

AYES.

Mr. Connor  
Mr. Darlôt  
Sir John Forrest  
Mr. D. Forrest  
Mr. Higham  
Mr. Lefroy  
Mr. Pennefather  
Mr. Piesse  
Mr. Quinlan  
Mr. Rason  
Mr. Sholl  
Mr. Throssell  
Mr. Wood  
Mr. Monger (Teller).

NOES.

Mr. Ewing  
Mr. A. Forrest  
Mr. Hall  
Mr. J. F. T. Hassell  
Mr. Hutchinson  
Mr. Pillingworth  
Mr. Kingsmill  
Mr. Mitchell  
Mr. Moran  
Mr. Oats  
Mr. Solomon  
Mr. Vosper  
Mr. Wilson  
Mr. Gregory (Teller).

THE SPEAKER: I give my vote for the "ayes."

Motion thus passed on the casting vote, and the debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 9:30 o'clock until the next day.

## Legislative Council,

Thursday, 11th October, 1900.

Paper Presented—Motion: Railway Station Removal, Kalgoorlie—Kalgoorlie Municipal Loans Reappropriation Bill, third reading—Municipal Institutions Bill, amendments adopted *pro formâ*—Distillation Bill, second reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

PAPER PRESENTED.

By the COLONIAL SECRETARY: Annual Report by the Commandant of the Local Forces.

Ordered to lie on the table.

MOTION—RAILWAY STATION REMOVAL, KALGOORLIE.

Hon. A. G. JENKINS (North-East) moved:

That the departmental reports and plans relating to the proposed new station, situate near Hannan street, Kalgoorlie, be laid on the table of the House.

For some time past a station had been situate near to Hannan street, in Kalgoorlie, and some persons, encouraged in a belief that the station would remain there, had erected large and commodious buildings, and trade had been diverted to that locality. For some reason or other, the station for that end of the town was now to be fixed about 200 yards from the old station; and unless some good reasons for this removal were given, it should not take place. If the departmental report showed that the alteration of the site was necessary, then there would be no objection; but he wanted these reports to be open to inspection, so that any unpleasant rumours or suspicions aroused by the removal of the station should be done away with.

HON. T. F. O. BRIMAGE (South) seconded the motion. Some time ago the Government put up land for sale by auction, and advertised that the land was in the vicinity of Hannan street railway station; the station was now to be removed, which was very inconvenient, and damaging to property in the main street of the town. It was proposed that there should be a sub-way at that station, which did not go into the middle of the next street, but went to the furthest end of the next street from Hannan street. He did not wish to impute motives to Government officials, but he had strong reasons to believe that the station could have been conveniently nearer to Hannan street than the site it was proposed to remove it to.

Question put and passed.

KALGOORLIE MUNICIPAL LOANS REAPPROPRIATION BILL.

Read a third time, on motion by Hon. A. G. JENKINS, and passed.

MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS BILL.

COMMITTEE, *pro formâ*.

On motion by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the House went into Committee for the purpose of adopting, *pro formâ*, certain amendments recommended by a Select Committee, and for having the amendments printed in the body of the Bill prior to discussion.

Bill reported formally with the amendments, and ordered to be reprinted.

## DISTILLATION BILL.

## SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Randell), in moving the second reading, said: This Bill is, to a large extent, the present law of the land. There are some additions and improvements, and I think I may call the measure a compilation of our own Act and that of South Australia, where the legislation on this subject has been brought up to date, and expressed in more concise and exact language; and this has been adopted to a considerable extent by the framer of the Bill. The original Act in this colony was passed in 1871, and consists of 155 sections; in this Bill the clauses are reduced to the number of 83. The Bill is divided into several parts, providing for the licensing of wine makers, spirit distillers, and those who make spirits for chemical, manufacturing, and other purposes. The Bill also provides for the removal of spirits in bond, and altogether is intended to bring the legislation of this colony up to date, and in a line with that of the eastern colonies. The principal amendments of the Act relate to vineyards and orchards. Under the present Act a person owning five acres of land can obtain a license for the distillation of spirits to fortify his wines and for other purposes; but under this Bill he must possess 25 acres. This, however, I do not think will be found a disadvantage, because the progress of the vineyards of the colony has been very great during the last few years, and that progress I hope will continue. The owner of a vineyard must obtain a license, and make all necessary provision to satisfy the excise officers, or those who may be sent to see due respect is paid to the law. There is another class of person who can obtain a license, namely those who distil spirits from different fruits, potatoes, and other substances, and the small grower can always obtain spirits for fortifying purposes. The restrictions necessary for the protection of the customs and excise are many and severe. A bond has to be entered into by the proprietor of the still, himself in £1,000 and two other securities of £500 each, for the due and faithful discharge of the obligations put upon him, and to prevent anything like fraud on the revenues of the colony. Penalties are also severe in

