

at Ottawa will result in some relief being granted to those industries. I submit the motion.

HON. H. V. PIESSE (South-East) [4.6]: I formally second the motion.

On motion by Hon. J. J. Holmes debate adjourned.

House adjourned at 4.6 p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Thursday, 11th August, 1932.

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MEETING OF THE ASSEMBLY.

The Legislative Assembly met at noon, 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 the Commission for the opening of Parliament read, returned to the Assembly Chamber.

SWEARING-IN OF MEMBERS.

The Speaker announced returns to writs for the election of members for the districts of Brown Hill-Ivanhoe, Kanowna and Roebourne, showing that Messrs. F. C. L. Smith, E. Nulsen and J. H. Church respectively had been elected.

The three new members took and subscribed the oath and signed the roll.

MOTIONS (3)—CONDOLENCE.

The late Hon. T. Walker, M.L.A., J. T. Lutey, M.L.A., and F. W. Teesdale, M.L.A.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir James Mitchell—Northam) [12.17]: Since we last sat the Angel of Death has been abroad, and we have lost three of our members—all well-known men. One was Mr. Thomas Walker, who served in this House for many years, part of the time as a Minister of the Crown and for six years as Speaker of this House. We shall long remember Mr. Walker, who was a most capable member. He was a friendly soul, and will be missed by all of us. Mr. Walker had an extremely varied career. He sat in the New South Wales Parliament for three years, and afterwards took up journalism in this State. He was elected for the district of Kanowna in October, 1905, and held the seat until his death. He became Minister for Justice on the formation of the Scaddan Government in 1911, and was called to the Bar a little time afterwards. He was also a member of the University Senate. He played many parts during his life in Western Australia, and urged reform in several directions. He suffered a prolonged illness, and died at the ripe age of 74. In Mr. Lutey we lost a former Chairman of Committees. He was the member for Brown Hill-Ivanhoe, for which district he was returned in 1916. Mr. Lutey possessed a charming personality and endeared himself to everybody. I doubt whether he had an enemy in the world. It would not have been possible for Mr. Lutey to offend anybody so seriously as to cause resentment to be long entertained. During the whole of his service in the House he worked conscientiously and wholeheartedly in the interests of the State. We missed him during the long illness he suffered, and shall continue to miss him. He died at a comparatively early age. We have also lost Mr. F. W. Teesdale, member for Roebourne. He came to this State as a young man, and went to the North-West in the early eighties. His, also, was a varied career. He was elected by the people of Roebourne in 1917 and held the seat until his death. He had many outside interests, but whatever he undertook was done for the advancement of the State and in the interests of the people. He was a most picturesque and most lovable man. Like Mr. Lutey, he had not an enemy in the world. Sometimes he offended people, but to make up a difference with Mr. Tees-

dale was something to remember; he was always so sorry when he had said anything to hurt anybody. It is surely extraordinary that of a House of 50 members, so many should have passed away in so short a space of time. All three were men we could ill spare; they were popular with everyone and full of kindness and goodwill towards all men. Another place, too, has suffered loss through the death of one of its well-known members, Mr. Arthur Lovekin, a representative of the Metropolitan Province. A former member of that House, Mr. J. W. Hickey, also passed away, and Mrs. Cowan, who was the first lady member returned to this House and, I believe, the first lady member elected in Australia, crossed the Great Divide during the recess. It is my duty to move three motions as follows:—

That this House places on record its deep regret at the death of the Hon. Thomas Walker, M.L.A., and tenders its sincerest sympathy to the members of his family in the great loss they have sustained, and desires that the terms of this resolution be communicated to them by Mr. Speaker.

That this House places on record its deep regret at the death of Mr. John Thomas Lutey, M.L.A., and tenders its sincerest sympathy to the members of his family in the great loss they have sustained, and desires that the terms of this resolution be communicated to them by Mr. Speaker.

That this House places on record its deep regret at the death of Mr. Frederick William Teesdale, M.L.A., and tenders its sincerest sympathy to the members of his family in the great loss they have sustained, and desires that the terms of this resolution be communicated to them by Mr. Speaker.

