

the hon. member to some extent. He did not think it was a good thing for us to advertise one part of the colony, if it was likely to injure another part,—of course that went without saying. But, after all, this was a very small matter. He himself should have preferred information being given to the travelling public as to the different routes available for reaching the goldfields; but the General Traffic Manager, possibly, did not look upon it in that light. His object was to seek to get as much traffic as he could for our own railways; and, seeing others resorting to advertisements, he probably thought he might do the same. But this Government notice was immediately withdrawn when the matter was brought prominently before the Commissioner; and he should have thought that was quite enough without making so much ado over such a very small matter. He thought, after the explanation of his hon. friend the Commissioner, the hon. member might very well withdraw his motion.

MR. DEHAMEL said that the hon. member for the Gascoyne, with his usual inconsistency, had found fault with the action he had taken in this matter as being inconsistent with what he did the other night to try to induce the Government to warn people not to come here. So far from being inconsistent, his action this evening was thoroughly consistent with his action the other evening, because this advertisement appeared as a sort of inducement for people to come here. The hon. member also said that certain misrepresentations had been previously made by the Albany people. He denied that *in toto*. He also said that people on their way to the goldfields had been stranded at Broome Hill and Katanning. No one had been stranded there; the statement was absolutely untrue. This was not a question of the Great Southern Railway against the Government railways. The whole fact of the matter was this: some merchants in Albany raised a subscription among themselves to publish the notice referred to, for the information of miners coming over; and they asked the Great Southern Railway to publish this notice for them. But the people of Albany provided the money, and the Company only gave a small contribution towards its publication. That was the whole history of it. But, though private people might

do these things, it was not the duty of the Government of the colony to advertise one route as against another and to seek to divert the traffic of one part of the colony to the detriment of another. It had caused a great deal of friction in the district which he represented; but, having heard the explanation of the Commissioner of Railways, and feeling sure it was a thing that would not occur again, he had much pleasure in withdrawing his motion.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at seven minutes past 11 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Council,

Thursday, 5th October, 1893.

Stamp Act Amendment Bill: second reading; committee; suspension of Standing Orders; third reading—Public Health Act Further Amendment Bill; first reading—Eastern Railway Improvement Bill: second reading; committee—Mineral Lands Act, 1892, Amendment Bill: second reading; committee; suspension of Standing Orders; third reading—Immigration Act, 1893, Repeal Bill: committee; suspension of Standing Orders; third reading—Appropriation Bill: committee; suspension of Standing Orders; third reading—Elementary Education Act Amendment Bill: committee—Chinese Immigration Act Amendment Bill: committee—Loan Estimates, 1893-4: approval of—Distillation Act Amendment Bill: first reading; suspension of Standing Orders; second reading; committee; third reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the chair at 4:30 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

STAMP ACT, 1882, AMENDMENT BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): This Bill is necessary to

amend a few matters under the Stamp Act of 1882. It is proposed to repeal Section 21 of that Act, which empowers the Governor to grant licenses for the sale of stamps, and to give the power to the Treasurer. The present system is most cumbersome, inasmuch as the application of every person to become a vendor has to go before the Governor-in-Council. Another object of the Bill is to compel vendors of stamps to sell to the public. At the present time there are a number of vendors who take out licenses merely for the sake of obtaining the commission on the stamps they themselves use. Then it is proposed under the provisions of the 105th section of the Transfer of Land Act to impose a duty of 10s. This is done at the suggestion of the Commissioner of Titles, who finds some difficulty as to what charge to make under the section in question. Then by Clause 6 it is provided that no duty is to be charged on any coupon or warrant for interest unless the same amounts to £2 or upwards. Further, in order to bring the Stamp Act in accord with the Post and Telegraph Act, it is provided that the word "stamp" shall be deemed to mean any adhesive postage stamp which, under the Act I have mentioned, may be used to denote the duties under the principal Act. It is also proposed to remedy a grievance complained of by insurance companies. As the law stands at present they have to pay *ad valorem* duty on every re-insurance, although the full duty has been paid in the first instance. We propose to relieve them of this liability. It is also provided by the Bill that any witness to a document may cancel the stamp. As far as the public revenue is concerned this alteration will make no difference whatever, for it is a matter of indifference who cancels the stamp. Under the Land Transfer Act, when any instrument is presented for registration and the stamp is uncanceled, the Registrar has power to cancel it, so that really no new principle is introduced here. Then there is a further provision to enable documents coming from abroad unstamped to be stamped by the Collector of Customs or the Sub-Collector, on payment of a fine. I do not think I need say anything further. No new principle is involved, and the amendments are only necessary for the better working of the

principal Act. I move the second reading of the Bill.

