

such a unanimity of feeling as there is with regard to this bill. Our object is simply to save time.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. W. E. Marmion): Will the hon. member pledge himself he will not oppose the third reading to-morrow?

MR. PARKER: I am not going to pledge myself in any way; but if the Government press the third reading to-night, I shall certainly go with the hon. member for Gascoyne and divide the House.

MR. R. F. SHOLL: I do not see that it would be much use in dividing, for I think the hon. gentleman who keeps his temper so well has already secured a very large working majority, who will follow him anywhere. I think we had better get through with the bill, and let him go to Sydney to mix with the politicians of the other colonies, who, I hope, will teach him better manners.

Question—put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and ordered to be transmitted to the Legislative Council.

The House adjourned at 12 o'clock, midnight.

Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 24th February, 1891.

Joint Standing Orders relating to Private Bills—Scab Bill: committee—South-Western Railway Bill: first reading; Suspension of Standing Orders; second reading; committee: third reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Sir T. C. Campbell, Bart.) took the chair at 3 o'clock.

PRAYERS.

JOINT STANDING ORDERS RELATING TO PRIVATE BILLS.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I have to move, sir, "That this House do adopt the Joint Standing Rules and Orders of the Houses of Parliament relating to

Private Bills, as adopted by the Standing Orders Committees of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly." It only needs a word or two from me to explain that these Standing Orders have been adopted by the two committees appointed by the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. They have been gone over very carefully by these two bodies, which were composed of the President, the Hon. Mr. Leake, and myself, as representing this House, and the Attorney General, Mr. Parker, and Mr. Speaker, as representing the Assembly. We have adopted the South Australian model as far as was possible, taking our circumstances into consideration. I may mention that it is necessary such Standing Orders should be passed in order to facilitate the introduction of private bills, one or two of which would have been laid before us this session if there had been any means of bringing them before the House."

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE seconded.

Question—put and passed.

SCAB ACT, 1885, AMENDMENT BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 3 passed.

Clause 4.—Scab Districts: Appointment of Inspectors:

THE HON. T. BURGESS asked the Hon. the Colonial Secretary if he could give any information as to when the Government intended to declare the scab districts under the Act, and particularly as regarded the Victoria District, where scab now existed. It might probably be found necessary to sub-divide the present district. At the present time it extended from the sea-coast to the South Australian boundary, and sheep depasturing 200 miles from Geraldton would come within the scab district as it was at present, whereas the scab might only exist within a very limited area.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that in a matter of this kind the Government would have to be guided by circumstances. They would obtain the best information they could, and if it were necessary to sub-divide the districts, they would do so. He could assure the hon. member that every possible precaution would be taken.

THE HON. T. BURGES said he would suggest to the Government that they might sub-divide the districts for a time while the scab existed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said the Government would be guided by circumstances. If scab were confined to one corner of a district, steps might be taken to isolate such portion. A certain amount of latitude must, however, be given to the Government.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said the question of the hon. member was answered in itself. A scab district did not mean a geographical district; it meant a certain area defined by certain boundaries. There was no necessity to confuse matters by talking about sub-districts.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said that the danger to his mind was that the Government might not be prepared to lessen the size of the district on account of the falling off in the contribution there might be. If the Victoria District were kept as it was at present, it would interfere with the whole of the sheep coming from the North. Therefore there was considerable force in the suggestion of the Hon. Mr. Burges, and hence he would like some definite promise from the Government that they would lessen the size of the present districts. According to the Act there was nothing to show that the scab districts would be curtailed in size, and something should be done to provide for the matter.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that he could say nothing further than that the Government must be allowed to exercise a certain amount of discretion.

THE HON. T. BURGES said hon. members were willing to allow the Government to exercise a discretion in the matter, but they were dealing with this bill under which, as it was at present, sheep, which might be 200 miles from the existence of scab, would come under the operation of the Act as infected sheep. It was a very important matter indeed. Again sheep might, in coming to market, have to cross an infected district, and although they might be passing it hundreds of miles from where the scab was, they would come under the Act. Another point he might mention was that at the moment of the coming into operation of

the Act, sheep might be crossing what would be an infected district, without the drover knowing anything about the provisions of it.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said all powers would of course be exercised in futuro.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I move that the question be now put.