connection with the inspection necessary to see that the rules and regulations are carried out. A cellar and a storeman have to be provided; and to that cellar Government locks have to be fixed, and, as in the case of customs bonds, these cellars cannot be opened except in the presence of an inspector. Every precaution has been taken to secure the protection of the revenue, and at the same time opportunity is given to the manufacturer of spirits for the improvement of wines, and also for the manufacture and sale of spirits by the distiller himself. A license has to be taken out for the sale of stills and other apparatus for distillation; and a sliding scale of duties has been arranged so that the duty on the locally-grown article shall be less than that on the imported article, and if the duty on the latter be reduced, there is a consequential reduction on the product of the local manufacture. I do not think I need say more than that this Bill codifies the law, and presents it in a more concise and compact form than at present.

HON. J. W. HACKETT: Most of this will become federal legislation shortly.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: I am not able to reply to the hon. member's remark. We know that by the Federal Constitution Act, the Commonwealth Government have control of the excise and protection of the customs duties, and no doubt the Federal Government will, as in the case of other departments, take over the officers already employed in this; and I imagine no particular difference will be made in the law, except of course that the whole of the laws of the colonies will be brought into line, as is the intention of the Bill. The Bill is very much taken from the South Australian Act, and though some clauses thought unnecessary have been left out, so far as I can gather, not having any particular acquaintance with the subject, very careful provision is made for the proper enforcement of the law, while opportunities which the wine grower already has here are extended to his advantage.

HON. R. S. HAYNES (Central): I support the Bill because I think it is necessary all legislation should be brought up to date; but there are, in my opinion, other matters more pressing which might have received attention. In the general

dropping out of sections of the Act, one section having reference to an appeal against the decision of justices appears to have disappeared. This is a section I always look for, and no doubt the Colonial Secretary will have no objection to such a provision as that I have indicated.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: Are there appeals under the Customs Act?

HON. R. S. HAYNES: Yes.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 4:53 o'clock until the next Tuesday.

## Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 11th October, 1900.

Perth Public Hospital, Select Committee, change of Member—Petition in favour of Perth Electric Tramways Lighting and Power Bill—Papers presented—Question: Railway Employees at Southern Cross, Discharges—Bills of Sale Act Amendment Bill, first reading—Patents Amendment Bill, first reading—Stamping of Furniture Bill, first reading—Registration of Births, Deaths, and Marriages Amendment Bill, third reading—Federal House of Representatives W.A. Electorates Bill, Council's Amendment—Public Service Bill, Council's Amendment—Land Act Amendment Bill, in Committee, reported—Health Act Amendment Bill, second reading—Annual Estimates, Debate on Financial Policy (resumed), adjourned, Division—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 4:30 o'clock, p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### PERTH PUBLIC HOSPITAL, SELECT COMMITTEE.

##### CHANGE OF MEMBER.

On motion by MR. HALL, and after reason stated, Mr. Hutchinson was relieved from attendance on the Select Committee to inquire into the manage-

ment of the Perth Public Hospital, and the name of Mr. Vosper was substituted.

#### PETITION—PERTH ELECTRIC TRAMWAYS LIGHTING AND POWER BILL.

MR. RASON presented a petition, bearing (he said) over a thousand signatures, from ratepayers of Perth, in favour of the private Bill for authorising the Perth Tramways Company to supply electric light and power in Perth.

Petition received and read.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the PREMIER: 1, Returns (as ordered) showing salaries paid to public servants for month and year ended 30th June, 1900; 2, Commandant of Local Forces, annual Report.

Ordered to lie on the table.

#### QUESTION—RAILWAY EMPLOYEES AT SOUTHERN CROSS, DISCHARGES.

MR. OATS asked the Commissioner of Railways, Why five employees of the railways at Southern Cross station were discharged without notice, when, it was stated, other employees were working overtime from 16 to 18 hours in a fortnight?

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Hon. B. C. Wood) replied:—Eight cleaners were dispensed with, who have now been re-started at other depôts. One cleaner was dispensed with whose appointment had not been formally arranged, and one who had not passed the doctor. One cleaner (the tenth) was acting as a fitter's labourer, and his foreman advised him that he would dispense with his services as soon as a fitter's labourer was available. The majority if not the whole of these men were practically casual hands.

#### BILLS OF SALE ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Introduced by Mr. WILSON, and read a first time.

#### PATENTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Introduced by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, and read a first time.

#### STAMPING OF FURNITURE BILL.

Introduced by MR. HALL, and read a first time.