

all our actions we have recognised that we are but the trustees for those who will come after us; and have been determined to leave behind us an untarnished record, and also an example that may be surely followed. (General applause.) I beg to move the first item in the Estimates.

MR. ILLINGWORTH: I move that the debate be adjourned until the next Tuesday.

MR. LEAKE: May I ask when the right hon. gentleman is going to make his financial statement?

Motion put and passed, and the debate adjourned.

#### ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 9-39 p.m. until the next day.

## Legislative Council,

Wednesday, 27th September, 1899.

Papers presented—Question: Gold Exported, not Minted—Return: Free Passes on Railways—Return: Expenditure on Eastern goldfields—Bank Note Protection Bill, first reading—Companies Duty Bill, in Committee, Clause 25 to end; reported—Permanent Reserves Bill, Re-committal; reported—Municipal Loans Validation Bill, third reading—Executors' Commission Bill, in Committee; reported—Roads and Streets Closure Bill, in Committee; reported—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT took the Chair at 4-30 o'clock, p.m.

PRAYERS.

#### PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the COLONIAL SECRETARY: 1, Annual Estimates of revenue and expenditure, Consolidated Revenue Fund, financial year ending 30th June, 1900. 2, Report of Commissioner of Police, 1898-9.

Ordered to lie on the table.

#### QUESTION: GOLD EXPORTED, NOT MINTED.

HON. J. RICHARDSON asked the Colonial Secretary: If the attention of the Government has been drawn to the great quantity of gold shipped by the banks out of the colony; and whether, in view of there being a branch of the Royal Mint in Perth, they intend to take any steps to prevent the export of so much gold.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY replied: The Perth Mint is turning out 40,000 sovereigns per week, and until the staff is more experienced in the work, the turn-out cannot be greatly increased. The Government intend to do all in their power to ensure that all the gold produced in the colony shall pass through the Perth Mint.

#### RETURN—FREE PASSES ON RAILWAYS.

HON. C. E. DEMPSTER moved:

That a return be laid upon the table of the House, showing: 1, The number of free passes granted by the Railway Department to other than members and officers of Parliament; 2, The names of those to whom such privileges have been granted; 3, The loss to the department by granting such free passes.

He had often heard the subject alluded to, and would like to solve the question by having the number of free passes brought before the House, to show what the real expenditure was in this direction, and to whom passes might reasonably be expected to be granted. Many strangers coming to this colony represented themselves to be visitors of importance, and obtained free passes; and he would like to have the names of those persons who had been so favoured.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Randell): Having already spoken to the mover on the subject, he had not the slightest objection to the return being furnished; but it was desirable that the motion should be more definite. If the hon. member wished to have a return of

all the passes that had been given, it would involve considerable labour; but if he only wished to have a return showing the free passes given to persons more or less celebrated who came into the colony, it would not take long, as those persons were few. If, however, the mover desired to include members of municipal councils, agricultural conferences, and so on, such a return would involve considerable labour. Would the hon. member in some way indicate what return he really wished furnished?

HON. C. E. DEMPSTER: It was not his intention to obtain the names of those who had a right to this privilege, such as members of conferences, municipal councils, and so forth, but simply the names of those who might be considered distinguished visitors, to whom free passes were given.

THE PRESIDENT: No date was given in the motion. Did the hon. member wish the return to show free passes given from the time the railways were opened?

HON. C. E. DEMPSTER: For the last 12 months.

HON. H. BRIGGS: Six months would catch a lot.

THE PRESIDENT: The mover could not amend his own motion.

HON. A. P. MATHESON moved, as an amendment, that there be inserted "from July 1st, 1898, to June 30th, 1899."

Amendment put and passed.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY: If the mover would also get someone to move that the words "exclusive of members of municipal councils and other kindred bodies" be added, it would meet the case.

HON. S. J. HAYNES moved, as a further amendment, that after "Parliament," the words, "members of municipal councils, producers' conference, and other kindred bodies" be added, as persons excepted from the motion.

