

PERTH RAILWAY CROSSING IMPROVEMENT BILL.

Read a third time, and transmitted to the Legislative Council.

WEST AUSTRALIAN TRUSTEE, EXECUTOR, AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED (PRIVATE) BILL.

MR. LOTON: In rising to move the second reading of this Bill, I desire to call the attention of this House to a few of the main principles of the Bill. In the first place, the object of the Bill is clearly set forth in the preamble. It confers certain powers upon an incorporated company, which powers are clearly defined in the various clauses of the Bill. The powers proposed to be given to the Company are not intended in any way to interfere with or to usurp the powers that already exist in private individuals, to act as trustees or executors. The difference is this: in the case of private individuals who are appointed to act in those capacities, it must necessarily happen that upon the death of the individual fresh powers must be conferred on someone else, and application has to be made to the Court for that purpose, whereas, in the case of an incorporated company, the company will always be in a position to act, and to transact business of that kind. It is not intended to confer upon this particular Company any exclusive powers which any other company of the same kind may desire to obtain. The Bill, being a private Bill, has been referred to a select committee, and the report of that committee is in the hands of members. It will be noticed that this corporation has to subscribe a certain amount of capital, and, as a guarantee, it has to invest a certain portion of its capital in the colony, under the control of the Government. When private persons are appointed to administer estates or to execute important trusts it is usual to require them to provide some security for the due administration of the estate; but, in this instance, such a course is done away with, inasmuch as the principal portion of the paid-up capital of the Company having been invested, as I have stated, is always liable in case of any default; and, in addition to that, the balance of the uncalled capital would also be liable in the same way, so that there is every security provided for the due

administration of estates by this Company. At present it is proposed to invest £5,000 of the subscribed capital, which the select committee considered will be sufficient for the present, as the business of the Company for the first few years is not likely to be very large. At the same time the select committee thought it desirable that provision should be made in the Act whereby Parliament at any future time may require the Company, or any other similar company, to increase its capital and the amount of its deposit. That is really the only material amendment which the select committee have recommended. There are some other amendments, which, when the Bill is in committee, I shall be happy to explain. With these few words, I beg to move the second reading of the Bill.

Motion—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at ten minutes to 3 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Council,

Monday, 19th December, 1892.

Industrial and Reformatory Schools Bill: third reading—Public Health Act, 1886, Further Amendment Bill: committee—Police Act, 1892, Amendment Bill: committee—Perth Protestant Orphanage Lands Sale Bill: second reading; committee—Perth Railway Crossing Improvement Bill: second reading committee—Jury Exemption Bill: first reading—Transfer of Land Bill: first reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. G. Shenton) took the chair at 8 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

INDUSTRIAL AND REFORMATORY SCHOOLS BILL.

This Bill was read a third time, and passed.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1886, AMENDMENT BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 2.—Construction of terms :

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said he felt himself in a difficulty with regard to this Bill, because, although he desired to give effect to as much of it as possible, he could not get over the *pons asinorum*, which was the second clause. He believed the Government repudiated all responsibility for the Bill; and he would ask whether this measure, which imposed a number of provisions unheard of before, had been submitted to the Boards of Health, in order that their opinions might be obtained upon it. If not, he would make the suggestion that the Bill be cut down to the preamble.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: And that is wrong.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said that the object of the Bill, as he understood it, was originally to provide for the removal of nightsoil by means of enclosed pans instead of open pans, but all sorts of other provisions had been put into it. The Local Boards had not been consulted as to them, the Government had declined to take any responsibility in connection with them, and even the Central Board had not seen a copy of the Bill. Under such circumstances it was for the House to consider how far they would allow the Bill to become law. He moved to strike out sub-section (b.) of clause 2. This sub-section read: "The 'Local Board's district' shall, for the purposes of this Act, be construed to include the catchment basins of municipal water supply areas." Sub-section (d.) defined the catchment basin to be the whole area whose surface waters flowed into the reservoirs of a municipal water supply. The Hon. Mr. Bush's station was far up on the Gascoyne, and under this Bill he would not be able to remove nightsoil from any closet, unless he had first obtained a license from the Local Board of Health, because their catchment basin would include the whole of the Gascoyne. In the same way other large districts would be brought under the jurisdiction of local boards. The Albany Local Board district would include goodness knew what, and at Bunbury all the country along the Preston and Collie Rivers would be included. Perhaps these were small mat-

