

"under their control any kind
 "of sports or other gathering,
 "to impose and fix a charge
 "to any person for admission
 "to such sports or gatherings,
 "to refuse such admission,
 "and to eject any person for
 "non-payment of such admis-
 "sion charge, or disorderly, or
 "other misconduct:

"(l.) Prescribing the manner in
 "which the profits arising
 "from any such sale, sports,
 "or gatherings may be dis-
 "posed of:

"(m.) Prescribing the conditions
 "under which and the manner
 "in which such boards may
 "borrow money by way of
 "mortgage of the lands under
 "their control:

"(n.) Providing for all other matters
 "and things necessary for
 "carrying out the objects of
 "this Act:

"(2.) Such Regulations may impose
 "penalties for acts or defaults contrary
 "thereto, not exceeding Twenty pounds
 "for any such act or default.

"(3.) All Regulations made under this
 "Act shall be laid before both Houses of
 "Parliament within fourteen days from
 "the making thereof, if Parliament be
 "then sitting, and if not then sitting,
 "then within fourteen days after the
 "then next assembling of Parliament,
 "and when published in the *Gazette* such
 "Regulations shall have the force of law,
 "and the production of a copy of a
 "*Gazette* containing any such Regulation
 "shall be *prima facie* evidence of the due
 "making of such Regulation, and that it
 "is still in force."

Put and passed.

Progress was then reported, and leave
 given to sit again.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at forty-two
 minutes past 4 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Council,

Wednesday, 26th September, 1894.

Swan River: reserves on—Telegraph Money Orders—
 Hospitals Bill: second reading—Small Debts Ordina-
 nce Amendment Bill: first reading—Municipa-
 Institutions Bill: first reading—Loan Bill: first
 reading—Homesteads Act Amendment Bill: first
 reading—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

SWAN RIVER—RESERVES ON.

THE HON. E. G. HENTY moved: "That
 "in the opinion of this House it is desir-
 "able that larger reserves of land for
 "public use, on the frontage to the Swan
 "River and estuary, should be secured by
 "the Government as soon as possible." He said: I have found from inquiry that
 not a single foot of land on the South
 side of the Swan River estuary has been
 reserved for the use of the public, and
 those who go on the river for picnics, or
 for boating, are unable to land except on
 sufferance, and in the summer time, when
 the sea breezes blow, boats are unable to
 anchor with safety. Owing to the exer-
 tions of the Government and of some
 members of this House, a great deal of
 land has been reserved, but it is not in
 the most suitable place, the whole of it
 being practically on the Northern side.
 We may pride ourselves on the estuary,
 many portions of it being quite equal to
 some parts of Sydney harbour, of which we
 hear so much; but opportunities should
 be provided to enable the public to
 enjoy the pleasures to be derived from it
 to the fullest extent. I find that the
 frontages have been alienated years ago,
 and now the people are only allowed to
 land on sufferance. Some hon. members
 may think that this motion may mean
 the expenditure of money, but that is not
 necessarily so, because the Government
 can exchange some of their Northern
 blocks for a few suitable spots on the
 Southern side. I do not think it is
 necessary for the Government to secure
 large portions of land. Two acres (say) at
 the Canning Humps, two acres at Point
 Walter, two acres at Point Chidwell, and
 two acres at Lucky Bay, would, I think,
 be sufficient, and even if they had to be

purchased the cost would not be more than a few hundred pounds. I hope hon. members will, therefore, support the motion, and thus provide some further lungs for the city.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Personally, I sympathise with the hon. member's motion, but I think it desirable that the reserves should be larger than he has mentioned, if the existing reserves are unsuitable. I was under the impression that there were a considerable number of reserves in possession of the Government, but my hon. friend says they are on the Northern bank and are unsuitable. In the future—in the near future I hope—the river will become one of the most popular and healthy of our health resorts, and I can imagine no more healthy occupation for the young men of this city than rowing and sailing on our magnificent Swan river. Of course this motion means expense, but I am sure that the Government will agree with me that if it is possible to obtain such reserves at a moderate cost, they will do their best to secure them. Whilst, however, they are about it, it would be better for them to secure larger areas than stated by the hon. member, and I should say that 25 acres would be far preferable to two or three acres. If Perth and Fremantle are to become large towns, I imagine these reserves will be frequented at holiday times by large numbers of people, and two acres will hardly be sufficient to accommodate them, and I hope that if the Government does take the matter in hand they will not consider anything less than 25 acres a reasonable area. I hope the resolution will meet with the views of hon. members generally.