THE PRESIDENT: I might point out that no practical good will result from a discussion like this unless an amendment is proposed.

The clause was then agreed to.

Clauses 5 to 7 agreed to.

Clause 8.—List of diseased flocks to be published every three months in *Government Gazette*:

THE HON. R. E. BUSH suggested that the return be published once a month, so that the public could know where scab existed as early as possible. He would move to strike out the words "three months," in the first line, and insert in lieu thereof "calendar month when possible."

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that the reason for fixing three months was that the mails in the outlying districts were very irregular.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said that the mails were very regular where scab existed at present. The publication of the notice monthly would give those who lived in the far North an opportunity of knowing where scab existed, at the earliest possible moment.

THE HON. T. BURGES thought it very desirable to alter the clause in the manner suggested.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said he would not oppose the amendment.

The amendment was agreed to, and the clause, as amended, passed.

Clauses 9 to 13 agreed to.

Clause 14.—Penalty if infected sheep not well and sufficiently dipped at end of four weeks; and Justices shall order destruction:

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said the period of four weeks provided was not sufficient. From many stations it required that time to go to their port. He thought it would be better to make the time dependent on the distance from the port. It could not

be expected that stations would keep large quantities of dipping material, and under this clause, in many cases before it could be obtained, the four weeks would have expired.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said the Inspector could use his discretion, and if he found there was extraordinary difficulty in obtaining dip, he need not make any request to the Justices. The Government could not give way on this clause.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH pointed out that the clause as it stood was very stringent indeed. The Inspector under it had no discretion; for it said that if at the expiration of four weeks from the time of the service of the notice the sheep were not dipped, the owner *shall* be guilty of an offence. He could point to 20 stations which could not communicate with a port in the time provided.

THE HON. T. BURGESS said that in Clause 11 the time was arranged according to distance, and he could not see why a similar provision could not apply here. As it stood this clause would come very hard on people residing at a distance. It would take four weeks to send down their team and four weeks to get it back, and in the meantime they would be within the Act. He would suggest that the time be extended to six weeks if the distance was greater than 150 miles.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said the intention of the Act was to give the utmost discretion to the Inspector, as was the case in the other colonies. If the dipping could not be done in four weeks the Inspector would of course take the cause of it into consideration and act accordingly.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said it was necessary to have the most stringent remedies to ensure the eradication of scab. They must expect the flock-owner, in his own interests, to be a reasonable man, and that he should have such remedies at hand as were known to be efficacious—lime, sulphur, and tobacco. It was simply asking the flock-owner to do for his sheep what he would do for his family—have a medicine chest at his command. If a flock-owner would not take ordinary precautions and exercise ordinary prudence, he must bear the consequences.

THE HON. M. GRANT said they must take into consideration the difficulties there were in obtaining remedies at the moment they were required. In the Kimberley District four weeks was certainly not sufficient time. The Hon. Mr. Leake said that flock-owners should keep lime and other articles in stock; but they all knew that unless the lime were fresh it was of very little use. If this clause were allowed to stand as it was, a man's sheep might be destroyed simply because he was unable to obtain the necessary remedies.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that under Clause 53 the Justices could stay proceedings in the case of an appeal. If it were pointed out to them that the station was a great distance from a port, and that it was impossible to get up the material, they would surely grant an extension of time. Then Clause 15 gave the Inspector discretion, for it used the words "within a reasonable time."

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said he could not see that Clauses 14 and 15 had the slightest bearing on one another. Clause 15 gave the Inspector power to do certain things if the owner in a certain time had not done them.

