

Mr. Scaddan: I will meet you in every way possible. I want the Redistribution of Seats Bill to-night.

The Premier: Then my motion must be moved.

Motion put and a division taken with the following result.

Ayes	..	..	..	19
Noes	..	..	..	19
				—
A tie	..	..	..	0

AYES.

Mr. Brown	Mr. Monger
Mr. Carson	Sir N. J. Moore
Mr. Cowcher	Mr. S. F. Moore
Mr. Daglish	Mr. Murphy
Mr. Davies	Mr. Nanson
Mr. Gordon	Mr. Osborn
Mr. Gregory	Mr. Plesse
Mr. Hardwick	Mr. F. Wilson
Mr. Harper	Mr. Layman
Mr. Mitchell	(Teller).

NOES.

Mr. Angwin	Mr. O'Loghlin
Mr. Bath	Mr. Price
Mr. Bolton	Mr. Scaddan
Mr. Gill	Mr. Swan
Mr. Gourley	Mr. Troy
Mr. Heitmann	Mr. Walker
Mr. Holman	Mr. Ware
Mr. Hudson	Mr. A. A. Wilson
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Underwood
Mr. McDowall	(Teller).

The Chairman gave his casting vote with the Ayes.

Motion thus passed.

Vote put and a division taken with the following result:—

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Ayes	19
				—
A tie	0

AYES.

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Mr. Holman	Mr. Ware
Mr. Hudson	Mr. A. A. Wilson
Mr. Johnson	Mr. Underwood
Mr. McDowall	(Teller).

The Chairman gave his casting vote with the Ayes.

Vote thus passed.

Progress reported.

[The Deputy Speaker took the Chair.]

ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

The PREMIER (Hon. Frank Wilson) moved—

That the House at its rising do adjourn until 7.30 o'clock p.m.

Question passed.

House adjourned at 1.28 p.m. (Wednesday).

Legislative Council,

Wednesday, 7th December, 1910.

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

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Colonial Secretary: The Life Assurance Companies Act, 1889—Certified copies of schedules submitted to the Registrar of Companies by insurance companies trading in Western Australia.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

On motion by Hon. Sir E. H. WITTE-NOOM leave of absence for six consecutive sittings granted to Hon. R. W. Pennefather (North) on the ground of ill-health.

BILL—MOUNT LAWLEY RESERVES.

Read a third time and *passed*.

BILL—HEALTH.

Second Reading.

Debate resumed from the previous day.

Hon. E. M. CLARKE (South-West):

It is not my intention to take up the time of the House more than is necessary in speaking on the Health Bill. The Bill opens up a very great question concerning the South-West district. I shall deal with the clauses as we come to them, and the first are those relating to rating. There are three of them as far as I can see, and there are to be three different health rates, and all based upon different foundations, that is to say, one is on this and the others on something else. I want the House to think what is going to happen in connection with all this taxation. It appears to me that before long we shall be taxed absolutely out of existence. We have not only these three taxes, which are to be imposed by the health board, but we have taxes under the Roads Act and the Municipalities Act, and we have the land rates, and this rate, and the other rate, and now there are to be three or four more. I realise that money is absolutely necessary for health purposes, but I do trust that the Minister will see that the measure is worked on such lines, that it will give the least amount of trouble. I should say, why not have one health rate to cover general and sanitary purposes. The borrowing rate I should excoise quick and lively.

The Colonial Secretary: Suppose they want to go in for a plant to carry out their own sanitary work.

Hon. E. M. CLARKE: They can do that with their own money. Anyway, there may be something in that, but