Question put and passed.

Ordered—That the motion be transmitted to the Legislative Assembly and their concurrence desired.

TELEGRAPH MONEY ORDERS.

THE HON. E. G. HENTY moved: "That the public should be afforded facilities for telegraphing sums of money through the leading country telegraph offices." He said: The object of this motion is to place the people in some of the country places in a similar position to the people of Perth and Fremantle. At

the present time the residents of these towns can send telegraphic money orders, but in the country the people cannot do so. I am told that there is a difficulty in the way, owing to it being inexpedient to keep sums of money in the different centres. I do not see, however, that there should be any very great difficulty at such places as Geraldton, York, Albany, Bunbury, and Roebourne. Then it is said that the Banks can do all that is necessary, but we know that poor men, with small sums of money, feel that they have no right to enter a Bank, while they do not object to entering a Government office and demanding their rights. It is in the interests of these men that I move this resolution.

The motion lapsed for want of a seconder.

HOSPITALS BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Hon. members are aware that the public hospitals in this colony are at the present time purely Government institutions; that is, that the medical and other staff is appointed by the Government, and the maintenance and upkeep come out of the public funds. For some time past there has been an agitation in favour of placing the Perth Hospital on a different footing. It has been pointed out that in the other colonies and in the mother country hospitals are partially, if not wholly, supported and maintained by public subscription, and that the public have a voice in the management and in the nomination of patients, and also in choosing the medical officers. In South Australia the Adelaide Hospital has been under this kind of management since 1867. It is a hospital partially maintained at the public expense, the remainder of the funds being obtained by subscriptions from the public, in consideration for which they have the right of selecting a certain number of the board of management, which has the sole control of the hospital. The public who subscribe also appoint the honorary and resident medical staff, and have the right to nominate patients for admission. The Government propose to place the Perth Hospital under similar management and

control. The Bill I now hold in my hand was prepared when you, sir, filled the position I now occupy; but, owing to pressure of work, it has not been presented to Parliament before. It is almost a *fac-simile* of the South Australian Act—an Act which must have worked well, because I find it has not been amended since it was passed in 1867, except as to one particular which concerns the Adelaide Hospital, and which further regulates the mode under which the board shall be elected. By the provisions of this Bill the Governor is empowered to proclaim any hospital as coming under it; but it is only intended for the present to bring the Perth Hospital under its scope. There are other hospitals in the colony; for instance, at Bunbury, Albany, Katanning, Northam, Geraldton, Coolgardie, Cue, Roebourne, and elsewhere, but at these places there is only one Medical Officer—the Government Medical Officer—and, besides, it is hardly to be expected that the public will subscribe to any extent towards the maintenance of these hospitals. Under these circumstances, there seems to be no necessity for placing them under this Act, although the Government may do so should the necessity arise for it. It is, therefore, better, while the Government provide the funds and pay the medical officers, that these hospitals should remain public institutions. This Bill provides that any person who pays £20 in one lump sum shall become a life governor, and any person who pays £2 a year shall be styled an annual contributor. The Government is to appoint the board of management in the first instance, but when the contributions reach one-sixth of the annual expenditure, calculated on the average of the expenditure for the three preceding years, then the contributors shall have the right to select one-third of the members of the board of management. In like manner it is provided that if the subscriptions increase further in proportion to the annual expenditure, the subscribers shall have the right of electing a larger number of members to the board of management. The board will have the entire management of the hospital. They will have the power to appoint honorary surgeons and physicians and resident medical officers—in fact everything will be under their control.