ters, but he would like to have explained what a Local Board's district was. They had Local Boards at Perth, Fremantle, Guildford, Beverley, York, and Newcastle, each of which could claim the right to make by-laws for these catchment areas. The draftsman of the Bill was a gentleman who had done good service in the cause of public health, but he had, in this measure, simply thought of the Canning water supply. He moved to strike out sub-section (b.) Subsequently he would move to strike out sub-section (d.) also, and for the reason that they could not be carried out.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said he was sorry to say that the hon. gentleman did not understand the Bill, nor could he understand the meaning of words after the construction he had placed on those he had referred to. Sub-section (d.) said that a catchment basin should mean the area whose surface waters flowed into the reservoirs of a municipal water supply. Now, where was there a reservoir except that at the Canning, and which supplied Perth? At Bunbury—a place to which the hon. member had alluded—the waters flowed into the sea, and did not therefore flow into any reservoir of a municipal water supply. As far as he knew there was only one reservoir, although, perhaps, there might be one also at Carnarvon.

THE HON. E. T. HOOLEY: It is a large well.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): As far as Albany was concerned there was no reservoir of a municipal water supply, and he believed the only reservoir that was there was leased by the Government to the Company which the Hon. Mr. Wright represented. Clearly then this Bill only applied to the reservoir which supplied Perth, and it was necessary to give the Local Board jurisdiction over the catchment basin.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: Then why is it not so stated?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): In what way?

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: Instead of making it a general Act, why not limit it to Perth?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Perhaps the hon. gentleman was not aware that when the provisions

of a Bill were confined to a certain place that Bill became a private Bill, and could not be passed without certain notices were given and certain expenses incurred. It was thought necessary to deal with this matter promptly, and hence, in order to allow the Bill to pass, it was drawn so as to have a general application. Hon. members must see that it was perfectly useless to try to keep Perth in a sanitary condition if the water supply was to be polluted, and to prevent that it was necessary that the area from which such waters were collected should be kept clean. The area from which these waters were collected had already been declared a water area, but unfortunately it was subject to a lease to a Timber Company for 42 years and which could not be set aside. They all knew that in consequence of the insanitary condition of the premises at these timber mills typhoid raged there for a considerable period, and it was from this area that the water the people of Perth drank was collected, and which was polluted by the excreta from typhoid patients. It might be said that the Timber Company should be got rid of. The Board of Health did try this, but the Company only asked the small sum of £50,000 to move their machinery. Under these circumstances it was not too much to ask that the same sanitary conditions should apply to this timber mill as prevailed in Perth. If, therefore, the interpretation put upon "catchment basin" were struck out, it seemed to him that they might as well dispose of the whole Bill. It was all very well for hon. gentlemen to ridicule the Bill, but it was a very important one, having, as it had, the object of promoting the sanitary condition of the inhabitants of Perth.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: Then let the Government take the matter up.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said he presumed the Government had been so busy with other matters that they had been unable to deal with it. He had only joined the Government three weeks before the session began, and he, therefore, had not had time to deal with it. Besides, because a private member drew a Bill, which was a fairly good one, it was no reason why hon. members should throw it out. Was there any objection to the Bill?