I want to see the rating simplified as much as possible. I have had experience of this, and when it comes to borrowing, I would not allow borrowing powers to any body other than the municipal council. If you allow a roads board in their corporate capacity to borrow for their own purposes, and for health purposes too, you will have the experience that we had down south. I think I was instrumental in calling into existence the first district health board which is outside a corporate body. It is my experience that it was just about a failure. We want to simplify that as much as possible, and while I would allow the municipality to borrow, I should object to some of the others borrowing. With regard to Clause 41, this may be a mistake, but I want to draw the Minister's attention to the fact that the minimum rate in one place is mentioned as 2s. 6d., and in another it is 10s. I merely call the Minister's attention to that because I think it is a mistake. Now we come to what I call the kernel of the whole thing, the by-laws, which are referred to in Clause 175. What I want the Minister to bear in mind is that the by-laws under the Central Board of Health, hitherto have been made from the standpoint of medical men and that standpoint only. That is to say, I do not believe that the people themselves were consulted in the matter; the authorities just framed the by-laws with a view to minimising or doing away with the possibility of disease being contracted from milk from dairy herds. I have some knowledge of the matter from a health point of view, and I can say that if this sort of thing is to be carried out it will be a case of looking after the dairies. I have a copy of the by-laws made under the existing Act in 1908, and here is a sample of them. By-law No. 8 reads—

He shall cause the drainage of such milking shed to be so arranged that all liquid which may fall or be cast upon the floor shall flow *via* the oven drains or channels to a trapped drain inlet of a public sewer situated outside the milking shed or to a covered impervious receptacle of sufficient ca

, pacity which shall not be less than
 / 20 feet distant from such milking
 / shed and from a milk room, and such
 / receptacles shall be emptied and
 / cleansed at least once daily.

Can anyone imagine anything more ridiculous than that?

The Colonial Secretary: What is there ridiculous about it?

Hon. E. M. CLARKE: Possibly the Minister can tell me how milk sheds in the country can be connected with a public sewer; is the thing possible on the face of it? Then there is another by-law, No. 14, which reads—

He shall make no addition to his dairy herd of any animal or animals without the written permission of the Central Board, whose officers may examine such animal or animals and apply such tests as may be deemed necessary to ascertain the freedom from disease or otherwise of such animal or animals, and the Central Board may withhold such permission until such examination or tests have been satisfactorily made.

The Colonial Secretary: Quite right.

Hon. E. M. CLARKE: That means that in the province I represent where we are some 200 miles away, that before I can purchase an animal I must send it up here for the inspector to examine, and to declare that the cow is healthy.

Hon. J. W. Langsford: These by-laws are not enforced.

Hon. E. M. CLARKE: Well, what are they for? No one realises more than I do that it is absolutely necessary for the preservation of health that the authorities should have power, in certain cases, to carry out improvements. I have no sympathy with dirty people, but there are some clauses in this Bill which are positively ridiculous. I have heard the ex-Premier, Sir Newton Moore, say over and over again that we in Western Australia are sending away about £1,000 per day for dairy produce. I will go nearer the mark and say that this amount is going away almost absolutely for butter. If we are going to penalise and impose these restrictions upon the dairy industry, what will happen will be simply that it will be

crushed in its infancy. I am not an alarmist, but a number of cases have come under my notice where inspectors have informed dairymen that they could compel them to do this, that or the other. For my own part, I had no idea that they could do so, but they say emphatically that they are going to administer the law, and if that is the case those engaged in dairying will throw it up altogether. There is another side to this dairy question. I plead guilty to being a director of one of the butter factories down south, therefore, I am going to barrack for it.

Hon. J. W. Hackett: I am worse, because I am a shareholder.

Hon. E. M. CLARKE: We are doing very well down there, but some of our customers have said that if these by-laws of the Health Department are enforced, and inspectors claim that they will enforce them, they will do away with their herds straight away. I maintain, without boasting, that we, as a factory, have done all that it is possible for a factory to do and when I say that I mean that we have gained the confidence of the supplier, and we have established a reputation for the butter which we are making, but we are struggling at the present time in order to get the raw material. I want to emphasise the contention that these by-laws should not be made so drastic as to frighten the people and legislate them out of existence. I telegraphed this morning to the manager of the factory and I am pleased to find he states that during November they turned out 21,711 pounds of butter. Therefore we have something to boast of, and I hope the Government will foster that industry. It is a good dairying proposition, there is no question about that. There are other things in connection with dairying, such as the keeping of swine, and I see by the by-laws that pigs are not to be kept within a certain distance of a dairy. That is all right, but I hope the powers that be will see that no injustice is done to the industry. For my part I would never have on the statute-book such things as are in the Bill. In respect to the dairying industry I may

