

## Legislative Council,

Tuesday, 3rd October, 1905.

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Business resumed from the 29th August, the interval having been occupied with re-elections of Ministers consequent on the change of Government.

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

## PRAYERS.

## ELECTION RETURN.

The ACTING PRESIDENT reported the return of writ for the Metropolitan-Suburban Province vacancy (Ministerial re-election).

The Hon. W. KINGSMILL, re-elected as Colonial Secretary, accordingly took the oath and his seat.

## PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the COLONIAL SECRETARY: 1, The Government of Western Australia in account with the Midland Railway Company. 2, Third Annual Report of the proceedings of the Registrar of Friendly Societies in connection with Trade Unions. 3, Report of the Commissioner of Police for the year ending 30th June, 1905. 4, Fremantle Public Hospital—Eighth Annual Report for the Year ended 30th June, 1905. 5, Return of Royal Commissions appointed by the State Government since 30th June, 1904. 6, The Cemeteries Acts 1897 and 1899—Yundamindera Public Cemetery By-laws; Pinjarra Public Cemetery, Additional By-law No. 37. 7, "The Land Act, 1898," and "The Land Act Amendment Act, 1902"—Permission to construct Timber Tramways to the Western Australian Jarrah Sawmills Ltd., and the Kalgoorlie and Boulder Firewood Co. Ltd. 8, "The Land Act, 1898"—(1.) Farther amendment of By-law No. 2 of Carnarvon Common; (2.) Timber Regulations. 9, Harbour and Light Department—Report for the year ended 30th June, 1905. 10, "Mining Development Act, 1902"—Return of Expenditure for Year ended 30th June, 1905. 11, "The

Mining Act, 1904"—(1.) Area of Mining Leases and Claims; (2.) Amendment of Regulations 28, 29, 30, 32, and 80. 12, By-laws of the Municipalities of Broome and North Perth. 13, "The Mining Act, 1904"—List of Exemptions granted on Leases from 1st July, 1904, to 31st July, 1905. 14, "The Workers' Compensation Act, 1902," Amended Regulations under. 15, Papers and correspondence in connection with the appointment of Dr. Roth as Commissioner to inquire into aboriginal matters in the State.

## OBITUARY—MR. R. G. BURGES.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. W. Kingsmill): Since we last met, an hon. gentleman who used to be a member of this House and who has been known as such during the greater part of his political career, has passed from amongst us. I refer to Mr. Richard Goldsmith Burges, member for York in the Legislative Assembly. It is my intention to ask the House, out of respect to the memory of that hon. gentleman, to adjourn to-day; and it is also my intention, if the House will agree with me, to reassemble on this day week. I feel I would be wanting in my duty towards the memory of a colleague in Parliament if I did not make this motion for the adjournment of the House to-day out of respect to the memory of Mr. Richard Burges. He was a man whom I think very many members of the House knew better than I did; but I say this, that I knew him long enough to realise that the late hon. gentleman was one of the best types of pioneers who have made the British race what it is to-day; that he comprised in his character all those traits that go to the making not only of a successful individual, but the success of the country of which that individual is a citizen. I intend to move later, after other members who may wish to say something on this subject have spoken, that the House at its rising do adjourn until Tuesday, 10th October, at 4.30 o'clock.

STR. E. H. WITTENOOM (North): I am exceedingly sorry that the necessity has arisen for me to indorse the remarks that the Colonial Secretary has made to this House. But inasmuch as we have

lost from amongst us the member referred to, we should be wanting in our duty in not saying a few words to show our sympathy with those near and dear to him. I knew the late Mr. Richard Burges for a great many years, as no doubt many others in this House have. I have known him from boyhood, have seen him develop, and have seen him march with the times and progress with the country, until we found he had achieved that success which most men wished him to attain. He was one of the most energetic workers one could find. He has done more perhaps for the development of the country than most men, and it is a pleasure to us to look back at the success which he achieved. I was intimately connected with the late Mr. Burges and his parents for many years, so that the circumstances to which I refer are within my own knowledge. I say that his ancestors were amongst the best pioneers the country ever had, and have done a great deal for it. In Mr. Burges, all will admit, we had a most fearless and conscientious politician. As a man he was energetic and industrious, and neglected no opportunity of forwarding the interests of the country, while not forgetting his own at the same time. In addition to these many qualities which cannot be overlooked, he was a model of a domestic man. I think, in the circumstances, that nothing but the deepest regret can be felt at the loss sustained by the State; and we are all willing and anxious to place on record our regret for that loss, and our sympathy with all those who were connected with the late hon. gentleman.

HON. G. RANDELL (Metropolitan): I have much pleasure in indorsing the remarks that have fallen from previous speakers. Mr. Burges was well known to all. I have known him for a good many years, and I have appreciated his sterling character, and also the value of his knowledge and experience, particularly in regard to certain questions that came before Parliament, the fearless way in which he expressed his opinion, and the conscientious way, I think, in which he discharged every duty as a citizen. He was *par excellence* the kind of settler we want in this State, and his memory is cherished very much by myself. I had a great deal of conversation with him on

many subjects, and we often conferred together on matters connected with the legislation and politics of the State. I regret that we have lost such a man from our midst, one who can ill be spared. I hope that others will take up the mantle that has fallen from him, and be willing to devote themselves to the public service of this State in the same earnest, straightforward, and able manner in which Mr. Burges did. We did not all agree with him in his opinions; I differed from him at times as thoroughly as anyone; but we could heartily appreciate his sincerity and earnestness. I have very much pleasure in adding my little testimony to the high regard with which the late Mr. Burges was held by his fellow colonists.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY moved—"That the House at its rising do adjourn until 4:30 o'clock on Tuesday, 10th October."

Question passed.

The House adjourned accordingly at 12 minutes to 5, until the next Tuesday.

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#### Legislative Assembly, Tuesday, 3rd October, 1905.

Business resumed from the 29th August, the interval having been occupied with re-elections of Ministers consequent on the change of Government.

THE DEPUTY-SPEAKER took the Chair at 8:30 o'clock p.m.

#### PRAYERS.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER, finding there was not a quorum present (consequent on members attending the funeral of the late member for York), formally adjourned the House at 3:45 o'clock until the next day.