

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE FIFTEENTH PARLIAMENT:

The Parliament was prorogued on the 31st May, 1935, to the 12th July, 1935, and further prorogued to the 1st August, 1935, when it met for the despatch of business.

Parliament was opened by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.

Legislative Council,

Thursday, 1st August, 1935.

	PAGE
Opening of Parliament	1
Proclamation	1
Lieutenant-Governor's Opening Speech	1
Bill: Bunbury Racecourse Railway, Discontinuance, 18.	5
Lieutenant-Governor's Speech, distribution	5
Address-in-Reply, first day	5

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

The Legislative Council met at 3.0 p.m.

PROCLAMATION.

The Clerk of Parliaments (Mr. A. R. Grant) read the proclamation summoning the fourth session of the Fifteenth Parliament.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH.

His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor entered the Council Chamber at 3.3 p.m. and, the members of the Legislative Assembly having also attended in the Chamber obediently to summons, His Excellency was pleased to deliver the following Speech:—

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council:—

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly:—

The fourth session of the Fifteenth Parliament of Western Australia has been summoned for the consideration of public business.

The current year marks an event of national importance in British history—the Silver Jubilee of the Accession to the Throne of His Majesty King George the Fifth. This occurrence has been the occasion for general rejoicing and a spontaneous expression of loyalty in various forms throughout the British Empire. In Western Australia the Jubilee celebrations, though modest in nature, have been conducted in a spirit which matches the means and the character of our people, and the State's message of loyalty has been suitably and appreciatively acknowledged by His Majesty. The Silver Jubilee is being more particularly marked in Western Australia by an appeal to the public on behalf of the motherhood and youth of our community, and it is confidently hoped from the public support already accorded that the objective of £50,000, although ambitious, may be achieved.

In October of last year the State was honoured by the visit of a member of the Royal Family, Prince Henry, Duke of Gloucester, who was travelling to Victoria for the purpose of attending the Melbourne Centenary Celebrations. I desire to thank the people of Western Australia for the enthusiastic manner in which their loyalty and affection to the Throne and Person of His Majesty the King were again demonstrated in the very warm welcome extended to his son.

The delegation appointed on behalf of the people of Western Australia under the Secession Act of 1934 has concluded its labours, and its report will be laid upon the

Table of both Houses of Parliament for the information of members.

For the first time in the history of Federation, the Commonwealth Government has held a series of Cabinet meetings in Western Australia. This innovation marks an epoch in Federal relations. The closer understanding created and the goodwill manifested by our people and our guests as a result of this visit encourage the hope that this experiment may develop into an established custom, to the mutual advantage of both Commonwealth and State.

The acceptance by the Honourable Alexander McCallum, in March last, of the position of Chairman of the Commissioners of the Agricultural Bank, necessitated his resignation from the Ministry. The vacancy thus created has been filled by the appointment of the Honourable Frank Joseph Scott Wise, M.L.A., as Minister for Agriculture and the North-West.

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly—

The revenue for the year ended 30th June, 1935, was £9,331,430, and the expenditure £9,498,525, leaving a deficit of £167,095 on the year's transactions. This figure represents a decrease of the deficit of the previous year by £621,817. This striking improvement in the finances of the State is most encouraging, but strict supervision of all expenditure must be continued. The decrease in the price of wool last year and the unfavourable opening of this season will be seriously reflected in our finances, and the greatest care will be required to ensure that the deficit limit of £260,000 fixed by the Loan Council for the current year is not exceeded. In estimating the deficit for the forthcoming year, allowance has been made for the reduction of £98,000 in the special grant by the Commonwealth to the State towards a reduction of the deficit.

Mr. President and Honourable Members of the Legislative Council—

Mr. Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly—

I am glad to be able to note a continued improvement in employment. At the end of June last year there were 11,175 persons either receiving sustenance or Government relief work as against 9,173 for June of this year. The fact that over 2,000 persons have

thus been absorbed in industry in twelve months is a gratifying indication of a trend towards a solution of the present unemployment problem.