There are certain provisions for the retirement of members, and for the re-election of the board and other matters, but it is unnecessary for me to refer to them on the second reading. At present all we have to deal with is the principle of the Bill. I may say that the Bill has been submitted to all the members of the medical profession resident within a reasonable distance. The Colonial Surgeon expresses his entire approval of it. Drs. Kelsall and Tratman propose an amendment to section 4, and, when in committee, I shall propose the adoption of their suggestion. I have also received replies from Drs. Hitch and Haynes. Dr. Hitch says that the sum of £20 as one donation is rather high, and he suggests that the donation for a life member should be reduced to £10, and that the annual contribution should be reduced to £1. I propose also to adopt these suggestions. The communication from Dr. Haynes is on the whole Bill. He concurs with Dr. Hitch in the reductions, but suggests other amendments which would entirely alter the principle of this Bill. He proposes to place the whole board in the hands of the subscribers, and allow the Government to have no voice in it. He says that this is the system in New South Wales, and he suggests its adoption here. The Government, however, are not prepared to accept that, especially as we consider this to be a liberal measure, and one which has worked well in South Australia for 30 years. I have spoken to Dr. Kenny on the subject, and he says he is quite in accord with the Bill, and as to the remaining members of the profession, I take it that their silence means consent. I now commend this Bill to the favourable consideration of hon. members, and move that it be read a second time.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: I should like to know whether this Bill includes asylums?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (HON. S. H. PARKER): Not lunatic asylums.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: Then I cannot help expressing regret that they are not included, because I have before me the report of the Surgeon Superintendent of the asylum, and, when I read some extracts from it, hon. members will see the state of affairs that has existed there for a considerable number of years past.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton): The question before the House is hospitals, not asylums. The report on the hospitals is quite a different thing to the report on the asylum—they are two different departments.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: There is nothing to prevent my bringing in an amendment in committee to include asylums?

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton): No.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: Therefore I am in order now.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The hon. member cannot bring in anything about asylums. We are bound by the recital of the Bill.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: But we could alter that.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I would not agree to it; besides, I do not think you can introduce anything foreign to the recital.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton): That is not the question before the House at the present time.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: There is not provision at the asylum for the separation of the curable from the incurable.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I rise to order. The hon. member has no right to refer to the lunatic asylum. This is a Bill to deal with hospitals.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. Sir G. Shenton): I think the hon. member is going too far.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: Of course I have to bow to your ruling, but I must say that I regret that the Bill does not go further in the direction I have indicated. One or two other provisions might also have been inserted, one of them being that people who can afford to pay should be made to do so. In the other colonies there is such a provision.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): What colonies?

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: New Zealand or Victoria; I forget which. In one of these colonies it is provided that these debts may be recovered. A great many people would be glad to pay.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): We have not found that

to be the case. We found that they went in under a promise to pay and did not do so.

THE HON. J. C. G. FOULKES: If you had power to sue you could make them pay. I know in the London hospitals there are a number of paying patients, and again there does not seem to be any provision for affording relief to out patients—and no provision to enable the board to sue anyone, or for anyone to sue the board. With regard to the voting under the Bill, the subscribers have to find one-sixth of the cost; but if the Government at any time spend any large sum of money for additions, the public might not be able to raise the necessary money to entitle them to elect one-third of the board, if cost of these additions were added to the expenditure. In committee a clause might be inserted to the effect that any money so spent shall not be considered as expenditure. Altogether, the Bill has been long wanted, and I hope it will be agreed to, although I regret that provision has not been made in it to deal with asylums also.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I hail, sir, the introduction of this Bill with the heartiest approval. It is full time that some steps of this kind should be taken with regard to an institution which, on the whole, we are proud of, and in which the chief medical officer of the colony—Dr. Waylen—has spent many years of labour and careful service. There is no member in this House, or in the other House, who does not feel that the time has come when the circumstances of the colony, and the circumstances of the city of Perth in particular, make it imperatively necessary that something should be done to bring about the introduction of one of those systems which have been found to work so well elsewhere, and by which the Colonial Hospital may be brought somewhat more in accord with the modern state of hospitals generally. It will be recollected that a few years ago, in order to test the spirit which prevailed in connection with the hospital, I moved that a little appliance, which was of general use in this town, and which had been adopted at the public offices, and at nearly all places of business, should be adopted also at the hospital. I allude to the telephone. One would have thought that such an institution would have been among the

first to introduce it, but we were informed that the authorities did not consider it was wanted, and that when it was it would be used. Fortunately, pressure was applied, and the hospital was supplied with an instrument, and, I need hardly say, that the few months during which it has been in use have shown the necessity of it. When smallpox broke out, and the hospital was put into quarantine, I do not know what would have been the result had the telephone not been available; at all events it would have been impossible to communicate with those who were confined within the institution. If we are to place the hospital on a proper footing we must look outside our own borders, and try to introduce a system which has not only worked well elsewhere, but which will, to some extent, relieve the State of its present burden. On the whole, I believe this Bill is a good attempt, although I must entirely endorse the view that the amounts proposed for the life and annual contributions are too high. For years past not a sixpence has been contributed by any individual.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): A Chinaman gave £25 one year.