THE HON. J. MORRISON said the Colonial Secretary had referred to the power of the Justices under Clause 53 to stay proceedings; but he would ask what would be the use of that after the sheep had been destroyed? It was no easy thing to carry out Clause 14; for although a station might have lime and other material, there might, especially in the back country, be no water available with which to make the dip.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that the matter would have to go before the Justices before there could be any order for the destruction of the sheep.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said that Justices had no discretion, for the clause said that they *shall* order such sheep to be destroyed. A man might be absolutely ruined by the operation of this clause.

THE HON. E. R. BROCKMAN said it was quite time scab was stamped out, and the Victoria District was a hot-bed for it. The people residing there were in a great measure responsible for it,

because they had in the past defrauded the Inspectors. It was not possible in his opinion to make the Act too stringent.

The clause was then agreed to.

Clauses 15 to 26 agreed to.

Clause 27.—Owner, or person in his employ, may examine sheep driven on his run; if found infected may be destroyed:

THE HON. T. BURGESS said this bill was partly the same as a former Act, but he would like to draw attention to a very important alteration. In the twelfth line of the clause it was provided that the Inspector, at the request of the occupier of the land upon which such sheep might be, might destroy all such sheep, and that the expenses should be paid by the owner. These were evidently to be destroyed and compensation paid. In the former Act 5s. per head was paid as compensation. A man might be travelling 2,000 fat sheep and on the road accidentally pick up a stray scabby sheep. The whole of his sheep would at once become "infected" sheep, and, if the owner of the run through which they were travelling so desired it, they might there and then be destroyed on the spot. It was a matter for the House to consider whether, in a case like this, where the owner, through no fault of his own, lost his sheep, he should not receive some compensation.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said he would allow no compensation, because it was the duty of an owner to see that no scabby sheep got boxed up with his. The object of the present bill was to ensure the greatest care being taken on the part of a sheep-owner against the contraction of scab by his sheep. When a man sent sheep to market he would, in future, have to employ a proper number of hands to look after them, and, if this were done, there would be very little chance of stray infected sheep joining his.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said that if twenty drovers were employed, it would not stop a stray sheep being picked up. They knew that most of the sheep which disseminated scab were wild sheep, and which had never been shorn, tailed, or branded. Under this bill, if one of such sheep were within a flock for ten minutes, the whole flock would be considered infected.

THE HON. E. R. BROCKMAN said he agreed with the Hon. Mr. Bush that it was not owing to either the negligence of the drovers, or from there being too few of them, that scabby sheep were picked up. At the same time there should be no scab, but, as there was, it was necessary to pass stringent measures to eradicate it, even at the risk of injuring private individuals.

THE HON. J. MORRISON said he thought there should be some compensation paid, but not so large an amount as would make it worth a man's while to have his sheep destroyed. Flocks, although travelling in the name of an owner, often formed portions of securities, and if there were no compensation it would prevent companies and others from advancing on stock. He thought a fair compromise would be to allow one-third the market value of the sheep. In addition to this there would be the wool, for certainly no one would allow his sheep to be destroyed without taking off the wool. If there were no compensation at all it would have a most serious effect upon people who made advances on squatting properties.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said that according to the Hon. Mr. Morrison the carcass was to be destroyed, but the scab was to be disseminated by means of the wool. He objected to this. If the sheep were destroyed the wool should also be destroyed.

THE HON. E. R. BROCKMAN: There is not the slightest danger from the wool.

THE HON. M. GRANT said he was in accord with compensation being given. It was not the fault of a drover if he picked up a stray scabby sheep. They seemed to him always to be going to extreme lengths. For his own part he could not see the necessity of destroying 4,000 or 5,000 sheep because one scabby one happened to get among them for a short time.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that pastoralists were well represented in the Legislative Assembly, and that body had passed the bill, and he could not see the practical good to be derived by carrying the discussion any further.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH said that because the Assembly had passed the Act

it did not make the slightest difference to them. The reason he objected to this bill was, that it did not make any distinction between sheep coming from a clean district and a district in which there was scab.