As a means to this end, the Government has continued to promote and stimulate the Local Industries Campaign inaugurated through the Economic Council. The figures furnished by the Government Statistician indicate that employment in industrial establishments now closely approaches the figures of 1929. It cannot be too strongly urged that the encouragement of local production and manufacture will go far towards solving unemployment and dispelling distress.

Mining.

Mining continues to prosper, aided by the high price of gold and an influx of additional capital from abroad. Several new companies have been formed for the development of large holdings. Low grade propositions are being profitably worked, and many leases and tailing areas long abandoned have been brought within the sphere of profitable production. Considerable assistance is being given by the State Government through the provision of necessary water supplies in several centres.

In 1934, 13,310 men were employed in the gold mining industry, being an increase of 2,620 over the number employed during the previous year. The gold yield for 1934 exceeded that of 1933 by 14,131 fine ounces. Increased capital for working is constantly being made available, and the activity generally engendered in mining circles throughout the State forms one of the brightest features of our industrial outlook.

The visit of the Minister for Mines to London is resulting in an increasing interest in the State, and the dissemination of a wider knowledge of its resources.

The assistance rendered to prospectors still produces satisfactory results. The Commonwealth Government has been impressed with this success, and has consequently provided sufficient funds to enable a further 1,000 men to be employed in this scheme.

Pastoral.

The total number of sheep in the State at the end of December, 1934, was 11,163,232. The wool produced last year amounted to 88,457,662 lbs., which is a record for the State. Prices, unfortunately, were not very

satisfactory. Lamb production is encouraging. During the year 147,000 lambs were exported to overseas markets, constituting a new record. Satisfactory prices were obtained, and the quality of the lambs generally, particularly the Swandown variety, was extolled by competent critics. From the pronounced improvement in the quality, type, and condition of the majority of the lamb shipments, it is clear that many growers are adopting correct methods of breeding and feeding. It is apparent from the results achieved that Western Australia can produce lambs equal to those of any countries exporting to Great Britain.

Forests.

Improvement in both the local and overseas demand for timber was maintained during the past year, the production showing an increase of 38 per cent. on the previous year's operations. Seven mills which had been closed down owing to trade depression resumed cutting, and there was a considerable increase in the number of men employed in the hewing industry. The State Saw Mills report a substantial increase in business, and prices are slightly better than last year. There is every indication that the sawn timber trade will soon show further improvement.

Recognising the rehabilitation of our cut-over forests as a national undertaking, the Commonwealth Government is subsidising forestry relief works on a £ for £ basis, making a grant of £100,000 for this work during the current year. Approximately 1,100 men are at present employed. Considerable progress is being made, particularly in the regeneration and fire protection of cut-over jarrah forests. Operations are being carried out also in karri and mallet areas, and softwood plantations are being extended at a rate estimated as sufficient to meet our future internal requirements for this class of timber.

Wheat.

The preliminary figures for the 1934 wheat yield are 26,961,090 bushels from 2,763,786 acres, making an average yield of 9.8 bushels per acre as against 11.7 bushels for the previous year.

Early anxiety for the coming season, caused by dry conditions, has been considerably relieved by recent excellent rainfalls.

Fruit.

The fruit crop generally for the 1934-35 season has been good, a record being achieved in both the production and export of apples. It is anticipated that this crop will reach one and a quarter million cases, and to the end of June approximately 850,000 cases had already been shipped.

Favourable comment has been passed upon the quality of the apples and their condition on arrival at the overseas markets. The Western Australian shipments have secured pride of place by winning higher prices than Eastern States shipments sold on the same markets.

Dairying.

Butter production has again reached a record, the figure of approximately 13,267,000 lbs. being an increase of 14 per cent. over the previous year.

For the first time in the State's history butter was stored during the period of abundance for consumption during the summer months. By this means approximately £37,000, representing the loss which would have been sustained by selling butter on the London market, was saved to dairy farmers.

The present season has opened auspiciously throughout dairying districts and another record year is expected.