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: Yes.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said it seemed to him that the catchment basin should be under the control of the city, otherwise they might have an epidemic which might carry off half of the inhabitants. He hoped hon. members would not strike out the subsection.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT said that the Colonial Secretary had proved what the Hon. Mr. Hackett had wanted, namely, that this Bill had been brought in solely in the interests of the Local Board of Health of Perth; but it went further, and bound any other town, *volens volens*, which might require a water supply. If the town of Albany desired to obtain a water supply it might, under this Bill, exercise control over 500 or 600 square miles of country, and not only this, but under clause 4 the Board could exercise its authority outside its own district. According to the present Health Act the Central Board was given some voice in these matters, but if this Bill were passed they would be altogether ignored. It seemed to him that the Central Board was the proper authority to have brought this matter forward and not the Local Board.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said he did not desire to say anything disrespectful of the Central Board, but during the time he was Mayor of Perth, and by virtue of his office, Chairman of the Local Board of Health, he must say he had never heard of the Central Board. If the Local Board wanted anything they went straight to the Government, and from what he knew of the Central Board, if hon. members were going to stand by until that body chose to take some action, the sanitary condition of Perth and other towns would be in a very bad state indeed.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: Then, on the same principle, Local Boards of Education should be allowed to take action without conference with the Central Board.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The Central Board of Education is a very active body. I am its chairman.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said he agreed that it was necessary to take steps to secure the purity of the water supply

of Perth, but at the same time it was not necessary to give more powers than were required. Let the Bill apply to Perth alone. He was perfectly willing to let the sub-section stand if the word "Perth" were inserted before the words "Local Board's district."

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said there were two colonies which had Municipal water supplies—South Australia and Victoria—both of which had Acts which would be good examples to us.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: That is what we want.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE: If a person were found polluting springs or fouling rivers, he could be dealt with by injunction, and proceedings before a magistrate were not necessary. Many years ago a large quantity of sawdust was allowed to flow into the Serpentine River, and that was stopped by injunction. He would be glad to see this Bill referred to a select committee, and, if in order, he would move to that effect.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: Shall I be in order in moving that it be referred to a select committee?

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton): You cannot move that now. You can move to report progress, and then at the next meeting, before I leave the chair, you can move to refer the Bill to a select committee.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT: Then I move that you do report progress.

Question—That progress be reported—put and passed.

POLICE ACT, 1892, AMENDMENT BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 2.—"Amendment of sub-section 6 of section 66 of Principal Act."

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said he would be glad to see this clause done away with altogether, for these gambling clauses were far too stringent. Clauses of this kind were thrown in as a sort of sop to extravagantly good people. This clause said that nothing in the sub-section should apply to any person playing or betting with a wheel totalisator. This was the first time he had ever heard of such a thing, and if they were going to give any effect to it they must define the instrument.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 3.—"Repeal of section 93 of principal Act."

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said he was prepared to move an amendment to this clause, but hardly knew how to do it. He wished to re-introduce part of section 93 of the principal Act.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton) suggested that the clause be postponed.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT moved to postpone the consideration of the clause.

Question—That the clause be postponed—put and passed.

Clause 4.—"Chinese game of fan-tan declared to be illegal."

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST said he did not see why the Chinese should be prohibited from playing fan-tan, when others could play their whist or baccarat. He had played fan-tan, and could tell hon. members that it was conducted on the strictest principles of gambling. He moved to strike out the clause.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said he would support the amendment. It was not gambling that was so reprehensible; but it was the cheating which should be legislated against. If they wanted to make fan-tan illegal they must define it, otherwise they could not punish a person for playing it.

Question—That the clause be struck out—put and passed.

Clause struck out.

Clauses 5 to 9 passed.

Clause 10.—"Act not to extend to stakes due to owner of horse winning a race."

THE HON. J. MORRISON said it seemed to him to be highly inconsistent to allow horse-racing for money, and at the same time stop people from paying over stakes in other cases.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said that all the previous clauses purported to legislate against betting-houses being kept open. There was a difference between the case of a few persons playing a quiet game of cards for money among themselves, and gaming-houses being publicly kept open. With regard to this particular clause, it was necessary to make the exception in the case of horse-racing, because it would hardly have been consistent for Parliament to vote £200 a year to the encouragement

of horse-racing and then make the paying over of the stakes unlawful.