Amendment put and passed.

Motion as amended agreed to.

#### RETURN—EXPENDITURE ON EASTERN GOLDFIELDS.

HON. C. E. DEMPSTER (East) moved:

That a return be laid upon the table of the House showing: 1, The expenditure on the Eastern Goldfields during the last four years;

2, Cost of railways from Northam to Menzies; 3, Cost of water conservation, tanks and experimental bores, condensers, and all public buildings; 4, The amount granted to the Coolgardie Exhibition; 5, Cost of all surveys and roads; 6, Cost of police and magisterial protection and jurisdiction; 7, The estimated cost of water used by the Railway Department between Northam and Menzies.

The reason for the motion was that he considered it desirable to ascertain the amount of public money expended for the benefit of the goldfields only. It was the duty of hon. members to lay the facts in connection with this expenditure forcibly before the people of the Eastern goldfields, in order to show that other districts of the colony had a certain right to consideration from the people on whose behalf the money had been expended. The agricultural and pastoral interests, and in fact the whole of what might be termed the coastal portions of the colony, had cheerfully consented to bear additional taxation for the benefit of the goldfields; and the carrying of a motion of this kind might have a desirable effect. The people of the goldfields, as a rule, were not sufficiently willing to admit they were under any obligation to the Government for the great benefits they had received, or to admit that the large expenditure to which the motion referred had been made for their benefit.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. G. Randell) said he had already privately informed the mover that a return of this description was so comprehensive that it would have to be made up in more than one department, and it would involve such a considerable amount of labour and cost, that it was estimated a month was the earliest time in which it could be available for hon. members. He took it that the object of Mr. Dempster was to show the large expenditure incurred on the goldfields in various directions, and also to make use of these figures in the debate which would probably shortly take place in the Council on resolutions in connection with the Commonwealth Bill. Under the circumstances, however, the return could scarcely be of any advantage to the hon. member for that purpose.

HON. F. T. CROWDER: The return could be prepared in a fortnight.

HON. F. WHITCOMBE: The return ought certainly to be ready in time to be made use of in the debate referred to.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY:** The Minister of the department in which the return would have to be made up, had assured him that the earliest time in which it could be got ready was a month.

**HON. F. T. WHITCOMBE:** They would not work. If the House gave the order, we ought to have the return in a week.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY** said he was informing the House what he had been told, and hon. members could accept the statement for what it was worth. He only wanted to point out that a rule adopted in both Houses was that unless a return moved for was intended to be used by hon. members, and when the return involved considerable cost, the question was generally put to the House as to whether or not the return should be prepared. There was no objection whatever to the return being made, and it would be available as soon as possible, if the House so ordered. He did not oppose the motion, but only pointed out that it would involve expense, and a considerable time must elapse before the return could be laid on the table. He left the matter to hon. members.

**HON. F. WHITCOMBE (Central):** In view of the statement of the Colonial Secretary, it might be desirable to amend the motion, to have the return made within seven days. The return appeared to be necessary, and would be of great assistance in the debate which was expected to come on within 14 days, it being desirable that the debate should proceed with a knowledge of the facts and figures hon. members were entitled to have. The Government service should lend itself, or should be directed by those in charge, to put aside everything else and give returns asked for, so as to enable important matters to be discussed with all the information in the possession of the Government. There was no question of whether the making of the return would take a month. The Colonial Secretary admitted the information was likely to be useful, but said it could not be laid on the table until the debate referred to was all over. Was it for public servants to tell Ministers that a return could not be ready within the time ordered by the Council? But if no amendment were made to the effect

he had intimated, and if the opinion he had expressed was indorsed by hon. members, there should be a direction to the departments to bring forward the return within seven days, though other less important business had to be put aside. The orders of the Council should stand paramount, and the return, if wanted, should be available in time for the debate on the Commonwealth Bill.

Question put and passed.