Question—put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clauses 1 to 5 passed.

Clause 6.—"No duty to be charged on coupon for any sum less than £2:"

THE HON. J. MORRISON: I move that the word "government" be inserted before the word "coupon."

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I am afraid that this being a Money Bill this House has no power to amend any part of it.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: We did so in a similar instance.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I know; but it was done erroneously.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: The only thing to do then is to move the rejection of the Bill on the third reading.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Yes.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: The hon. member said that no great principle was involved in this Bill; but I think there is. The Government go to the public to borrow money on Treasury Bills, and they agree to give a certain rate of interest, and now they propose to reduce this by taxing all amounts over £2. I think coupons for Government interest should be exempt.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Sir G. Shepton): We cannot increase or reduce taxation.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: Then I shall move the rejection of the Bill on the third reading.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Personally I can see no reason why I should be exempt from duty because I lend to the Government, any more than if I lend to anyone else. Why should I get £4 from the Government and only £3 19s. 11d. from anyone else? I hope the hon. member will not move the rejection of the Bill on this account. We have no power to amend this Bill at present; but when the Hon. Mr. Hackett's amendment to the Constitution Bill becomes law, we shall have equal privileges with the other House when dealing with Money Bills.

THE HON. J. MORRISON: To impose any duty means that when the Government say they will give $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.,

they will not really give it. If you buy land from the Government no duty is charged.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The Land Transfer Office charges for guaranteeing the title.

Clause passed.

Clause 7.—“Definition of ‘Stamp.’”

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I take it that postage stamps only to the value of 1s. will be allowed to be used for revenue purposes.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Yes.

Clause passed.

The remaining clauses were agreed to, and the Bill reported.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THIRD READING.

The Bill was then read a third time, and *passed*.

EASTERN RAILWAY IMPROVEMENTS BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): As hon. members know, the money for certain improvements on the Eastern Railway has been voted by Parliament, and this Bill is to authorise the work being done. The principal improvement proposed is the reduction of the steep gradients, which run for many miles on the Eastern Railway. In some places, for long stretches, the grade is 1 in 30, and the consequence is that engines cannot carry fair loads, and the expense of working the line is enormous. It is estimated, I believe, that the cost of working these grades amounts to £15,000 or £20,000 a year, and this large sum will be mostly saved when the improvements contemplated by this Bill are done. I move the second reading.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I would suggest that, as these small Bills only encumber the Notice Paper, we should get rid of them at once.

THE HON. R. W. HARDEY: What will be the grades in future?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): In one place now the grade is 1 in 22; but I think it is intended that the steepest grade in future will be 1 in 50.

Question put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE.

The Bill was considered in committee, and agreed to without amendment.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THIRD READING.

The Bill was then read a third time, and *passed*.

MINERAL LANDS ACT, 1892, AMENDMENT BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): This is a small Bill to amend the Mineral Lands Act of 1892. The special reason for this measure is to give Parliamentary authority to the Government to enter into the agreement already sanctioned with Mr. Reid. It will be observed that there is no special mention of Mr. Reid; but power is given to the Government to enter into any special agreement subject to the approval of Parliament. I move the second reading.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: In assenting to the second reading, I hope the Bill will not be confined to the special case mentioned; but that persons in Western Australia will receive as favourable consideration as has Mr. Reid.

Question put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE.

The Bill was considered in committee, and agreed to.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THIRD READING.

The Bill was then read a third time, and *passed*.

IMMIGRATION ACT, 1883, REPEAL BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

This Bill was considered in committee, and agreed to without amendment.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

THIRD READING.

The Bill was then read a third time, and *passed*.

APPROPRIATION BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

This Bill was considered in committee, and agreed to without amendment.

The Standing Orders were suspended

THIRD READING.

The Bill was then read a third time, and passed.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ACT
AMENDMENT BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 18.—“Hours of instruction—Religious instruction may be given:”

THE HON. G. RANDELL: I ask leave to withdraw the amendment I have already proposed.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

THE HON. G. RANDELL: I now move that the words “one hour” be struck out, with a view to inserting “half an hour.” I find that the extreme period of the religious lesson in New South Wales is three-quarters of an hour, and that seems to me to be quite long enough time to take out of the ordinary period for secular instruction. In deference to what I believe is the wish of the House, however, I am willing to make the time half-an-hour.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I hope this will be accepted. Most schools have only one room, and the shorter we make the period the better.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): This portion of the Bill was introduced at the request of certain religious bodies; but, so far as I am concerned, I think half-an-hour is long enough. The Synod of the Church of England, which represents half the population of the colony, and certainly represents more than half the children attending Government schools, asked for the introduction of the New South Wales period. The Roebourne and Geraldton District Boards have asked for the same thing. I find also that the chairman of the district meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist Church reported in 1892 that it had been resolved that it was desirable to amend the Education Act by abolishing denominational schools, and to provide for religious instruction in the State schools on the New South Wales lines. The Government have not seen their way to accede to the first proposal; but have agreed to the second. Personally, I have no interest in the matter, and I leave it to the decision of the committee.