Potatoes.

The potato industry has made record progress and for the first season in the history of the State no potatoes are required from outside sources. During the past year 3,000 tons of potatoes were exported. It is gratifying to note also that the average yield per acre in this State is far higher than in any other State of the Commonwealth.

Public Works.

The large irrigation works in the Harvey No. 2 and Collie irrigation districts have been completed and everything possible is being done to induce the settlers to develop the land so that the best results may be secured.

A jetty is being built at Onslow, and approaches preparatory to the construction of a jetty are being constructed at Point Sampson. The new jetty at Esperance was opened during the year and masters of vessels loading wheat there have reported

favourably on the accommodation for their vessels and the general safety of the jetty, despite strong winds and heavy seas.

Metropolitan Water Supply.

The consumption of water in the metropolitan area during the past year shows an increase of 9 per cent. over that of the previous year. Of the 4,448 million gallons supplied, 3,042 came from hills sources and the balance from artesian bores. Owing to the larger streamflows and the storage of approximately 90 million gallons in the Canning dam it was not necessary to impose restrictions upon householders.

Satisfactory progress continues in the construction of the Canning dam, which should provide storage up to 500 million gallons by the commencement of the coming summer. Good progress is being made with the service reservoirs at Buckland Hill and Mt. Eliza.

Sewerage and Drainage.

A scheme has been initiated for the sewerage of the metropolitan area embracing Inglewood, Maylands, Victoria Park and South Perth, and providing for the abolition of the filter beds of Burswood Island. Progress has also been made with the Claremont-Cottesloe sewerage system. The main outfalls and treatment works are practically complete and reticulation of houses is now in progress.

The large drainage works at Maylands were advanced a further stage and are being actively proceeded with.

Railways.

A most encouraging improvement is revealed in the returns of the Railway Department for 1934-35. Revenue increased by £393,013 over the previous year and expenditure by £191,896, leaving a net improvement of £201,117.

The Tramways also showed an improvement of £9,000, due to increased revenue and decreased expenditure.

Tenders have been accepted for extensions of the plant at the electricity power house, and an early commencement will be made with the installation.

Lands.

During the year approval was granted for 422 applications for an area of 309,405 acres under conditional purchase alienation, and

for 96 applications for 5,083,006 acres under pastoral lease. Sixty-seven blocks were allotted by the Land Board, and there were 252 new settlers.

Six hundred and four miles of wire netting and 46 tons of barbed and plain wire were supplied to 170 settlers.

The task of marking on the ground portion of the boundary between this State and the Northern Territory has been undertaken, and a survey party is now engaged on the work.

The North-West.

The Gascoyne River Settlement continues to progress, 9,000 cases of bananas being produced last year, an increase of 5,387 cases over the previous year.

After advances had been made to assist pearling this year, a disastrous storm inflicted terrific damage upon the North-West pearling fleet. The Commonwealth and State Governments have co-operated in providing £12,000 to re-establish the industry.

The year's first shipment of chilled beef from the Wyndham Meatworks arrived in London in July. Agents cabled their congratulations, stating that the condition and quality were very good and materially better than last year.

Detailed arrangements are nearing completion for the institution of the "flying doctor" scheme in the North-West.

Aborigines.

The Royal Commissioner appointed to inquire into aboriginal problems has presented his report. It has been decided to establish a leprosarium in the Derby district and a hospital for natives at Wyndham, while a travelling medical officer will be appointed. Other recommendations of the Commissioner are under consideration, and it is hoped to amend the Aborigines Act during the present session of Parliament.

Education.

The extension of services and the growing enrolment of children have necessitated an increased expenditure on education. The Teachers' Training College has been reopened, and a modern building for a new central school for girls is now in course of erection at East Perth at an estimated cost of £70,000.

Legislation.

You will be asked to give consideration to measures dealing with—

- The Electoral Act.
- The Traffic Act.
- Compulsory Third Party Motor Insurance.
- Aborigines.
- Trade Description.
- Rural Aid Fund.
- Industrial Arbitration.
- Health.
- Shops and Factories.
- Financial Emergency legislation.