Clause agreed to.

Clause 11.—“Penalty on persons exhibiting placards or advertising betting houses:”

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT said that this clause directly struck at advertising of all kinds, and he must say he was in favor of it as it stood. He was one of those who had believed for many years that advertising betting and gambling notices in the public Press was extremely undesirable, and he would give his support to the Colonial Secretary in bringing in the clause. At the same time he thought it was likely to work a very great injustice and hardship upon the country. Of course advertising in the newspapers meant money to the proprietors. Therefore newspaper proprietors were prepared to sacrifice part of their income solely in the interest of public morality. He might point out, however, that while the Government were prohibiting newspapers, for every pound now made by them in advertisements the Government made £20, which went into the public coffers. They permitted the Post Office to carry from other colonies publications in reference to sweeps, bogus or otherwise, and to carry them all over the country, and it certainly was a one-sided kind of affair that the newspapers should be prohibited from getting a few pounds while a public department raked in its hundreds of pounds.

THE HON. J. MORRISON moved, as an amendment, that the clause should be struck out. This was a case of interfering with the liberties of the public, and certainly with public enterprise. It would be much better to have sweeps advertised and promoted in the colony than to have the money sent out to bogus and other sweeps elsewhere. He preferred to see the advertisements in the newspapers, so that the public could ask the newspaper editor if they were genuine or not. If the newspapers were allowed to publish these advertisements, probably with the good care that the Press took of the morals of West Australians, they would not allow advertisements to go into their papers unless they could guarantee that the advertiser was a suitable person to receive money.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said he was sorry the hon. gentleman wished to strike out the clause, because it was one of the best in the Bill. It was perfectly useless for them to legislate against betting and gambling, and then to allow sweeps and lotteries to be advertised in the colony. There was no guarantee that the newspapers only published advertisements of good honest sweeps. He had known of newspapers publishing advertisements of bogus sweeps at double prices.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I don't believe that.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I have heard of it.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: Then it is not true.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I must ask that the hon. gentleman withdraw that statement.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I am not going to withdraw anything. It is untrue what you have heard.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I desire you, sir, to inform the hon. member that he must withdraw that expression.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton): I think the hon. member—

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: What I said was that what he heard was untrue, and I will not withdraw it.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Apparently the hon. gentleman has neither Parliamentary manners nor the manners of a gentleman.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I shall ask that these words be at once withdrawn or taken down.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I say that he has neither Parliamentary manners nor the manners of a gentleman, or he would not have repeated these words.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I ask that these words be withdrawn or taken down.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton): I think I must ask the Colonial Secretary to withdraw.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The hon. gentleman said that what I said was untrue.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton): I do not think he said that what you said was untrue, but that what you had heard was untrue.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): If he withdraws, I am perfectly willing to withdraw what I said.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I did not use the words he says I did. I said what he had heard was untrue.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton): I do not think the hon. member accused the Colonial Secretary of saying what was untrue.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: Does the hon. gentleman withdraw what he said?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): What I said was that I understood the practice was to publish good sweep advertisements at fair prices and bogus sweeps at double prices. I know of a gentleman who approached a certain newspaper in Perth and was informed that he would have to pay double rates because it was a bogus sweep.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: Was it the *West Australian*?

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): It was.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: Now I can say, sir, that it is absolutely untrue.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): I am perfectly prepared to accept it that the double price part of it is not true, but not that the bogus sweep was not advertised.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: That may be.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said that the papers were run on commercial lines. They advertised what was paid for, and no more reliance could be placed on the advertisements in the newspapers than on the circulars which came through the Post Office or placards. But while it was difficult to deal with placards coming through the post, it was very easy to prevent the publication of these sweeps in the public newspapers. The newspaper advertisements did the most harm, because when circulars were sent they could only reach those whom the promoters knew the addresses of, but the newspapers appealed to a ten times larger class, and hence did ten times the injury. If possible they should also prevent the circulation of placards through the post. He believed there was legislation in the other colonies on this subject, but somehow or other

there was great difficulty in carrying it out, judging from the results.