HON. P. COLLIER (Boulder) [12.25]: I join with the Premier in his expressions of regret at the great loss this House has sustained by the death of three of our old and highly respected members. It is perhaps a remarkable thing that during a fairly long experience of this Chamber I have not known many members who enjoyed a greater degree of popularity on both sides of the House than did the three departed members. Mr. Walker had really a public career unique in Australia. As stated by the Premier, for a term of years Mr. Walker held a seat in the New South Wales Parliament, being elected first so far back as 1889, forty-three years ago. He entered this House in 1905, and sat continuously for the electorate of Kanowna. Mr. Walker was a faithful representative of his district and of the State. During the six years that he occupied

the distinguished office of Speaker of the Assembly, he was most courteous and obliging, and carried out the duties with great ability. In the case of Mr. Teesdale, too, I am sure there is a feeling of great regret on the part of all members who were privileged to have his friendship. His original, downright method of speech will be greatly missed in this Chamber. As remarked by the Premier, although Mr. Teesdale may have found occasion to say harsh things in the course of debate, we all knew that no more kindly heart than that possessed by Mr. Teesdale beat in this State. He was a valiant fighter for the North-West in season and out of season: his thoughts were ever with people in that great, remote part of the State, and directed towards doing what he could for them. Further than that, his great interest in this, his adopted State, was manifested on many occasions both here and in the Old Country during some of his visits there. As regards Mr. Lutey, too, I feel a personal loss. He was one of the first men I met on the goldfields thirty years ago. During all the intervening years we were warm personal friends. Mr. Lutey was of a most genial and likeable temperament. He had not a hard thought for any person, but was most kindly disposed towards everybody. I am sure every member will agree that during the six years Mr. Lutey was Chairman of Committees in this Chamber, he discharged the duties of that office with the greatest ability. We all deeply regret the passing of these three old members, whose death is a distinct loss to the House and to the State which they served so well. I second the motion moved by the Premier.

THE MINISTER FOR LANDS (Hon. C. G. Latham) [12.28]: May I be permitted to associate myself with the remarks which have fallen from the Premier and the Leader of the Opposition. I have a vivid recollection of how when I first entered the Chamber Mr. Walker approached me as a friend. At that time I was a complete stranger to almost all the members of this House, and from Mr. Walker I received all possible assistance. On that account, during the twelve years I have sat here I always looked upon the late Mr. Walker as a great personal friend. One remark for which the passing of the three late members calls is that politics was not the most important thing in their lives, that friendship counted far more than politics. That, I feel sure, will be acknowledged by every hon. member

who had the privilege of knowing them. I am sure, also, that their memory will be held in the utmost esteem and affection.

MR. SPEAKER [12.29]: May I add a few words as a tribute to the memory of the three distinguished men who have been called to a higher sphere than that appointed for mortal man in this world. I am sure that their memory will remain green in the hearts of all those who had the privilege of knowing them. I now submit the motions, and ask hon. members to be good enough to stand.

Question passed: members standing.

Sitting suspended from 12.32 to 3 p.m.

SUMMONS FROM THE LIEUT.-GOVERNOR.

Mr. Speaker and hon. members, in response to summons, proceeded to the Legislative Council and, having heard His Excellency deliver the opening Speech (*vide* Council Report *ante*), returned to the Legislative Assembly Chamber. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair.

LIEUT.-GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH.

Mr. SPEAKER: In company with hon. members of this Chamber, I attended upon His Excellency, the Lieut.-Governor and Administrator, in the Council Chamber to hear the Speech His Excellency was pleased to deliver to members of both Houses of Parliament. For greater accuracy I have caused copies of the Speech to be distributed amongst members of this Chamber.

QUESTION—MINERS' PHTHISIS ACT.

Mr. MARSHALL (without notice) asked the Minister for Mines: Is it the intention of the Government this session to introduce a Bill to amend the Miners' Phthisis Act, and if so, whether at an early date?

The MINISTER FOR MINES replied: It is the intention of the Government to introduce such a Bill this session as early as practicable.

BILL—INDUSTRIES ASSISTANCE ACT CONTINUANCE.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir James Mitchell—Northam) [3.37]: 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 Continue the Operations of the Industries Assistance Act, 1915.