I now declare this session of Parliament open, and trust that Providence may bless your labours.

BILL—BUNBURY RACECOURSE RAILWAY DISCONTINUANCE.

THE CHIEF SECRETARY (Hon. J. M. Drew—Central) [3.31]: In order to assert and maintain the undoubted rights and privileges of this House to initiate legislation, I move without notice for leave to introduce a Bill entitled "An Act to authorise the discontinuance of the operation of the Bunbury Racecourse Railway and for other purposes relating thereto."

Leave given; Bill introduced, and read a first time.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S SPEECH, DISTRIBUTION.

THE PRESIDENT: I have received from His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor printed copies of the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to Parliament. These will be distributed amongst members.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

First Day.

HON. G. FRASER (West) [3.33]: I move—

That the following address be presented to His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor in reply to the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to us:—"May it please Your Excellency: We, the members of the Legislative Council of the State of Western Australia in Parliament assembled, beg to express our loyalty to our Most Gracious Sovereign, and to thank Your Excellency for the Speech you have been pleased to deliver to Parliament."

I desire to say, Mr. President, how pleased we are to have you back amongst us once again. We are aware of the good work you did in the Old Country and we are very thankful to you for the first-hand report you gave us on your return of the activities of some of the Western Australian ambassadors at present in the Old Country. His Excellency's Speech takes the form we have had before us for many years past. I am very pleased that it is so. I have often regretted that the Speeches of successive Governors in compact form are not issued in book form. I am not quite so optimistic as to say that a lot of people would read them, but I do believe that from an historical point of view such a book, if issued in the schools, would show in simple manner to the children the progress made from year to year in our State. These annual Speeches reveal in plain language the progress or the depression of the various periods dealt with. Whilst the history books of to-day may be all very well in their way, a periodic history on the lines of the Governor's Speech would, I think, impress the children very much more than do the history books with which they are now supplied.

Hon. C. B. Williams: Would that boost the Labour Party.

Hon. G. FRASER: From my experience I should say it would serve to go a long way towards boosting that party. These opening Speeches delivered to Parliament show the improvements made in various sections of industry from year to year, and I know of no more impressive way of putting those results before the children, showing what improvement there has been in, say, the unemployment position, during the previous 12 months, and the improvement in mining, fruit-growing, dairying and various other sections of the State's industries. From such a book as I propose the children could see at a glance what the various industries are worth, and it would give them a very much greater appreciation of the resources and capabilities of the State than perhaps they have to-day. An outstanding subject dealt with in the Speech is that of unemployment. I do not intend to go back over the various years, but since this is the last session of the present Parliament, one might be pardoned for reverting to the beginning of the present Government's term of office. Under that heading alone we must give

credit to the present Administration for the excellent manner in which the question of unemployment has been handled. Until two years ago, something like 15,000 or 16,000 families in the State had to approach the Government for assistance in order that they might even exist. Within the short space of two years, we find an improvement in the position to the extent of nearly 50 per cent. One cannot do other than give credit to those gentlemen who occupy the Treasury bench for the manner in which they have handled the situation. Those of us who live in, and represent industrial centres, appreciate probably more fully than some other members, what has been done in the last two years. We represent what may be termed the poorer sections of the community. I would not again like to have to go through what I and other members representing industrial centres have gone through during the past few years. If such a time came again, members would be prepared to put their shoulders to the wheel, as they have already done, to give the people concerned such assistance as was available for them. But from the point of view of the people themselves, we would not like to go through it again. We know the suffering and hardship they endured. Although to-day we have still a long way to go to get back to what we would like to see, nevertheless we appreciate what the Government have done, and I wish to add my praise to those responsible for the great improvement that has been brought about in the last two years.

Hon. C. B. Williams: Are you satisfied with that?

Hon. G. FRASER: I am far from being satisfied, but I cannot help appreciating what has been done in the last two years?

Hon. C. F. Baxter: Do not you think the Loan Council should be thanked?