say I was always a rank anti-Federalist ; and I am that to-day. We find that in the other States they built up their dairying industry and butter factories with bonuses and all sorts of indulgences, and now we are here debarred from a bonus, and yet expected to work up and compete with the industry in the Eastern States. I say if we are not harassed at every turn, as soon as we can show we have so much butter, and once we can induce the people to get the taste of that butter, so to speak, we are going to compete with the other States if we get a fair show and if the Government assist us. The Government have not been bad to us up to the present time, and we are doing fairly well, but I want the public to know we are attempting something in that direction. One member remarked that he was unfortunate enough to be a shareholder in the factory. I am the same, and, more than that, I am working for the factory for nothing but thanks. Down the South-West is the place we shall make the butter and hand in hand with this question goes that of irrigation. In the other States, although they have not the rainfall we have, yet they get it in the summer when it is most wanted. And the key to success in dairying is to feed your cows all the year round. I shall do my utmost to induce the Government to see that something is done in the direction of irrigation in the South-West. We have ample facilities there for dairying, and I am certain it could be carried on. Another question is to be found in Clause 229 dealing with vaccination. I have given that subject a lot of thought, and I may say I have great respect for other people's consciences. I would not wittingly do violence to any other man's conscience. But in regard to that clause, it is very big, very far reaching and I am inclined to think the better course will be to reject the clause. In the first place if a person exercises that conscience clause and refuses to have his children vaccinated the question arises how far will that affect other people round about him. If it would affect only

him and his family I would have no objection to it whatever ; but it may have a very far reaching effect, and the neglect to vaccinate one child may cause untold trouble to many. I do not think it is right for one individual to stand in the way of and prevent the law taking its course in the interests of the health of the general public. I have pleasure in supporting the second reading.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

BILL—FREMANTLE FREEMASONS' LODGE No. 2 DISPOSITION.

In Committee.

Hon. W. Kingsmill in the Chair.

Clause 1—Real and personal property of Fremantle Lodge No. 1033, declared to be the property of Fremantle Lodge No. 2 :

Mr. GAWLER : There was an obvious grammatical error in the clause which should be corrected. He moved an amendment—

That in line six the words "did as and from the twenty-seventh day of February, One thousand nine hundred, become and be and" be struck out and the following inserted in lieu :—"as from the twenty-seventh day of February, One thousand nine hundred, become and."

Amendment passed ; the clause as amended agreed to.

Clause 2—Authority to transfer :

Mr. GAWLER moved an amendment—

That after "authorised" in line two the words "and required" be inserted.

Amendment passed ; the clause as amended agreed to.

Clause 3—Registration of Transfer :

Mr. GAWLER moved an amendment—

That all words after "Constitution" in line 8 be struck out.

Mr. Jenkins : Would it not be simpler to strike out "free from" and insert "subject to" ?

Mr. GAWLER : If that suggestion were adopted and the transfer took place, the transfer would be put through subject to the existing encumbrances.

Amendment put and passed: the clause as amended agreed to.

Clauses 4, 5, 6—agreed to.

New clause:

Hon. D. G. GAWLER moved—

That the following be inserted to stand as Clause 4:—On presentation to the registrar by the trustees for the time being of Fremantle Lodge No. 2, of any dealing with the said land for registration together with a declaration by such trustees or one of them that such dealing is for the general purposes of the said lodge and not for their private benefit or advantage, and that the direction of the members of such lodge has been duly given under the provisions of Section 2 hereof, the registrar may register such dealing, and it shall not be necessary for him to inquire whether or not such dealing is within the powers of the trustees or whether the provisions of Clause 2 have been complied with.

That was for the purpose of getting over a difficulty to which he had alluded on the second reading, namely, that when the transfer was presented to the Registrar of Titles for registration, he would, owing to the fact that he had had to register the trustees as trustees, be bound to ask them whether they were carrying out their trust as trustees under the Bill.