THE HON. H. McKERNAN: He knew nothing about the management.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I think he gave that as a mark of his gratitude for some little attention he had received, but outside that I think we may say, to our reproach, that not a pound has been subscribed except what has come from the public funds. We must give a *quid pro quo*, if the public are to come forward, but £20 is too much to ask anyone to give in one donation, and I think it may well be reduced to one-half; and also the annual subscription might, with greater advantage, be made £1 instead of £2. There is another matter I should like to refer to. I see there is no provision for paying wards, and I take it that those who drafted this Bill were of opinion that no such provision should be made, and I can understand the reasons which actuated them. Wherever paying wards are permitted, large numbers of people, who could well afford to pay private doctors, avail themselves of the hospitals, and thereby do serious injury to the professional men. I can well understand the ideas of the draftsmen of the Bill in

providing that the hospital shall be wholly open to free patients, and that those who can afford to pay must have recourse to one of the many private hospitals which I am glad to see are springing up in our midst. With regard to the constitution of the board of management, it seems to me, for reasons I hardly like to dilate upon, that laymen should be associated with the medical men, who are evidently to be in the majority. The benefits to be derived from the infusion of some business men upon this board are incalculable, and, when in committee, I shall make a proposition in this respect. With this, and one or two other small verbal changes, I shall support the Bill.

THE HON. H. J. SAUNDERS: I am pleased that the Government has brought this Bill forward, and I shall give it my hearty support. I consider it is quite time that the hospital in Perth, at least, should be supported by public contributions, but unless the people get something for contributing they will not do so. After this Bill is passed, and in the course of a few years, I venture to say that the hospital will cost the public funds nothing at all. So far as the hospitals on the goldfields are concerned, I venture to say that within the next twelve months they will not cost the colony much, for miners are well known as a class who will support their comrades when they are sick and ill. The hospital at Coolgardie has been started by private enterprise, and it has been a great boon to the people. In England nearly all hospitals are supported by voluntary contributions, and if we give the subscribers a voice in the management here we shall not have any great difficulty in raising any money that is required. I might add that I think some provision might be made for paying wards, but this matter we can discuss later on.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I am very glad to learn from my hon. friend that there is a likelihood of the Coolgardie hospital being self-supporting within the next 12 months. The hospital there was started, I believe, by a body who manages it in a splendid way, and gives universal satisfaction. I may say, however, that it costs the Government £1,200 a year for the maintenance of the pauper patients who go into it, and it has been pointed out that

it is highly desirable, under these circumstances, that the Government should obtain an institution of the kind at the earliest possible moment. With regard to the pay wards, it will be observed that the Board will have the power, among other matters, to make rules for the admission of patients, and no doubt, if they think it desirable, they will provide such fees to be paid by patients as they may deem fit, when such patients can afford to pay. At the same time I think that those persons who can afford to pay should not go to a hospital. We have numbers of private hospitals where such people can be looked after, and where they can be more comfortable than in a public institution. Where persons can afford to pay, it seems to me most improper that they should be allowed to go into an institution of this kind. We had a pay ward in the Colonial Hospital, and I may say that there are large amounts owing in connection with it, of which I do not believe a penny will be collected. In consequence of this, and finding that there were a number of private hospitals being established in Perth, the Colonial Surgeon, at my suggestion, shut up the pay ward. I may say that the Government propose to make large additions to the Colonial Hospital, which will cost something like £8,000; and in about 18 months time, when the alterations are complete, we shall have an admirable hospital, with every possible convenience for all cases, and where we shall be able to train some of our young men in the study of physic and surgery. In committee, I propose to strike out the paragraph relating to the inclusion of medical men on the board, so as to leave the Governor and the contributors full power to elect whom they please. For my part, I think it much wiser to have men on the board who do not belong to the medical profession. The proper position for the medical men is as honorary physicians and surgeons.

THE HON. F. T. CROWDER: I do not think we shall get many subscribers to the hospital if the Bill is to be passed in its present form. It is provided that the Governor has, in the first instance, the power of appointment of the board, and the public are to be allowed to elect portion of it when they subscribe a certain amount, which is to be based on the expenditure for the past three years.

Now, during these three years it is not likely that any one will subscribe, and, therefore, I think that some provision should be inserted by which, as soon as a certain sum is subscribed, the public will be entitled to a voice in the election of the board.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

SMALL DEBTS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT BILL.

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

MUNICIPAL INSTITUTIONS BILL.

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

LOAN BILL, 1894.

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

HOMESTEADS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

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

ADJOURNMENT.

The House, at 6 o'clock p.m., adjourned until Thursday, 27th September, at 4:30 o'clock p.m.