THE HON. G. RANDELL: As reported by Mr. Hartley, the Chief In-

spector of Schools in New South Wales, the longest duration of a lesson is three-quarters of an hour. I may say, also, that the Wesleyan body made the request contingent on the abolition of denominational schools. I know that that is how that resolution was intended. At any rate, there has been a recent movement on the part of the Wesleyans in an opposite direction, and they are now strongly in favour of the grants in aid being withdrawn.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I shall strongly support the insertion of “half-an-hour,” and one reason I shall give ought to be sufficient to support me in my contention. In the present circumstances of the colony, we know that many of the school buildings contain only one room, and consequently a difficulty will arise as to disposing of some of the children for five hours a week if clergymen take it into their heads to give the hourly lesson on every school day. As to what has been said about the Synod, I may say that I warmly supported the proposition there that our Act should be amended in the direction of the New South Wales Act; but no details were gone into. We accepted only the principles. I am a believer in the modern methods of education, one of the great principles of which is that a child's brain and attention can only be applied with advantage to one subject for a limited time. In my opinion, a lesson upon any subject should not exceed half-an-hour, as after that time the child's mind is apt to wander. I think, in regard to secular instruction, also, the Minister should insist that no lesson should be allowed to occupy more than half-an-hour.

THE HON. R. W. HARDEY: I shall support the insertion of “half-an-hour.” As far as the Wesleyans are concerned, I may say, with all due deference to the late chairman, I believe there is a stronger feeling now than ever in this matter, and I know that in many of the towns there is great opposition to any such clause as this.

Amendment put and passed.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I now move to strike out the words “by mutual agreement,” in the second sub-section.

Amendment put and passed.

THE HON. G. RANDELL: I move to add the words “subject to the approval

of the Minister" at the end of sub-section 2.

Amendment put and passed.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I move to strike out sub-section 3.

Question put and passed.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 19 and 20 passed.

Clause 21.—"Governor may make regulations":

THE HON. G. RANDELL: I move that the words "and assisted" be inserted between the words "Government" and "schools." This will allow the Governor to prescribe the books to be used in Assisted as well as Government schools.

Amendment put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I move to add the words "including religious instruction" at the end of the clause.

Amendment put and passed.

Clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clauses 22 and 23 passed.

Clause 24.—"Whenever at any Government school children are in attendance who are not instructed in some special religious persuasion under the provisions of this Act, the District Board of Education of the district within which such school is situated may fix such times during the course of the school day as are the most convenient when the Bible, and such religious books as meet with their approval, may be read without note or comment:"

THE HON. G. RANDELL: I move that the clause be struck out, with a view to inserting another clause in its place.

Question put and passed.

New Clause:

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I now beg to move the insertion of the following new clause, to stand as Clause 25 of the Bill:—"From and after the passing of this Act no new assisted school shall be established, nor shall any, save a Government school or an Assisted school already in existence receive assistance from the Government under the Principal Act." It will, I am sure, hardly need any words of mine to recommend this clause to the committee. My hon. friend Mr. Randell, who has served a long and honourable connection with the Central Board, will be able to justify, with a weight and fulness my words must fail to carry with them, the injury the Assisted

schools do to the Government schools—how they increase the cost of education in the colony and diminish the efficiency of the schools. The cost is increased, because we are compelled to provide for two schools in one district; in other words the State has not only to bear the cost of its own schools, but also half the cost of the Assisted schools. Again, the Assisted schools act in a most injurious way by preventing the Central Board—the Minister in the future—from obtaining teachers of that high class we desire, owing to our not being able to offer adequate salaries to them. These Assisted schools are virtually maintained for the benefit of a certain portion of the community, who urge that if we do not have them one-fourth of the population must suffer as regards education, inasmuch as the principles of their religious conviction prevent them sending their children to the State schools. But this is fallacious; for exactly the same arguments might be used in the case of the disestablishing of the Church in Ireland, in Scotland, in Wales, and in England. Would the Parliament of the United Kingdom listen to such arguments? Again, we who do not belong to the community in question have an additional ground of complaint, for we are not only compelled to support our own schools, but we have also to bear half the expenditure of the Assisted schools. Surely it is a solid ground of complaint that the general body of taxpayers have to contribute to the support of these schools which they disapprove of, while at the same time having to provide schools which are open and available to all. I desire, however, to do no injury to these Assisted schools which are already in existence. I wish to carefully protect vested interests, and therefore I say that those who have established these schools, and who have brought over here teachers, should not be interfered with; but I do say that we should not be parties to the establishment of any further such schools in the future, and if this clause is carried it will act as a warning to those who wish to have their children educated at their own schools in the future, that they must bear the whole cost themselves. I cannot conceive that any objection can be taken to this clause, for it must be of the greatest benefit to the State, while, at the same time, it