Hon. R. LAURIE: The new clause had been submitted to the parties interested, and they were perfectly satisfied that it was advisable that it should be inserted.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: The Bill being a private one, he had no direct interest in it; but he suggested to the member in charge that it was establishing a bad precedent in proceeding with a new clause which had not been placed on the Notice Paper. Although the hon. member had said that the parties concerned were agreeable to the amendment, there was a possibility of something which was not in the public interest being done if due publicity was not given. He suggested that the new clause should be placed on the Notice Paper for the next sitting.

Hon. R. LAURIE: But for the intervention of others he would have been content that the Bill should go through in the form in which it had been introduced, but others had thought it desirable to protect the interests of those concerned by the amendment before the Committee. He was sure Mr. Gawler had not intended to do anything which would be an infringement of the rules of the House. If it were thought advisable he would have pleasure in moving that the consideration of the clause should be deferred till the next sitting.

Hon. D. G. GAWLER: Perhaps the introduction of a new clause which had not been placed on the Notice Paper was an infringement of the procedure of the House, but he had been under the impression that another member had been going to move the clause, and on that account had not troubled to give notice of it.

New clause put and passed.

Preamble:

Hon. D. G. GAWLER moved an amendment—

That after the words "one thousand nine hundred and seven" in line 31, the following be struck out:—"And whereas up to and inclusive of the twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand nine hundred, the said The Fremantle Lodge, No. 1033, of Freemasons, with the consent of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England, to which up to that time the said, The Fremantle Lodge, No. 1033, did owe allegiance, with the consent of the said Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England," and the following inserted in lieu:—"And whereas the Fremantle Lodge No. 1033, on the twenty-seventh day of February, one thousand nine hundred (up to and inclusive of which date such lodge owed allegiance to the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England), with the consent of the Grand Lodge of Freemasons of England."

The object of the amendment was to correct an obvious mistake.

Amendment passed; the Preamble as amended agreed to.

Title—agreed to.

Bill reported with amendments.

BILL—LICENSING.

In Committee.

Resumed from the previous day ;

Hon. W. Kingsmill in the Chair.

Clause 33—Packet license :

The CHAIRMAN : A motion had been moved by Mr. Jenkins that the clause should be postponed in order that an amendment might be drafted.

Hon. A. G. JENKINS : The amendment, which would require careful drafting, was in the hands of the Parliamentary Draftsman, and if the clause were postponed to the end of the Bill the amendment could be placed on the Notice Paper.

Hon. M. L. MOSS : The hon. member in his previous remarks on the clause had created a misapprehension. None of the boats plying between Perth and Fremantle only had licenses.

Hon. A. G. Jenkins : The " Westralian " and the " Zephyr " have licenses.

Hon. M. L. MOSS : In the case of boats plying between two termini they could not be expected to sell liquor at one place and not at the other.

The CHAIRMAN : The hon. member was not speaking to the question before the Chair, which was " That the clause be postponed." . . .

Hon. M. L. MOSS : The object was to correct the statement made by Mr. Jenkins ; also the statement with regard to police constables being carried on the boats. . . .

Motion passed, the clause postponed.

Clause 34—Railway refreshment room license : . . .

Hon. J. F. CULLEN : There seemed to be no need for these refreshment rooms being open more than ten minutes before and after the arrival and departure of a train, instead of the half-hour provided in the clause. We should not set up hotels on railway platforms in competition with hotels in towns.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY : The time provided in the clause was very reasonable and an amendment in the direction suggested would be unworkable.

The law at present was as the clause provided.

Hon. Sir E. H. WITTENOOM : Railway refreshment rooms were needed in country places, but they were not necessary in Perth and Fremantle, and in places like Geraldton, because there they became drinking bars alongside hotels which could be easily reached by travellers.

Hon. E. McLARTY : There was a great deal of abuse to refreshment room licenses. The time for opening and closing would be fair enough if the licensees kept to the time fixed, but the experience was that people congregated on railway stations who were not passengers, and were supplied with drink contrary to the provisions of the Act. This was a grave injustice to hotelkeepers. He had seen instances of men going into the railway refreshment room at all hours of the day.