Question—That the clause be struck out—put and negatived.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST moved that the words “being an editor, proprietor, or printer of a newspaper” be inserted between the words “person” and “exhibiting,” in the first line.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said that this amendment would limit the clause to editors and proprietors of newspapers, whereas as it stood it applied to every person.

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST said he would, by leave, withdraw the amendment.

Amendment, by leave, withdrawn, and the clause passed as printed.

Clause 12.—Penalty as to persons advertising as to betting or lotteries.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said he would be glad to see sub-section (c.) of this clause struck out. To make it an offence for one person to invite another to bet was going too far. He moved to strike out the sub-section.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said that the whole clause was taken from the Victorian Act, and it was intended to prevent persons sending round circulars inviting people to subscribe to sweeps, &c. The Act would be incomplete without this clause.

Question—That sub-clause (c.) be struck out—put.

The committee divided.

Ayes	4
Noes	9

Majority against 5

AYES.
The Hon. D. K. Congdon
The Hon. E. T. Hooley
The Hon. J. Morrison
The Hon. G. W. Leake
(Teller).

NOES.
The Hon. J. G. H. Amherst
The Hon. T. Burges
The Hon. R. E. Bush
The Hon. G. Glyde
The Hon. M. Grant
The Hon. J. W. Hackett
The Hon. R. W. Hardey
The Hon. J. A. Wright
The Hon. S. H. Parker
(Teller).

Question—That the clause stand part of the Bill—put and passed.

[When the question—That the sub-clause be struck out, was put, the Chairman declared that the Noes had it. The Hon. D. K. Congdon thereupon called for a division, but when the tellers were appointed the hon. gentleman took his seat with the Noes.]

THE HON. R. E. BUSH, addressing the Chair, said: On a point of order, sir, I wish to call your attention to the fact that the Hon. Mr. Congdon called for this division, and is now voting with the Noes.

THE HON. D. K. CONGDON: I admit I called for the division, but I did so under the impression that you had declared in favor of the Ayes. I wish to vote with the Noes.

THE CHAIRMAN (Hon. G. Shenton): The hon. member must cross the floor and vote with the Ayes. The Standing Rule on the subject is perfectly plain. It says: "A member calling for a division shall not leave the chamber, and shall vote with those who, in the opinion of the President, were in the minority."

The hon. member thereupon voted with the Ayes.

Clauses 13 and 14 passed.

Clause 15.—"Unlawfully taking or branding animals."

THE HON. R. W. HARDEY said that shepherds' dogs should be included in the list of animals, as they were more often stolen than anything else.

THE HON. R. E. BUSH endorsed the view of the hon member. It seemed only a small matter, but it was of the utmost importance to the shepherds.

THE HON. G. W. LEAKE said there was a particular enactment on the subject of dog-stealing.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said this clause did not go as far as to make the offence that of larceny. In cases of larceny there was always a difficulty in establishing the *animus*, but this clause made it unlawful to have the animals, whatever might be the intention.

THE HON. R. W. HARDEY moved to insert the words "dog" after the words "cattle," in the second and fourth lines.

Amendments agreed to, and the clause, as amended, agreed to.

Clause 16 agreed to.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) moved that progress be reported.

Question—put and passed.