will cause no injustice whatever being done to any section of the community.

THE HON. G. RANDELL: I shall support the clause proposed by the Hon. Mr. Hackett. I can truly bear out what the hon. member has said in regard to the increased cost of education owing to the existence of Assisted schools. In Northam and Newcastle, for instance, it is impossible to maintain two good and efficient schools. The Central Board has been anxious to give education to almost every child in the colony, and they have exercised the greatest forbearance as to closing schools where the attendance has fallen below the minimum number at which a school can be kept open. There is no question that if we are to have efficient schools we must have teachers who are fairly well paid; but there are numbers of instances, under our present system, where the emoluments of the teacher are utterly inadequate both to the position of the teacher and the service rendered. This is especially the case in the small towns, and it is even so in Perth and Fremantle. The competition of the Assisted schools has been very serious, because it must be borne in mind that not only children of Roman Catholic parents, but many others, are sent to these schools, who otherwise should attend the Government school. To have an Assisted school side by side a Government school is like a business man having a competitor in the same line living next to him; and I think the time has come when this should be stopped, and one national system of education established in lieu of it. I am aware that good reports are given of many of the assisted schools, especially those conducted by the Sisters. These ladies are trained to the work, and display an amount of devotion and self-sacrifice we should all like to see emulated by the teachers of the Government schools; but I need scarcely say that the reasons which influence the one do not influence the others. If we want good teachers we must hold out to them sufficient inducement. In Perth the head teacher receives only a very small salary—£200 or £250 at the outside—and this for a teacher who has been trained and who has devoted the whole of his life to the work. I do not think anyone will say that this is sufficient. Unless further

provision is made by the Legislature the Minister will find that he cannot obtain much improvement, unless the assisted system is brought to an end. I believe the whole country is in favour of the abolition of this assisted system. It is said that one section of the community would have a grievance; but there can be no grievance if they refuse to avail themselves of the opportunities which are provided for them by the State, or are unwilling to co-operate in what is the general wish of the country. If persons, from religious convictions, or for their own purposes, refuse to have anything to do with the education of the young except in their own way, I fail to see where any hardship accrues, if they have to bear the expense of giving effect to their wishes. I shall support the clause.

Question put and passed.

THE HON. G. RANDELL: I beg to move the insertion of the following new clause, to stand as Clause 20:—"In all Government schools the teaching shall be strictly non-sectarian; but the words 'secular instruction' shall be held to include general religious teaching as distinguished from dogmatical or polemical theology."

Question put and passed.

The Bill was then reported.

CHINESE IMMIGRATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clauses 1 to 4 agreed to.

Clause 5.—"Master to muster Chinese before clearance."

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: Sub-section 4 of the previous clause says that the master shall be liable to a penalty.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. Sir G. Shenton): The Bill will have to be recommitted if the hon. member wishes to deal with a clause already passed.

Clause 5 passed. The remaining clause was agreed to, and the Bill reported.

LOAN ESTIMATES, 1893-4.

IN COMMITTEE.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Hon. members will observe that these are the details of the proposed expenditure from loan accounts

for the year ending June, 1894. They are very elaborately prepared, but I regret to say that I have not had time to go through them. These are only estimates, and it does not follow that the amounts will be expended, and I may add that the expenditure will only be incurred if the money is available. The other House, whose peculiar function it is to deal with matters of this kind, has gone carefully into the various items, and I have now only to ask this House to approve of them. I move that this Council approves the Estimates of Expenditure from Loan Accounts for the year ending 30th June, 1894, in accordance with the Estimates laid upon the table of the House.

Question put and passed.

Resolution reported.

Report adopted.

DISTILLATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): This is a little Bill which I have not given notice of; for the necessity for it only became apparent to the Law officers of the Crown a few days since, and I have to ask the indulgence of hon. members to allow me now to read it a first time.

Question—That the Bill be read a first time—put and passed.