Hon. J. W. Kirwan : Did you report that to the police ?

Hon. E. McLARTY : The police said they did not very well have control over it. One refreshment room he knew was managed so that people remained drinking in it to all hours of the night. These refreshment rooms were required by the general public, but they should not be used for supplying drink at all hours of the day and night.

Clause put and passed.

Clause 35—agreed to.

Clause 36—Spirit merchant's license :

Hon. E. M. CLARKE moved an amendment—

That the words " two gallons " be struck out and " one gallon " inserted in lieu.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY : The effect of this would be to reduce the spirit merchant's license to a one-gallon license, and there would be two classes of gallon licenses, one for imported liquor and the other for ordinary liquor.

Amendment put and negatived.

Hon. C. SOMMERS moved a further amendment—

That the proviso be struck out.

This proviso was that no spirit merchant's license should authorise the sale of any liquor imported except in the casks or

cases in which the liquor was imported. This was the old law, but it must have been broken ever since the Act was in force, because the spirit merchants broke down the liquor imported in casks and bottled it for sale, this giving a certain amount of local employment.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY : Spirit merchants would hold gallon licenses as well, and that would enable them to break down spirit and sell in bottles. If this proviso were struck out there would be no guarantee that we would get liquor in the form in which it was imported. If we struck out the proviso we might as well do away with spirit merchant's licenses and have only gallon licenses.

Amendment put and negatived.

Clause put and passed.

Clauses 37 to 39—agreed to.

Clause 40—Temporary license :

Hon. J. W. LANGSFORD moved an amendment—

That the following proviso be added to the clause :—"Provided that this section shall not apply to the occasion of any cadets' military encampment or of any races, regatta, running or other match, or sports held in connection with any college or school or any association of which the members are, or may be of less than twenty-one years of age."

The amendment did not require very much argument. It would commend itself to the sound judgment of the Committee.

Hon. D. G. GAWLER : Whilst sympathising with the object, the words "of which the members are or may be" ought to be left out.

Hon. M. L. MOSS : It was doubtful whether a magistrate had ever granted a temporary license in regard to school sports. The hon. member was deserving of credit for having moved the proviso but was it necessary to encumber the Statute with such an amendment when it was known that magistrates had never granted such a license ?

Hon. J. W. KIRWAN : The hon. member might postpone the consideration of the clause and present it in a different

form. At the present time it was drafted in a most extraordinary way.

Hon. J. F. CULLEN : As a part of the proviso the amendment was very desirable, but the hon. member might strike out all the words after "school." There would be no ambiguity in it up to that point.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY : While having every sympathy with the hon. member there was hardly any necessity for inserting the proviso, for the reasons pointed out by Mr. Moss. It was extremely unlikely that a magistrate or any licensing bench would grant a license for schools sports.

Hon. C. SOMMERS : The amendment had his sympathy but it ought to be better drafted.

Hon. J. E. DODD : The hon. member should not withdraw the amendment, but it might be worded in a better way.

On motion by Hon. J. W. LANGSFORD further consideration of clause postponed.

Clause 42—Duration of licenses :

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved an amendment—

That in line 7 after "granted" the words "or renewed" be added.

Amendment passed ; the clause as amended agreed to.

Clause 43—agreed to.

Clause 44—New licenses :

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved an amendment—

That in line 1 of the proviso the words "prior to the date fixed for taking a local option vote in any district" be struck out.

He would subsequently move to insert other words.

Amendment passed.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved a further amendment—

That after "provided" in line 1 of the proviso the words "except when Resolution (D) has been carried under Part V. of this Act, and is in force in the district" be inserted.

