

member as to what should be done with his allowance. Let him "run the gauntlet" in his constituency.

HON. J. M. SPEED: But the matter could now be discussed.

Question put and passed.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By THE MINISTER FOR LANDS: 1, Amended Regulation No. 49, under Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act. 2, Code of Signals, Amendment under Mines Act. 3, New Regulations, 158 to 163, under Mineral Lands Act. 4, By-laws of Municipalities of Coolgardie, Kalgoorlie, and Boulder.

Ordered to lie on the table.

QUESTION—RAILWAY ENGINE SPARKS AND COLLIE COAL.

HON. R. G. BURGESS asked the Minister for Lands: 1, If the Government intends to use Collie coal for locomotives on the Great Southern, Eastern, and other branches of the railway, during the dry season from November to March next. 2, If the Government has issued instructions through the Railway Department to clear a guard and burn the grass off the railway reserves through all the settled portions of the country, where the land has been improved for pastoral and agricultural purposes, as a safeguard against fires from the locomotives during the dry summer months.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS replied: 1, No. Not on the lines running through the agricultural districts. 2, Yes. Instructions have already been issued.

QUESTION—HAY AND OATS, TO EXPORT.

HON. R. G. BURGESS asked the Minister for Lands: 1, If the Government has tried to open up a market for our surplus hay in South Africa. 2, If not, why not. 3, If the Government is aware that 68,000 tons of hay have been exported from Canada to South Africa within the last two years, and that the Canadian Department of Agriculture has contracted to supply 500,000 bushels of oats to South Africa.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS replied: 1, No. 2, The Government

was not aware that there was a surplus over and above that required for home consumption, as in 1900 600 tons were imported into this State. 3, No.

PAWNBROKERS BILL.

The HON. R. S. HAYNES brought up the report of the Select Committee appointed to inquire into the Pawnbrokers Bill.

Report received, read, and ordered to be printed; to be considered at the next sitting.

ADJOURNMENT—MINISTERIAL STATEMENT.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS (Hon. C. Sommers): The political atmosphere is still charged with a certain amount of uncertainty; therefore I move that the House at its rising do adjourn until the next Thursday, at 4:30 o'clock.

Put and passed.

The House accordingly adjourned until the next Thursday afternoon.

Legislative Assembly,

Monday, 18th November, 1901.

Assent to Bill—Message: Congratulation to Prince of Wales—Papers presented—Resignation of Ministers—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

ASSENT TO BILL.

Message from the Governor received and read, assenting to Supply Bill (£500,000).

MESSAGE—CONGRATULATION TO THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Message from the Governor received and read, stating that the Address of

congratulation to the Prince and Princess of Wales had been forwarded to the Secretary of State, for presentation to their Royal Highnesses.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the COLONIAL SECRETARY: By-laws of municipalities of Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie.

By the PREMIER: 1, Report of Board (in print) appointed to inquire into charges against Mr. John Davies, General Manager of Railways, with notes of evidence. 2, Amended Regulation No. 49, under Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1900.

Ordered to lie on the table.

RESIGNATION OF MINISTERS.

STATEMENT BY HON. F. H. PIESSE.

HON. F. H. PIESSE (Williams), rose and said: Sir,—After the last meeting of the House, His Excellency the Governor sent for me and informed me that he had received from the Ministers of the Crown their resignations, and he placed in my hands a commission for the purpose of forming a new Ministry. I requested that His Excellency should give me until Saturday to enable me to submit the names to His Excellency. Having made all effort to do this, I found on Saturday that I had been unable to form a Ministry satisfactory to me, and I then waited again upon His Excellency and informed him of this, stating that as I had not been able to form a Ministry, and that as Mr. Morgans, a gentleman who was a member sitting on the Opposition side of the House, had been frequently mentioned as a probable leader of that party, I would suggest that Mr. Morgans should be sent for, for the purpose of forming a Ministry. I may say I took this course in preference to urging upon His Excellency a dissolution, preferring at this stage to do so rather than to plunge the country into the vortex of a general election; and I hope that the course which I have taken will meet with the satisfaction of the House.

ADJOURNMENT.

THE PREMIER (Hon. G. Leake): At the request of the member for Coolgardie (Mr. Morgans), I move that the House

at its rising do adjourn until Thursday next.

Put and passed.

The House accordingly adjourned until the next Thursday afternoon.

Legislative Council,

Thursday, 21st November, 1901.

Papers presented—Message: Prince of Wales, Acknowledgment—Supply Bill (£2600,000), all stages—Minister (new): Seat Vacated—Leave of Absence—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the MINISTER FOR LANDS: 1, Railways Report (annual), 1901. 2, Evidence taken by Board of Inquiry into Charges against Mr. John Davies, on Management of Railways.

Ordered to lie on the table.

MESSAGE—PRINCE OF WALES, ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Message received from the Governor and read, stating that a reply had been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, conveying the thanks of their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales for the address of congratulation.

SUSPENSION.

The PRESIDENT left the Chair for a short time, awaiting receipt of Supply Bill expected from the Legislative Assembly; and at 5.5 o'clock resumed the Chair.

SUPPLY BILL (£2600,000).

ALL STAGES.

Received from the Legislative Assembly, and on motion by the MINISTER FOR