Hon. G. FRASER: Yes. I know the hon. member is not too pleased at any reference I may make to this subject, particularly when I compare the present day with two years ago, for, prior to two years ago, he was a member of the Government against which I am making comparisons.

Hon. C. B. Williams: You do not suggest he did not do his best?

Hon. G. FRASER: I know the hon. member, and have great admiration for him. It is not my intention to make any personal references in this matter. I am only sorry,

for his sake, that the team with which he was connected did not come up to the calibre of those who comprise the present Government. As I say, I am not satisfied. I shall not be satisfied until we get a long way further on the track than we have so far gone and until we reach the stage when everyone is in employment who is capable of being employed. Everyone is entitled to the right to live, and should not have to beg of any Government for that right. Until we reach the stage when every employable person is in employment, I shall not be satisfied. I shall at all times be prepared to assist any Government to solve the problem. Another bright feature of the Speech is that which refers to mining. Whilst I am not prepared to give the whole of the credit for the improvement in the industry to the present Administration—

Hon. C. F. Baxter: Why not?

Hon. G. FRASER: I must give them a great deal of credit. No doubt if the hon. member were speaking, he would give all the credit to the Government of which he was a member. I am not so parochial as that. Whilst I desire to give the Government credit for the great assistance they have rendered to the industry, I realise that the price of gold, the rate of exchange, and other factors, must also be taken into consideration.

Hon. C. B. Williams: Not strikes, I hope.

Hon. G. FRASER: I will leave that phase of the question for the hon. member to deal with. Without the assistance of the Government, there is no doubt the gold-mining industry would not be in the flourishing condition in which it is to-day. I have referred to this on previous occasions. Although many goldfields members may not agree with me, I contend that the prospecting scheme has assisted in a great measure to improve the position of the industry. It is remarkable, throughout the history of the State, that when one section of our industrial life is at a low ebb, some other section comes to the fore. In past years, during goldmining booms, the general primary production of the State fell to a low ebb. We find the same thing happening to-day. Some of our primary industries are in such a position that, without assistance, it would be impossible for them to carry on. At this time, the goldmining industry has come to our rescue. Similar circumstances are found right back through the records of

the progress of Western Australia. It is remarkable what progress the mining industry has made in the last two years. During that term, there has been an increase in the gold yield of something like 45,000 ozs. I think the increase last year was about 14,000 ounces over that of the previous year, and it was about 31,000 ounces in the year before ahead of the year before that.

Hon. C. B. Williams: That does not say much for the millions that have been put into the industry.

Hon. G. FRASER: On the basis of the increase of 45,000 ounces, we find that approximately £360,000 more was won from the goldmining industry last year than was won during the year 1932. To this has to be added the increase in value that took place in the year before that. It is a remarkable achievement, and redounds to the credit of all concerned. It must represent a considerable attraction to investors. I should like the Government seriously to consider the necessity for improving the situation with respect to investors. I have never gone in much for mining investments, for I have always been too poor to do so. I have, however taken an active interest in things that have happened in connection with the industry. Company promoters in this State have issued attractive prospectuses to induce people to put their money into particular mining properties. So long as a show is a good one, and the opportunities for a return exist, I do not mind that sort of thing. It is all to the advantage of the State, and is a means of bringing in fresh capital for the development of the industry. We find, however, that many companies, after being established, withhold information as to discoveries that are made and release it only when it suits them to do so.

Hon. C. B. Williams: You do not think they should hold it up?

Hon. G. FRASER: I do not mind how long companies take to release such information, for they are entitled to take their own time in which to do so. It is a difficult subject to touch upon, but I hold that, unless the Government do something to remedy the situation, people will be getting very chary about investing their money in mining propositions. From the financial point of view I am not very much interested in mining, but I have watched various mining propositions and tested out the correctness or otherwise of my opinions concerning

them. I have been able to watch the share market, and report to my friends that within the course of a week or so they would see reports published on certain properties, good or bad, as the case might be.