The Standing Orders were suspended.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): By the provisions of the Distillation Act of 1871, it is impossible, without great difficulty, for anyone to use a still for the purpose of converting salt water into fresh water. On our goldfields, as is well known, most of the water is salt; but if it is distilled, it becomes fresh and fit for consumption. Several applications have been made for permission to use stills, but the Crown Law officers have advised that they cannot be granted, and hence the necessity for this Bill. In order to assist in the development of our goldfields, and to prevent people famishing from thirst, it is proposed to allow the Treasurer to issue licenses enabling persons to use stills for the distillation of water. The Bill provides that the Treasurer is empowered to impose certain conditions so as to ensure the still being kept to its

proper use, and a large penalty is provided for using a still for other than the purposes contained in the license. With the aid of the very efficient police force of this colony, however, I do not think there need be any fear that any persons who are granted licenses will have many opportunities given them for the distillation of spirits. I move the second reading of the Bill.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: Is the Treasurer the Collector of Revenue?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I have just inquired, and find that it is so.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: If it is not so, there would be a difficulty. I might also point out that the benefits of the Bill may be likely to fail, because of the necessity of waiting for the Collector's signature.

Question put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 1.—“Collector of Revenue may license stills for condensing water.”

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I move to strike out the word “sell” in this clause, because I do not think it wise that persons should be allowed to sell stills.

Amendment put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): With reference to what the Hon. Mr. Hackett has said, I think it would be unwise for the Treasurer to part with the power of granting licenses. If there were any difficulty a person might apply to the Warden, who could telegraph to the Treasurer, and thus the whole thing could be arranged.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I quite agree with the hon. member; but does the Telegraph Act give power to telegraph a license?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): If the Treasurer wired that he would sign a license it would be sufficient.

Clause passed.

The remaining clauses were passed, and the Bill reported.

THIRD READING.

The Bill was then read a third time, and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 6-30 o'clock p.m., adjourned until Monday, 9th October, at 8 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 5th October, 1893.

Petition from Greenbushes Miners re Mr. Reid's contemplated Concession—Message from the Governor assenting to Barristers Board Bill—Legislation re Justices of the Peace, and re Inquests upon Fires—Dismissal of Messrs. Reid and Brown from the Railway Department—Public Health Act Further Amendment Bill: third reading—Native Troopers and Trackers for the Kimberleys: adjourned debate—Railways Act Amendment Bill: second reading—Electoral Bill, 1893: in committee—Message from the Legislative Council: Concurrence in Bills—Immigration Amendment Bill: received from the Legislative Council; first reading—Messages from Legislative Council, concurring in the Appropriation Bill; also, in the Loan Estimates—Distillation Act Amendment Bill: received from the Legislative Council; first reading—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 4-30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

PETITION FROM GREENBUSHES MINERS.

MR. SIMPSON, on behalf of Sir J. G. LEE STERE (the member for the district), presented a petition from certain miners at Greenbushes, praying that the contemplated concession of a portion of the Greenbushes tinfields to Mr. Reid should not be effected. The hon. member explained that the reason why he was introducing the petition was because His Honour the Speaker, who represented the district, was precluded from doing so by reason of his official position in the House. He moved that the petition be read and received.

Received and read.

THE SPEAKER: Does the hon. member move to have it printed?

MR. SIMPSON: I do not know that it is necessary.

MR. TRAYLEN: Is it competent for another member to move that the petition be printed?

THE SPEAKER: You cannot move to have a petition printed unless it is intended to take subsequent action upon it. It need not be done to-day.

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. W. E. Marmion): It seems to me it is the duty of the member who presents a petition, and not another member, to move that it be printed, if he wishes it.

MR. SIMPSON: If I am in order, and there is any desire on the part of the House to have it printed, I beg to move that the petition be printed.

Put and passed.

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNOR, ASSENTING TO BILLS.

The following Message was received from His Excellency the Governor:—

The Governor has the honour to inform the Legislative Assembly that he has this day assented, in Her Majesty's name, to the undermentioned Bills:—

"An Act to repeal 'The Tariff Act, 1888,' and to make other provisions in lieu thereof."

"An Act to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the Admission of Practitioners in the Supreme Court, and to regulate their Conduct and their Remuneration in certain cases."

Government House, Perth, 4th October, 1893.

LEGISLATION RE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE, AND RE INQUESTS UPON FIRES.

MR. TRAYLEN, in accordance with notice, asked the Premier,—“1. Whether the Government would, during recess, prepare a Bill consolidating and amending the law relating to Justices of the Peace? 2. Whether a Bill would be introduced next session, dealing with inquests upon fires?”

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) replied that he regretted he was unable to answer the hon. member at present, but that the matters would be duly considered.