 703,817    |
| Total .. ..            | £2,266,238 |

Included in the item "Special Acts" is an amount of £908,392 for interest and sinking fund payments, and the item "Governmental" includes an amount of £106,618 for exchange payments. The revenue received for the same period amounted to £2,103,888 and consisted of—

|                           | £         |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Taxation .. ..            | 346,648   |
| Territorial .. ..         | 134,369   |
| Commonwealth Grants .. .. | 301,359   |
| Public Utilities .. ..    | 1,124,846 |
| All other revenue .. ..   | 196,668   |

The deficit for the first three months amounted to £162,350 as compared with £505,545 for the corresponding period of the previous year. Commonwealth grants received during the three months amounted to £301,359 and included £33,000, being portion of the special non-recurring grant of £133,000. The amount received from the Commonwealth for the first three months of the previous year was £243,000, and did not include any portion of the additional grant of £100,000, the first payment of which was not received until December, 1933. Commonwealth grants, apart from the sum of £473,000, which took the place of the per capita payments and was received under the Financial Agreement, were increased last year from £509,000 to £600,000, and the addition of the non-recurring grant of £133,000 increases the total for this year to £733,000. The amount applied for under this Bill is £700,000, of which £500,000 will be charged to Consolidated Revenue Fund and £200,000 to General Loan Fund. This is equal to approximately one month's requirements, and is the estimated amount necessary to cover expenditure pending the passing of the Estimates. This money is required to carry on the administration and continue works already undertaken under authorisation. I move—

That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

*In Committee, etc.*

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment and the report adopted.

Read a third time, and *passed*.

**ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.**

**THE CHIEF SECRETARY** (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [5.6]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn till Tuesday, the 23rd. October.

Question put and passed.

*House adjourned 5.7 p.m.*

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## **Legislative Assembly,**

*Tuesday, 16th October, 1934.*

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

### **ASSENT TO BILLS.**

Message from the Lieutenant-Governor received and read notifying assent to the following Bills:—

- 1, Roman Catholic Church Property Act Amendment.
- 2, Supreme Court Criminal Sittings Amendment.

### **QUESTIONS (2)—RAILWAYS.**

*Brookton Grain Shed.*

Mr. SEWARD asked the Minister for Railways:—1, What tenders were received for the grain shed in the Brookton railway yard? 2, What was the amount of each tender?

The **MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS** replied:—1 and 2, Name of tenderer and amount of tender: W. M. Crawford, £110;

J. P. Myers, £121; C. A. Boundy, £85, 5s.; L. V. Stevens, £77; T. O'Neill, £52; C. Brown, £50; A. E. Wilson and E. O. Lange (late tender), £107 10s.

### *Great Southern Trains.*

Mr. SEWARD asked the Minister for Railways:—1, What is the reason for the continued late running of passenger trains on the Great Southern line? 2, Will he take steps to secure the more punctual running of those trains?

The **MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS** replied:—1, During the month of September the principal passenger trains on this line arrived at destination on time on 61 occasions and were late on 14 occasions. The delays were due to mechanical defects, show traffic and increased volume of perishable and roadside traffic. 2, These trains are specially watched to obviate delays, and where such occur they are unavoidable.

### **BILL—SUPPLY (No. 2), £700,000.**

#### *Message.*

Message from the Lieutenant-Governor received and read recommending appropriation for the purposes of the Bill.

#### *Standing Orders Suspension.*

**THE MINISTER FOR WORKS** (Hon. A. McCallum—South Fremantle) [4.37]: I move—

That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as is necessary to enable resolutions from the Committees of Supply and Ways and Means to be reported and adopted on the same day on which they shall have passed those Committees, and also the passing of a Supply Bill through all its stages in one day.

Question put and passed.

#### *Committee of Supply.*

The House having resolved into Committee of Supply, Mr. Sleeman in the Chair,

The **MINISTER FOR WORKS**: I move—

That there be granted to His Majesty on account of the services of the year ending the 30th June, 1935, a sum not exceeding £700,000.

This is the second Supply Bill introduced this session. The previous Bill provided for three months, carrying us on to the end of September. This Bill is for one