THE HON. T. BURGES said he wished to see the Act as stringent as possible, but at the same time reasonable and not unnecessarily oppressive. Here was an Act which might render a man's sheep liable to be destroyed through no carelessness of his own, and yet he would receive no compensation. He would move that the words "by the owner of such sheep so destroyed," in the fifteenth line, be struck out, and the following words inserted in lieu thereof: "Out of the public revenue of the colony, and the owner of such sheep so destroyed shall be entitled to claim, and there shall be paid to him out of the public revenue of the colony, a sum equal to half the market value of the sheep so destroyed."

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I move that the question be now put.

Question—put and passed.

The amendment was then put, and declared negative. The Hon. T. Burges called for a division, with the following result.

AYES—8.

The Hon. J. G. H. Amherst
The Hon. E. R. Brockman
The Hon. J. W. Hackett
The Hon. R. W. Hardey
The Hon. G. W. Leake
The Hon. W. D. Moore
The Hon. J. Morrison
The Hon. G. Shenton
(Teller.)

NOES—3.

The Hon. R. E. Bush
The Hon. M. Grant
The Hon. T. Burges
(Teller.)

Majority of 5 for the Ayes.

Amendment negative.

The clause was then put, and passed.

Clause 28.—Stray infected sheep and stray suspected sheep may be killed:

THE HON. T. BURGES said this clause was a new departure, and was to his mind too stringent. Under it an owner was liable to a penalty of £5 for each and every sheep found on his run and destroyed, and in default of payment forthwith, to be imprisoned for not less than twelve months or more than two years. He moved, That the words "twelve months and not exceeding two," in the twelfth line, be struck out, and the words "six months and not exceeding one" be inserted in lieu thereof.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said that unless very stringent measures were taken they would never stamp out the scab. He would press the clause as it stood.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said he would support the Government. It might turn out that there was a spot on a run from which it was difficult to hunt stray sheep, and unless the Act were made very stringent, owners would not take the trouble to get rid of such sheep. Moreover, the stringency of the Act would lead to runs being fenced, and thus minimise the chances of wild infected sheep getting upon them. He would, however, suggest that after the words 2 years, the words "unless in the meantime the penalty and costs be paid" be added. If these words were not inserted, a man would get into gaol and would not be able to get out, even if he paid the penalty.

The amendment was then put, and negative.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE moved, That the following words be added after the word "years," in the twelfth line: "Unless the penalty and all costs and expenses incidental thereto be in the meantime fully paid."

The amendment was put, and declared carried.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) called for a division, with the following result:—

AYES—4.

The Hon. T. Burges
The Hon. R. E. Bush
The Hon. M. Grant
The Hon. G. W. Leake
(Teller.)

NOES—7.

The Hon. J. G. H. Amherst
The Hon. E. R. Brockman
The Hon. J. W. Hackett
The Hon. R. W. Hardey
The Hon. W. D. Moore
The Hon. J. Morrison
The Hon. G. Shenton
(Teller.)

Majority of 3 for the Noes. Amendment negative.

The clause was then put, and passed.

Clauses 29 to 42 agreed to.

Clause 43.—Sheep from clean district to other district, or from infected district to infected district:

THE HON. R. E. BUSH would like to know why the clause said "by land" and not "by sea." It was just as dangerous to import by sea as it was to introduce by land.

THE HON. T. BURGES said that Clause 29 provided for that.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said he hoped the Government would accept this amendment, as there was a difference between this clause and clause 29. It would also tend to make the Act more stringent.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, That the words "or sea" be inserted after the word "land," in the first line.

THE HON. E. R. BROCKMAN asked how the seven days' notice was to be given if these words were added.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE would point out that a person would be said to introduce by sea, as soon as he came to the end of his journey.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) said he did not object to the insertion of the words.

Amendment—put and passed.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT moved, That the words "or be landed in" be inserted between the words "of" and "the," in the ninth line.

Amendment—put and passed, and the clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 44.—Sheep from infected district to clean district:

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, That the words "or sea" be inserted after the word "land," in the first line.

Amendment—put and passed.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, That the words "or be landed in" be inserted between the words "of" and "the," in the tenth line.

Amendment—put and passed.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 45.—Sheep from infected to clean district to be dipped within certain limits:

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, That the words "or sea" be inserted between the words "land" and "from," in the first line.