Hon. C. B. Williams: You had better start as an expert mining engineer.

Hon. G. FRASER: In no instance have I been proved to be incorrect. I have found that shares have depreciated day after day, which showed me that someone had information that a certain report was on its way to publication. In other instances, I have noticed that the value of mining shares has gradually increased. No one can tell me that mining shares will fluctuate in such a manner unless as the result of a report, either good or bad, upon the show itself. The investor in mining shares should have every consideration, so long as everything is going all right. The point I want to make is that someone is receiving information at least a week before it is given to the investing public.

Hon. W. J. Mann: He has the "dinkum oil."

Hon. G. FRASER: Yes.

Hon. J. M. Macfarlane: There is an opportunity for you.

Hon. G. FRASER: Something should be done to assure that mining information is given at the time the discovery is made or at some other stipulated period so that the interests of the public may be safeguarded. If something along those lines is not done, there will be a decline in the activities of the investing public. I consider that would be a tragedy under existing circumstances in Western Australia. His Excellency's Speech contains references to other phases of primary industry and, contrary to the position regarding wheat, those avenues of activity have disclosed excellent progress. The past 12 months have proved a record year for the potato grower, the fruitgrower and the dairyman. That fact must be welcome news to the people, and we must hope that similar satisfactory conditions will continue for a considerable period. The position of the wheat industry presents one of our greatest problems. I do not desire to be a pessimist, but I cannot foresee any great advance for the industry for some time to come. I hope the future will prove that I am wrong in my conclusion and that the industry will recover, for I realise what that would mean to the State. The Governor's Speech indicates that quite a number of Bills will be

submitted for consideration during the forthcoming session. Compared with the particulars afforded in earlier Speeches, that delivered to members by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor this afternoon embodied quite a lot of information about legislation that will be placed before us, much more so than has been our experience in the past. The Speech indicated that about 10 Bills will certainly be submitted for consideration, and no doubt many of them will be keenly debated in both branches of the legislature. Regarding the Bill that will be introduced to amend the Electoral Act, I will not make more than a passing reference to it at this stage and will content myself by intimating that I shall await with keen interest the introduction of that legislation, mainly because of the sweeping changes that have been foreshadowed in the report of the Royal Commission that inquired into the operations of the Act. I presume that the proposals of the Commission have been incorporated in the Bill that will be submitted for consideration. To my mind, one of the most alarming changes proposed is the alteration in the number of Council Provinces from 10 to 15.

Hon. C. B. Williams: If they abolished the Council altogether that would have been far more sensible.

Hon. G. FRASER: I agree with the hon. member.

Member: Mr. Williams could resign!

Hon. G. FRASER: I do not think Mr. Williams would resign because he would prefer the lot to go together. To agree to a change of the description I have indicated, means that instead of having 10 provinces, each electing three representatives, there would be 15 provinces each electing two members to this Chamber. The effect of that would be that one member representing each of the existing provinces would have to fall out.

Hon. C. B. Williams: Let us all fall together.

Hon. G. FRASER: I believe that phase will be keenly debated. If Mr. Williams desires to move along the lines he has suggested, I shall support him heartily.

Hon. C. F. Baxter: Not heartily.

Hon. G. FRASER: Yes.

Hon. C. F. Baxter: I do not agree with you.

Hon. G. FRASER: His Excellency's Speech also makes reference to a matter that I have advocated for many years. For

that reason I have no apologies to offer when I refer to the Bill that is to be introduced to deal with compulsory third party motor insurance. Many years ago this Chamber passed a resolution requesting the Government of the day to give consideration to that important question. Although I do not say that I shall support, in its entirety, the measure that is to be submitted for consideration, I heartily support the principle and, having confidence in the Administration, I feel sure the Bill will be in a form that I can approve. Another pleasing feature regarding the Speech is that it embodies no window dressing. It has been customary for members to look for window dressing during the last session of a Parliament. The present Government have no need to indulge in that practice prior to the next general election. The wise legislation that they have placed on the statute book in recent years will absolve them from any necessity for window dressing.