Hon. J. F. CULLEN : There was no need for the proviso at all. It was assumed that the creation of the licensing court and the holding of the local option poll would synchronise

with the commencement of the operation of the Act. What need, then, was there for this temporary provision, which would give rise to a lot of scrambling in an endeavour to get applications in and something gained before the local option poll could be taken?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: The effect would be that in any district where a poll had been taken other than under Resolution (D), which meant abolition, the bench would have the discretion of granting a license, even though the local option poll had forbidden increases, provided the premises proposed to be licensed were not within 15 miles of the nearest licensed house. The situation provided for was well illustrated at the Bullfinch. If a poll had been taken anywhere in that locality in April last and "no-increase" had been carried, then no licenses could have been granted in that district for the next 2½ years, notwithstanding the discovery of the Bullfinch mine and the creation of the town.

HON. J. F. CULLEN: This was a very dangerous surprise sprung upon the Committee, and he hoped the Minister would allow it to appear on the Notice Paper in order that the Committee might view it at their leisure.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: It has been on the Notice Paper for a week.

HON. J. F. CULLEN: The effect of the proviso would be to entirely override the local option poll in respect to a place not 15 miles from an existing license.

HON. J. W. HACKETT: Not if "abolition" is carried.

HON. J. F. CULLEN: We would all be grey-haired before abolition was carried. This was taking back with one hand what had been given with the other. It was an exceedingly dangerous power, and he hoped the Committee would disapprove of it.

THE CHAIRMAN: Owing to the wording of Mr. Cullen's amendment as on the Notice Paper a slight mistake in the procedure had been made. Mr. Cullen had put on the Notice Paper an amendment to strike out the proviso "at the end." In the ordinary course

of events Mr. Cullen's amendment should have preceded that moved by the Colonial Secretary. Now it would be necessary for Mr. Cullen to move his amendment on recomittal. It would be impossible for him to move to strike out this proviso when part of it had already been accepted by the Committee.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: There were not the dangers the hon. member seemed to fear. Under the amendment a new license could be granted provided it was 15 miles away from the nearest licensed premises, but if the Bill was passed in the form in which it now was it would be necessary for the applicant for such new license to secure a petition signed by a majority of the residents in the locality.

HON. J. F. CULLEN: The Minister had failed to point out that he had wholly in his mind an exceptional instance, such as the Bullfinch. It was extremely dangerous to legislate for exceptions. What hardship would there be in waiting the unexpired balance of the three years that would have to elapse before any local option poll could be taken?

HON. J. W. LANGSFORD: The words which the Minister desired to insert in the Bill were surprising indeed. It was understandable that until the taking of a local option poll the licensing board should be able to grant licenses within their discretion, providing that no license were granted within 15 miles of an existing license, but after a local option poll had been taken, and when perhaps the people had declared at the poll in favour of no increase, to give the bench power to override the decision of the people was something most unusual. He would vote against the amendment.

HON. M. L. MOSS: The proviso was an exceedingly good one. The local option principle was a perfectly good one in settled communities like New Zealand and South Australia, where there was not much possibility of new localities suddenly growing up, but in a place like Western Australia with its huge blank spaces, where new towns might grow up with great rapidity, it would be a loss from a public point of view if licenses

to vend liquor could not be granted. The local option poll, of course, would consult all the people, whether they voted against new licenses, or in favour of an increase, but where a new body of people was coming into existence there should be provision whereby those people could be reasonably catered for. The licensing court was given discretion to grant "a license," which might be taken to mean one license in a district. It was further provided that no license could be granted if there were other licensed premises within a radius of 15 miles. A radius of 15 miles represented a very big area of country. It would be a tremendous hardship in a settlement like Bullfinch, for instance, if the people were unable to get a license until a local option poll were taken. If there were settlements springing into existence with large bodies of men suddenly congregating, and there were no legalised provisions for the sale of liquor, sly grog selling would become rampant, and that would be a worse state of affairs than the having of licensed premises under proper police supervision. The liquor question in Western Australia could not be dealt with from the point of view of a highly civilised and settled country, and reasonable facilities for the public getting liquor in outlying parts must be given. He was with Mr. Cullen in wishing to control the traffic, but at the same time he considered the proviso an exceedingly good one in the interests of public convenience.

Hon. E. McLARTY: The proviso was an excellent one, not only in regard to the mining districts where settlement had taken place quickly and unexpectedly, but also for the Agricultural areas in which a compulsory delay of three years before a license could be obtained would be absolutely unreasonable.