Amendment—put and passed.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, That the words "if in the opinion of the Inspector it be considered necessary" be inserted between the words "dipped" and "at," in the seventh line. He said these words were absolutely necessary as otherwise it would prevent people from sending their sheep to the Perth and Fremantle markets. This was one of the suggestions made at the meeting of pastoralists, and it was about the only suggestion which had not been given effect

to by the Attorney General. If the clause were allowed to stand as it was, it would have the effect of raising the price of meat in Perth during the present year by 2d. or 3d. per lb. He knew of 10,000 fat sheep which would not be sent down if this clause were passed. Besides this, it was unnecessary, for out of the 100,000 sheep which had travelled down during the past 4 years, there was only one instance of scab being brought down.

THE HON. W. D. MOORE said he would support the amendment.

The amendment was then put, and declared carried.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) called for a division, with the following result:—

Ayes—7.		Noes—4.	
The Hon. E. R. Brockman	The Hon. T. Burges	The Hon. J. G. H. Amherst	
The Hon. T. Burges	The Hon. M. Grant	The Hon. J. W. Hackett	
The Hon. M. Grant	The Hon. G. W. Leake	The Hon. R. W. Hardy	
The Hon. G. W. Leake	The Hon. W. D. Moore	The Hon. G. Shenton	(Teller).
The Hon. W. D. Moore	The Hon. J. Morrison		
The Hon. J. Morrison	The Hon. E. E. Bush		
The Hon. E. E. Bush	(Teller).		

Majority of 3 for the Ayes. Amendment agreed to.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH moved, as a further amendment, that the words "on being dipped once only," in the last line, be struck out, and the words "without being dipped" inserted in lieu thereof.

Amendment—put and passed, and the clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 46 to 55 agreed to.

THE HON. T. BURGESS moved, That the following new clause be added to the bill, to stand as No. 52: "Upon the conviction of any owner under this Act, it shall be lawful to make distress and sale, not only of his goods and chattels, but also of any sheep in his possession or charge, or which were in his possession or charge at the time of the commission of the offence in respect of which such owner has been convicted, and any such last mentioned sheep may be followed and seized wherever they may be found."

Question—put and passed.

The bill was then reported with amendments, and the report adopted.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

The bill was then read a third time and passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly, with a Message, acquainting them, That the Legislative Council have agreed to the

same, with amendments, and requesting their concurrence therein.

SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY BILL.

This bill was received from the Legislative Assembly, and read a first time.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I now move that this bill be read a second time. It is the ordinary Railway Bill, and a very short one. The second clause gives the Government power to construct and maintain a railway as described in the Schedule, and the third clause gives the Government power to deviate to the extent of 5 miles. I formally move the second reading.

Question—put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE:

Clause 1 agreed to.

Clause 2:

THE HON. R. E. BUSH: As this will probably be the only opportunity we shall have for stating our objections, I should like, before the bill is passed, to put on record the fact of how thoroughly opposed I am to giving authority to construct this line. In the first place I cannot see that the Government has brought forward sufficient facts to warrant this large expenditure; although I am afraid, at this stage, anything I may say will not influence anyone, or affect the decision of this House in the matter. I certainly regret that the Government are going to proceed with the railway, for I feel convinced that it will entail a very heavy loss from year to year which the colony will have to make up. Unfortunately, if this railway be once started, we shall be committed to all its extensions as well, and these involving an enormous outlay. When we know that our present railways involve a loss of £60,000 per annum, working as they do between the centres of population, we cannot but expect an even greater loss to result from this line, which will work only through sparsely populated districts. The great argument brought forward in favor of the construction of the line is that there is plenty of magnificent land along the route. I consider we have enough good agricultural land already opened up, and we are now adding to this further huge areas close to railways, and, therefore, this argument does not carry much

weight. Anyone who has read the report of the Agricultural Commission must have come to the conclusion that this railway is not necessary. Besides this, we can see for ourselves that steamers actually bring potatoes to this district, and I cannot myself see how the expenditure of this large sum of money is going to work such marvellous changes. Another argument that is used is that the construction of this line will enable us to get our fruit at a nominal price; but I think fruit will be at a nominal price before long without it; for there are enough orchards planted along the already existing lines to last for many years to come. In conclusion, I may say that I am opposed to the railway on the ground that it will entail a large annual loss in addition to a heavy capital outlay.

