

the experience of the sister colonies, whether anything can be done to give the working classes a fair day's pay for a fair day's work. I do not see that there is any obstacle to the principle being carried out in connection with Government contracts, nor can there be a more favorable time than the present for providing that this rule shall be carried out. The representatives of the people in this House have the right to say on behalf of the people who are the employers when public works are being executed, what shall be the lowest rate of wages paid for these works, and we have a right to say that the men shall not be employed at a less rate of pay than they can subsist upon. I am sure that it is not too much to ask that the Government shall set an example in this direction.

Motion put and negatived.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 9.45 o'clock, p.m.

### Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 8th October, 1895.

*Width of Tyres Bill: first reading—Production of Vegetables—Collie Coalfields Railway Bill: first reading—Donnybrook-Bridgetown Railway Bill: first reading—Goldfields Bill: first reading—Electoral Bill: first reading—Public Health Act Amendment Bill: first reading—Explosives Bill: first reading—Building Act Amendment Bill: second reading; Committee; third reading—Constitution Act Amendment Bill: Memorial to the Secretary for State—Adjournment.*

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton) took the Chair at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.

#### WIDTH OF TYRES BILL.

This Bill was introduced and was read a first time.

#### PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLES.

The Hon. E. McLARTY moved:—"That in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that the Government should inquire as to the best steps to take to encourage the production and preservation of vegetables." He

said: In moving this resolution, I may say that unfortunately, the rules of the House prevent me from going as far as I had wished to, otherwise I should have framed the resolution in favor of a substantial bonus being given to any establishment which might produce 25 or 30 tons of preserved vegetables in any one year. Hon. members are aware that we are now importing large quantities of preserved vegetables. Last year, I believe, the value of our imports in this direction amounted to between £8,000 and £9,000, and next year the amount will, probably, be larger. This fact I regret. I speak with some practical knowledge, when I say that we can produce, at certain seasons of the year, at all events, any quantity of vegetables, and I should like to see some encouragement given for their growth, so that we may supply our goldfields and our northern parts without resort to importation. At Mandumb, one of the preserving establishments has already gone into the business, and it is turning out an article quite equal to anything which is being imported, and all that is now required is that there shall be a supply of vegetables to enable us to produce all the preserves we require. I think a bonus should be given to enable the establishments I refer to, to offer a sufficient price for vegetables to induce people to grow them. If that were done, it would, in time, save the colony the large amount which is being annually sent away for preserved vegetables, and it would, instead, be distributed among our own settlers. Only this week I have noticed how much land is being taken up; but on a considerable portion of it, people are planting fruit trees. These will take four or five years to mature, and if, in the meantime, some inducement could be offered to them to grow vegetables between the rows of trees, they would be much benefited. Vegetables will grow luxuriantly, and a return can be got in a few weeks from them. At present, the prices which the factories can offer are so low that there is no inducement to people to grow them, but if we can only give the industry a start, I am sure it will do much good in the future. This may seem a small matter, but it will help the settlers. I do not think I need say more, except that I hope this motion will be accepted by the House.

Question put and passed.

Ordered that the resolution be transmitted to the Legislative Assembly, and their concurrence desired.

**COLLIE COALFIELDS RAILWAY BILL.**

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

**DONNYBROOK-BRIDGETOWN RAILWAY BILL.**

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

**GOLDFIELDS BILL.**

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

**ELECTORAL BILL.**

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

**PUBLIC HEALTH ACT AMENDMENT ACT.**

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

**EXPLOSIVES BILL.**

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

**BUILDING ACT AMENDMENT BILL.****SECOND READING.**

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom): Very few words are necessary to explain the object of this Bill. Hon. members are aware that, under the Act of 1894, it is necessary, before the Act can be applied to any part of a municipality, that a petition signed by two-fifths of the ratepayers must be sent to the Governor-in-Council. This provision has been found very inconvenient, and, hence, this Bill has been introduced, in order to alter this provision. Clause 3 of this Bill provides:—  
 "Whenever requested so to do by any municipality it shall be lawful for the Governor, by notice in the *Government Gazette*, to apply all or any of the provisions of the said Act, or of any amendments thereof, to any municipality heretofore or hereafter proclaimed, or to any portions thereof; and thenceforth the said Acts, or such provisions thereof as aforesaid, shall apply to such municipality, or portions thereof, in as full and ample a manner as if such municipality, or such portions thereof as aforesaid, were specially named in the principal Act." I now move that the Bill be read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

**IN COMMITTEE.**

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

The Standing Orders were suspended.

**THIRD READING.**

The Bill was then read a third time and passed.

**CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.****MEMORIAL TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE—MESSAGE FROM THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.**

THE MINISTER FOR MINES (Hon. E. H. Wittenoom): In taking this Message into consideration hon. members are aware what it contains. It will be in their recollection that a Bill to amend the Constitution Act was passed unanimously by both Houses, last session, repealing Clause 70 of the Principal Act, which provides that there shall be payable to Her Majesty, for the aboriginals of the colony, a sum of £5,000 a year, and that when the revenue exceeds £500,000 a sum equal to one per cent. of such revenue. It has been considered by everyone that this section is a reflection on the people of this colony, and the desire has been to repeal it. The Bill was sent Home, for assent of Her Majesty, and a reply has been received which is not considered satisfactory. In consequence of this, the memorial contained in this message has been passed by the Legislative Assembly, and we are asked to concur in it. I now move that the words "Legislative Council" be inserted in the blanks, and that the words "The Legislative Council concurs with the Legislative Assembly in the said memorial" be added.

Question put and passed.

**ADJOURNMENT.**

The Council at 5.15 o'clock, p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, 9th October, 1895, at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.