The Colonial Secretary: Take Dowerin for instance, that place was not in existence a few years ago.

Hon. E. McLARTY: There were many such instances. There were ample safeguards in the proviso, and in those

circumstances he would support its insertion in the Bill.

Hon. A. G. JENKINS: It would not be right for a licensing court to say that notwithstanding that reduction had been carried by the people at a local option poll they were going to grant new licenses. The board should not have the power to override the popular will in that way.

Hon. J. F. CULLEN: The real offence in the proviso was against proper legislation. For the sake of an exceptional case it was proposed to override a very general rule. Rapidly as new communities might arise, the people could not perish for lack of a drop of grog, and it was not a serious matter at all to delay for some time the granting of licenses. He was not saying that in no circumstances should new and suddenly grown districts get licenses, but if the licenses could be given under the law it was much better than giving loose powers to deal with rare exceptions.

Hon. J. W. KIRWAN: Whether the license be granted or not in new towns the people would have liquor. In the absence of licensed premises sly grog shops would spring into existence. They were prevalent throughout new districts, and probably in some of the old districts as well. It was impossible to legislate against public opinion, and the fact that public opinion was against the suppression of licenses where licenses were required, was a strong argument in favour of the proviso. Another aspect of the matter was that in places like Bullfinch accommodation would not be provided for the travelling public unless a license were to be granted. It was well within memory that scores of places had in the past sprung into existence just as quickly as Bullfinch had done, and it was impossible to foretell the day when, with the revival of mining, the same thing would happen again. The proviso was a very useful one which the bench would only utilise when the special demand existed for it.

Hon. A. G. JENKINS: It was his intention to move a further amendment to also except districts where Resolution (C) had been carried.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY: It would spoil the proviso altogether if Resolution C were added to it. If local option had been in force in Southern Cross 12 months ago there was little doubt that reduction would have been carried there, and at Kanowna also if a poll had been taken there very probably "no license" would have been carried; and yet there were possibilities in all that country of new fields opening up within a few miles. It would be just as fatal to add Resolution C as to strike out Resolution D altogether.

Amendment put and passed.

Hon. A. G. JENKINS: The only licenses proposed to be submitted to a local option poll were the publicans' general license, the hotel license, the wayside house license, and the Australian wine and beer license. The gallon license was exempted from the local option poll, and the result would be that though other licenses might be decreased gallon licenses would be taken out in every second street.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved—

That progress be reported.

As another place had sat all night and the *Hansard* staff were about exhausted, it would be an act of consideration to them if the House were not to sit in the evening.

Motion passed; progress reported.

House adjourned at 6.16 p.m.

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The SPEAKER took the Chair at 7.30 p.m., and read prayers.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the Minister for Mines: Papers re applications as to Wiluna Mining Leases 4J and 5J (ordered on motion by Mr. Holman).

QUESTION — RAILWAY TRUCKS NOT AVAILABLE.

Mr. ANGWIN (without notice) asked the Minister for Railways: Has the Minister seen a report in to-night's *Daily News* stating that 30 or 40 men have had to cease work for want of railway trucks? Will the Minister see that the trucks are supplied so that the men may be kept employed?

The MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS replied: I have not seen the report.

Mr. ANGWIN: Will the Minister look into the matter?

The MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS: Yes.

BILL — REDISTRIBUTION OF SEATS.

Second Reading.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. J. L. Nanson) in moving the second reading said: In presenting this Bill to the notice of hon. members I shall endeavour to confine my remarks within the briefest possible limits, consistent with a clear exposition of the subject, dealing mainly with the reasons for redistribution and the form which it is proposed the redistribution shall take. As regards the reasons, one has only to compare the electoral strength of the various constituencies to be convinced as to anomalies that exist as between electorates closely related in regard to interests and locality. It may be argued, and properly so, I am inclined to think, that the conditions prevailing in Western Australia at present are not yet such as to justify representation purely and absolutely on a population basis.

Mr. Scaddan: And never will be as long as you have control of the Government.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL: Possibly that might be the case if the hon.