THE HON. W. D. MOORE: I am also opposed to this line, for I cannot see how it is going to pay the wages of the men who will run it. I have been over the country and I think it is most inferior, being neither fit for the pastoralist nor the agriculturalist. The district has been established for 50 years, and little or nothing has been done even up to the present time. They have already steam communication by which they can send their produce to market at 12s. 6d. per ton. Moreover, this line will, to a great extent, pass through private land from which the State will not receive so great a benefit as if it passed through Government property. Considering the cost I feel bound to oppose the line.

THE HON. T. BURGESS: I am in favor of railways, and I shall support this. I am in hopes this railway will open up country in the direction of the hills, where there is reason to believe there are many patches of good land which will carry a number of small farmers. That part of the colony through which this railway will run has a charming climate and a good rainfall; and running, as it will, 15 or 20 miles from the sea, it will open up a large extent of country. We are constructing this railway to settle people on the soil, for people will not reside on, or take part in the cultivation of, the soil unless we give them the best possible conveniences. People who come here from other parts of the world have been accustomed to send in their produce, and to travel, by rail, and if we wish to

be successful we must give equal facilities here. I have made many inquiries, and I find that along the route of this line there is a large extent of country which can be made to produce those articles of necessity which we now import from the neighboring colonies. I shall, therefore, support the bill.

THE HON. E. R. BROCKMAN: This is one of the works in the Schedule which does not meet with my unqualified approval, for I think it somewhat too speculative. When I, with others, was at the Vasse on the Agricultural Commission, we were positively told that they could not produce grain under 5s. per bushel at their barn door, or potatoes under £5 per ton. Such being the case there is not much encouragement for a railway. As is well known, one gentleman who is now an advocate for the railway told us when at the Vasse, that it was not required, and that if it were being built by a company he would be sorry to put any of his money into it. Although, as I say, I consider the work too speculative, I am not prepared to vote against it; in fact I shall support it, for I think it would be unwise to reject the bill after it has so unanimously passed the Legislative Assembly.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: I cannot agree, sir, with the views put forward by many hon. members of this House. I look on the Southern Districts as being almost equal to the Southern parts of England. The climate is good, and the soil cannot be said to be bad. Looking at the matter in a business light I think the proposal to run from Perth to Bunbury only, is a sounder undertaking than the original provision in the Loan Bill, by which the line was to be carried right on to Busselton. Although it is true there are but few people near the terminus of the line, we must remember that it will pass through a number of settlements, the Canning, the Serpentine, Jarrahdale, Pinjarrah, and the Harvey. As to whether the route is the proper one, I am not prepared to say, but that is a matter for the Government. In connection with this railway the existence of some of the finest jarrah forests in the colony along its route is apt to be overlooked, for they will, no doubt, prove to be a vast source of income. There are also many patches of

land in the ranges admirably suited to fruit growing, and, probably, minerals and metals of various kinds will be discovered. Looking at the future, I feel sure we shall have a larger population at the South of Perth than at the North of it, and consequently in the course of time this line must become payable. The greatest objection I see to it is that it is too close to the coast.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton): I may say that the Government has already had a re-survey of the line made, and we are not keeping altogether to the original survey.

The clause was then agreed to.

The remaining clauses and the Schedule to the bill were agreed to.

The bill was reported to the House, and the report adopted. The bill was then read a third time and passed, and ordered to be returned to the Legislative Assembly.

ADJOURNMENT.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Shenton) moved, That the Council, at its rising, adjourn until Wednesday, 25th February, at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Question—put and passed.

The Council, at a quarter to six o'clock, p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, 25th February, at 8 o'clock, p.m.