Hon. C. B. Williams: Did you refer to their administrative record?

Hon. G. FRASER: That stands on an equally high plane with their legislative achievements. I trust that during this session some of the Bills that are mentioned in the Lieut.-Governor's Speech will receive generous consideration at the hands of members of this Chamber and that some of them will be rather more benevolent in their attitude than they have been in the past when dealing with legislation submitted by the present Government. Another Bill that will be eagerly awaited in this Chamber is that which is to be introduced to amend the Industrial Arbitration Act.

Hon. C. B. Williams: That will be very popular here.

Hon. G. FRASER: No doubt it will be popular in this Chamber. I hope on this occasion the Bill will not be slaughtered as it was last session.

Hon. H. Seddon: Then bring the Bill before us at an earlier stage of the session.

Hon. G. FRASER: I assume that the Bill will be framed much the same as that which was before us last session, and I trust it will be the same measure. If that should be so, I hope that the House will arrive at a different decision from that which was reached last year. I notice that measures are to be introduced to deal with the financial emergency legislation. His Excellency's Speech does not indicate the lines upon

which the legislation is to be amended. I had hoped that most of the financial emergency legislation would have been thrown overboard this year. Taking into consideration the various stages by which the Government have granted relief under this heading, it will be agreed that they would not have to go much further if they were to cast aside the rest of it.

Hon. H. S. W. Parker: Except with regard to taxation.

Hon. G. FRASER: I would be glad to see the tax abolished altogether. I hope that the legislation as it affects wages and salaries will be discarded, although I realise that there are one or two measures within the category of the financial emergency legislation that will need to be re-enacted. I hope that the legislative requirements in that respect will be reduced to an absolute minimum, and I will give the Government my assistance in that respect.

Hon. C. B. Williams: What about the 20 per cent.?

Hon. G. FRASER: That is one phase that I would like to see wiped out altogether. As the Government have gone so far already in granting relief they would not require to go much further to abolish the rest of those imposts. I regret that time will not permit me to mention many other matters I would like to deal with. I do not desire to detain members and their friends any longer, so I shall content myself with moving the motion I have already outlined.

HON. A. M. CLYDESDALE (Metropolitan-Suburban) [3.57]: I formally second the motion.

On motion by Hon. C. F. Baxter, debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 3.59 p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 1st August, 1935.

	PAGE
Meeting of the Assembly	9
Summons from the Lieutenant-Governor	9
Swearing in	9
Bill: Forests Act Amendment, 1R.	9
Lieutenant-Governor's Opening Speech	9
Address-in-Reply, first day	10
Adjournment, special	12

MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Legislative Assembly met at 3 p.m., pursuant to proclamation, which was read by the Clerk (Mr. F. G. Steere).

SUMMONS FROM THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR.

The Speaker and members, in response to summons, proceeded to the Legislative Council Chamber and, having heard His Excellency deliver the opening Speech (vide Council report ante), they returned to the Assembly Chamber.

SWEARING-IN.

The Speaker reported the return to writs for the Avon, Gascoyne and South Fremantle district vacancies.

The newly-elected members, Mr. I. G. Boyle (Avon), Hon. F. J. S. Wise (Gascoyne—Ministerial re-election) and Mr. T. Fox (South Fremantle), took and subscribed the oath and signed the roll.

BILL—FORESTS ACT AMENDMENT.

THE PREMIER (Hon. P. Collier—Boulder) [3.35]: In order to assert and maintain the undoubted rights and privileges of this House to initiate legislation, I move, without notice, for leave to introduce a Bill for "An Act to amend Section 41 of the Forests Act, 1918."

Leave given: Bill introduced and read a first time.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH.

MR. SPEAKER: I have to announce that, accompanied by hon. members of this Chamber I attended His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor in the Legislative Council Chamber to hear the Speech which His Excellency was pleased to deliver to both Houses of Parliament. For the sake of greater accuracy, I have caused copies of the Speech to be distributed amongst members of this Chamber.