

school, if deemed advisable. Then there are provisions under which any inmate may be put out to service on certain conditions. When any child who is an inmate of one of these institutions becomes entitled to any landed property, the superintendent will have all the powers of a guardian, or rather of a trustee, to manage the estate, collect the rents, bring actions, employ agents, and pay any moneys coming into his hands, after deducting a small commission and refunding 1s. per day for the child's maintenance, into the Post Office Savings Bank, there to accumulate at compound interest until the child arrives at the age of 21 years. I do not think I need say more in regard to the Bill. Hon. members, however, are aware that, although we have a reformatory at Rottneſt, it is not established by legal enactment, but by the 34th clause of this Bill it is provided that it shall in future be deemed to be a Reformatory School. We have an Industrial Schools Act, passed in 1874, but this Act chiefly relates to orphanages, and under it it is not competent for a magistrate to send a child there, unless the institution is prepared to receive it; and, as hon. members are aware, the management of these institutions would not be prepared to take children off the streets, and much less those who have been convicted. At the present time a few boys are kept at Rottneſt, but there is a difficulty in regard to their management and control, owing to there being no special provisions relating to that school. Only recently application has been made to send some female children to an industrial school, but, unfortunately, there is no establishment to which they can be sent. When this Bill becomes law, it is proposed to establish a reformatory school for girls as well as boys, and I trust it will have the effect of reclaiming these children from an evil course of life. I now move the second reading of the Bill.

THE HON. J. W. HACKETT: This, sir, is a Bill that has been greatly needed in this colony for many years past, and certainly it has not been brought in before it was wanted. As far as I have been able to gather from a brief perusal of the Bill, it follows the model of those in force in the other colonies, and which are considered to be among the best enactments

of their kind. In following them, however, a large number of words appear to have crept in, which I think the Bill would be better relieved of, and while, therefore, the principle of the measure will commend itself to hon. members, in committee a considerable number of important verbal amendments will be required to be made. I may point out that the school at Rottneſt is at present comparatively useless, because at the present time children pass out at the age of 14, and the superintendent has pointed out more than once the necessity that exists for raising the age to 16 years, if he is to do any good with them. I feel sure that this Bill will do much good, and I have, therefore, great pleasure in supporting it.

Question—put and passed.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Council, at 8.20 p.m., adjourned until Thursday, 15th December, at 7.45 o'clock p.m.

Legislative Assembly, Wednesday, 14th December, 1892.

Laying of returns to Orders of the House upon the Table—Improved School Accommodation at Albany—Selection by W. A. Land Company of Albany Town Lands—Action *re* Petition of William Wilkinson—Conveyance of Passengers, &c., by Canning Timber Company over Railway—Recent Prosecutions of Publicans for Breach of Licensing Laws—Perth Railway Crossing Improvement Bill: first reading—Carriage of Rolling Stock, &c., over Government Railways—Cost of Maintenance, &c., of Engines Imported from New Zealand—Cost of Surveys of Yilgarn Railway Routes—Stock Route between Kimberley District and Roebourne—Police Act, 1892, Amendment Bill: report—Seab Act, 1884, Amendment Bill: second reading—Federal Council Referring Bill: second reading; and in committee—Jury Exemption Bill: second reading—Transfer of Land Bill: second reading—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the chair at 7.30 p.m.

PRAYERS.

LAYING OF RETURNS TO ORDERS OF
THE HOUSE UPON THE TABLE

MR. DEHAMEL, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

1. When the Return showing "the number, &c., of cases tried by various Stipendiary Magistrates," as ordered on the 23rd ult., would be ready to be laid on the table of the House?
2. When the Return showing "the number, &c., of the Government employes," as ordered on the 28th ult., would be ready to be laid on the table of the House?

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) replied that the Returns in question would probably be laid upon the table during that week.

IMPROVED SCHOOL ACCOMMODATION
AT ALBANY.

MR. DEHAMEL, in accordance with notice, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

1. Whether the Government were taking any steps to provide suitable school accommodation for Albany? And if so—
2. When the new school buildings would be put in hand?