#### BANK NOTE PROTECTION BILL.

Received from the Legislative Assembly, and, on motion by the **COLONIAL SECRETARY** (for the Hon. F. M. Stone), read a first time.

#### COMPANIES DUTY BILL.

The Legislative Assembly having returned the Bill and concurred in adding the new clause suggested by the Council, the Bill was further considered.

#### IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 25—agreed to.

Preamble and title—agreed to.

Bill reported, as amended by concurrence, and the report adopted.

#### PERMANENT RESERVES BILL.

On motion by the **COLONIAL SECRETARY**, Bill recommitted for amendments.

#### IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 2—Classification of certain reserves:

**HON. J. W. HACKETT** moved that all words after "purpose," in line 6 of Sub-clause 1, down to "classified" in line 1 of page 2, be struck out, and the following inserted in lieu thereof: "The Governor may, by the notice of reservation published in the *Government Gazette*, or by any subsequent notice so published, and subject to such conditions as may be expressed therein, classify such lands"; also that after the words "if so classified," line 2 of page 2, "such lands" be inserted; also that between "may" and "classify," line 3 of Sub-clause 2, the words "at any time he may think fit" be inserted.

Amendments put and passed.

Bill reported with further amendments, and the report adopted.

## MUNICIPAL LOANS VALIDATION BILL.

## THIRD READING.

Read a third time, on motion by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, and *passed*.

## EXECUTORS' COMMISSION BILL.

The House resolved into Committee to consider the Bill.

## IN COMMITTEE.

Bill passed through Committee without debate, reported without amendment, and report adopted.

## ROADS AND STREETS CLOSURE BILL.

## IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 1—agreed to.

Schedule:

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the following be added after "North Fremantle":

In Gingin.—All that portion, a public street one chain wide, situate South of Robinson Street, and being bounded on the West by Gingin Suburban Lot 14, and on the East by Suburban Lots 12 and 13.

Amendment put and passed, and the schedule as amended agreed to.

Bill reported with amendment, and report adopted.

## ADJOURNMENT.

On motion by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the House adjourned at 5.25 p.m. until the next Tuesday.

## Legislative Assembly,

Wednesday, 27th September, 1899.

Resignation: North Murchison—Question: North Murchison Election, Deposit—Motion: Reports of all Speeches, Verbatim—Motion: Robbery from General Post Office (withdrawn)—Municipal Institutions Bill, in Committee, Clauses 335 to 344, progress: Divisions—Petition on Draft Commonwealth Bill, Motion to Approve (adjourned)—Mines Regulation Amendment Bill, in Committee, Clauses 1 to 24, progress—Pharmacy and Poisons Act Amendment Bill, in Committee, Clauses 1 to 3, progress—Agricultural Bank Act Amendment Bill, second reading (adjourned)—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at 4.30 o'clock, p.m.

## PRAYERS.

## RESIGNATION—NORTH MURCHISON.

THE SPEAKER reported that he had received from Mr. F. W. Moorhead (elected, but not sworn) his written resignation as member for the North Murchison electoral district.

THE PREMIER gave notice that at the next sitting he would move that the seat for North Murchison be declared vacant.

## QUESTION—NORTH MURCHISON ELECTION, DEPOSIT.

MR. LEAKE asked the Premier, whether the £25 deposited with the returning officer for the North Murchison electorate by Mr. T. G. Molloy, on his nomination as a candidate at the recent election, had been returned to Mr. Molloy; and, if not, whether it was proposed to return the deposit.

THE PREMIER replied: 1. It has not been returned. 2. The question has been referred to the Law Department.

## MOTION—REPORTS OF ALL SPEECHES, VERBATIM.

MR. GEORGE (Murray) moved:

That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that henceforth a verbatim report be made by *Hansard* of all speeches delivered in this House, whether the House be in Committee or in the ordinary course of business.

He said: In asking hon. members to consider this question, I wish it to be distinctly understood that I cast no reflection whatever on the *Hansard* reporting staff of this House. Indeed, I think