Leave given: Bill introduced and read a first time.

ADDRESS-IN-REPLY.

First Day.

MR. CHURCH (Roebourne) [3.40]: I move—

That the following address be presented to His Excellency in reply to the Speech he has been pleased to deliver to Parliament:—"May it please Your Excellency: We, the members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament 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."

The Premier and other Ministers during the past few days have expressed the opinion that Western Australia is about to embark on a series of good years, or at all events, they hope so. We should all like to concur in that hope. At the same time, these expressions of opinion as to coming prosperity do not always materialise. Still, there is one point on which we can congratulate Western Australia, namely, that she has succeeded in producing greater wealth per head of population in comparison with the other States, probably twice as much as any of the other States has done. We have that estimate from the Premier, and no doubt his word is right. Unfortunately, there is not so cheerful a note being sounded in the pastoral industry, in which I am particularly interested. In that industry we are not so confident of our position as the Premier seems to be about the position of Western Australia as a whole. I only hope that industry will come to be as successful as the Premier hopes Western Australia will be. Still, I have no fault to find with the Premier yet. The pastoral industry is undoubtedly in a bad state, how bad I really cannot say. How we are going to overcome the present

situation I do not know. We are getting such a low price for our wool that it does not pay to grow it. And we cannot sell our stock! It is difficult to see how these disabilities can be overcome, as things are just now. I have one or two suggestions to offer to the Government, who are the people to get at in a matter of this kind.

The Minister for Lands: Everyone is trying to do that.

Mr. CHURCH: I do not say they are responsible for the low price of wool, or for the fact that our stock is unsaleable.

Mr. H. W. Mann: Or for the season.

Mr. CHURCH: No.

Hon. A. McCallum: We contend that they are.

Mr. CHURCH: I suggest to the Government that they should give more consideration to the question of transport as well as the charges at their ports.

Mr. Sleeman: I thought you were going to say, more consideration to the unemployed.

Mr. CHURCH: Owing to the low price of wool, and the difficulty of selling our stock it is not easy to meet our commitments to the people to whom we owe money. The only way in which the Government can assist us in that direction is to give us better and cheaper facilities for the transport of our stock, and the handling of such stock at the ports. In the North-West the handling charges are very high. Several Ministers have lately been up there and have made a study of these questions. I am sure the knowledge they have gained will enable them more readily to bring their abilities to bear upon these things, and thus help the pastoralists to solve their difficulties. To send a bale of wool from the North to the City costs 4s. by the time it has been passed through the port and all the Government charges have been met, and to ship it down costs another 12s. 6d. This is only one of the many instances I could quote of the extent to which charges have to be met by residents of the North. When it comes to a question of sending our stock to the metropolitan area for sale, we find that there are many ports which do not possess the necessary facilities for handling it. If we want to send the stock overland we must have facilities to enable us to water it en route. I think the Government have done as much as they can in the circumstances, but I

should be glad if they could do a little more. When a train leaves Meekatharra for Perth the railway officials have to see to it that sufficient water is provided for the engine to enable it to complete the journey, otherwise it will not get to its destination. Why, then, should we not be given better facilities for the watering of our stock on the way to Perth? It is impossible to carry sheep such a long distance without giving them water. There is another matter I would refer to. This no doubt affects the policy of the Government, and perhaps it is not for me to suggest what policy should be adopted. I do think, however, the Government should give some consideration to the question of extensions of land tenure. I know they are thinking about it, but I should like them to think a little more. The Government, as well as the previous Government, have shown they are sympathetic towards the pastoral industry. As a member of this House who is closely connected with that industry I have felt it my duty to emphasise some of the disabilities under which we are suffering. I trust that the Government will do all they can to render assistance along the lines I have indicated. I submit the motion.

MR. THORN (Toodyay) [3.55]: I formally second the motion.

On motion by Hon. P. Collier, debate adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT—SPECIAL.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir James Mitchell—Northam) [3.56]: I move—

That the House at its rising adjourn until Tuesday next at 4.30 p.m.

Question put and passed.

House adjourned at 3.57 p.m.