PERTH PROTESTANT ORPHANAGE LANDS SALE BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): The whole scope and ob-

ject of this Bill appears on the face of it. Some years ago a portion of land was purchased in Perth for the purposes of an Orphanage, and it was vested in the Bishop of Perth and his successors, and in consequence of the trust the trustees can only use it for the purposes of an Orphanage. It has since been found advisable to remove the Orphanage from Perth, and consequently it is desirable that the land should be sold. This Bill proposes to vest the land in the Diocesan Trustees, and to give them power to sell and apply the proceeds in purchasing and improving other lands. I move the second reading of the Bill.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: I may only add, in addition to what my hon. friend has said, that the site is an unhealthy one on account of the low-lying nature of the ground.

Question—put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE.

The Bill was then considered in committee, and agreed to without amendment, and reported.

PERTH RAILWAY CROSSING IMPROVEMENT BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): As hon. members are aware, the Railway Department proposes to make certain improvements to the station at Perth, and amongst other things it is intended to do away with the present unsightly Beaufort Street Bridge, and also the Stirling Street crossing. Beaufort Street will then be carried in a direct line through the Working Men's Institute, and will then run into a street which will connect Stirling Street with it. The Bill is agreed to by the Municipality of Perth; in fact they have promised to give a certain subsidy in aid of the work. Of course statutory power is necessary to allow the work to be undertaken, and to give this Bill, which I now move the second reading of, is brought in.

Question—That the Bill be read a second time—put and passed.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 1.—Rights-of-way over railway in Beaufort Street and Stirling Street abolished.

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT said that this Bill was brought in to give the Commissioner of Railways power to take the land as well as to abolish the rights-of-way.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker): Only the land at the ends of the streets.

Clause agreed to.

The remaining clauses were passed, and the Bill reported.

JURY EXEMPTION BILL.

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

TRANSFER OF LAND BILL.

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

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 10 o'clock p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, 20th December, at 2:30 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Assembly,

Monday, 19th December, 1892.

Reorganisation of the Colonial Hospital—Sums paid by Government to Newspaper proprietors—Bills of Sale Act Further Amendment Bill: first reading—Jury Exemption Bill: third reading—Transfer of Land Bill: third reading—Mr. Allison Smith's Report on the Railway Workshops and Locomotive Department—Retirement of Inspector Rowe from the Police Service—Legislation for prevention of fires caused by sparks from Railway Engines—Commission on Government Auction Sales—Scab Act, 1891, Amendment Bill: recommitted—West Australian Trustee, Executor, and Agency Company (Private) Bill: in committee—Industrial and Reformatory Schools Bill: message from the Legislative Council—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 7:30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

REORGANISATION OF COLONIAL HOSPITAL.

MR. QUINLAN, in accordance with notice, asked the Premier, whether the Government intended to take steps, dur-

ing the recess, with a view to the re-organisation of the Public Hospitals?

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) said the Government would not be able to do anything in the matter until the present hospital was enlarged.

SUMS PAID BY THE GOVERNMENT TO NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS.

MR. R. F. SHOLL rose to ask the following question standing in his name—If the returns already laid upon the table of the House, in regard to the moneys paid and due to the proprietors of the various papers mentioned, include all moneys paid or due to them for all services rendered, whether by advertisements or otherwise?

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): I will ask the hon. member to postpone his question until to-morrow. The wording of it is so obscure that I hardly understand it. If he means moneys paid for job printing, I will make inquiries. I don't know of anything else except subscriptions.

MR. R. F. SHOLL: I mean all and every expenditure.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): What sort of expenditure?

MR. R. F. SHOLL: All sums paid by the Government to newspaper proprietors, other than for advertisements. I do not particularly want the amounts paid for subscriptions, but there may be other items.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): What sort of items?

MR. R. F. SHOLL: Any items. There may be no other items, but if there are, they are very easy ascertainable. My question is plain enough.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): I will try and get him the information to-morrow.

BILLS OF SALE ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.

Introduced by the ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt), and read a first time.

JURY EXEMPTION BILL.

Read a third time, and transmitted to the Legislative Council.

TRANSFER OF LAND BILL.

Read a third time, and forwarded to the Legislative Council.