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest) replied,—

1. That provision had been made on the Estimates of this year for the Albany Boys' School, but owing to the Central Board of Education not having decided upon a suitable site, nothing had yet been done.
2. That provision would again be made on the Estimates of 1893, and it was hoped that a suitable site might be obtained and the work put in hand.

SELECTION BY W.A. LAND COMPANY
OF ALBANY TOWN LANDS.

MR. DEHAMEL, in accordance with notice, asked the Commissioner of Crown Lands,—

1. Whether the claims of the W.A. Land Company for the lands due to them in respect of the construction of the Great Southern Railway had been satisfied?
2. Whether the said Company had selected, or were entitled to select,

any of the unalienated Crown lands within the townsite of Albany?

3. Why such unalienated Crown Lands were still reserved from sale?

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. W. E. Marmion) replied, as follows:—

1. No. The final selection is still in abeyance pending determination of area of all the other selections, and settlement of the question as to the Company's right to select town lands and commonages, now under appeal to the Privy Council.
2. The question as to the Company's right to select land in Albany and other townsites is a disputed one between the Government and the Company. A special case was stated for the Supreme Court in September, 1890, and was given in favor of the Government contention—that the Company has not the right to these lands—but the Company has appealed to the Privy Council.
3. The lands in Albany and other townsites within the original Hordern Area are reserved from sale pending result of this appeal.

ACTION RE PETITION OF WILLIAM
WILKINSON.

MR. MONGER, in accordance with notice, asked the Commissioner of Crown Lands whether the Government intended to take any steps in connection with the petition presented to Parliament on 6th January, on behalf of Mr. William Wilkinson, of York?

THE COMMISSIONER OF CROWN LANDS (Hon. W. E. Marmion) replied that the Government did not intend to take any steps in connection with the petition referred to.

CONVEYANCE OF PASSENGERS, &c.,
BY CANNING TIMBER COMPANY
OVER RAILWAY.

MR. MONGER, in accordance with notice, asked the Commissioner of Railways whether the Canning Jarrah Timber Company, Limited, were compelled to convey passengers and goods over their Railway, and on what terms?

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Hon. H. W. Venn) replied that the obligation of the Company in this respect was governed by the 13th clause of their contract with the Government. Up to the present time he had not seen sufficient grounds for taking any action under this clause, and he believed the Company had made suitable arrangements to meet the requirements of the present limited demands of the public.

RECENT PROSECUTIONS OF PUBLICANS FOR BREACH OF LICENSING LAWS.

MR. MOLLOY, in accordance with notice, asked the Attorney General,—

1. Whether his attention had been drawn to several prosecutions of publicans recently?
2. Whether the Government approved of policemen creating an offence for the purpose of demonstrating that offences exist?
3. Whether the Government approved of supplying the police with money to tempt publicans to commit an offence?
4. Whether they (the police) being the only offenders in the instances referred to, any action would be taken by the department concerned in this matter?

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) replied, as follows:—

1. Yes.
2. No. I am not aware that policemen are in the habit of doing so.
3. No.
4. This question is argumentative, and I cannot reply to it in this shape.

PERTH RAILWAY CROSSING IMPROVEMENT BILL.

This Bill was introduced by the ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt), and read a first time.

EXPENDITURE FOR INCIDENTAL EXPENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES.

MR. DEHAMEL, in accordance with notice, moved, "That a return be laid on the table of the House giving particulars (objects and amounts) of all sums expended during the year 1891, as or for Incidental Expenses, and also giving details of the expenditure during the year

1892 of the sum of £25,157 14s. 9d., voted under the head of Miscellaneous Services (Colonial Treasurer's Department), or of so much thereof as has been expended up to the present date." He said: The motion must commend itself to hon. members who have given any attention to these items of expenditure. I call attention to the fact that in October, 1879, the hon. member who is now Colonial Secretary, made a similar motion with reference to incidental expenses, which on that occasion amounted to over £1,300. I believe they have much increased between that date and the present time, but we have had nothing before us to show how these incidental expenses are incurred. We know that in England a large sum is expended under the head of "Secret Service Money," but in this colony we have no need for secret services, and I think we should know how these services are incurred, particularly so when we find that the expenditure under the head of "Miscellaneous" amounts to such a sum as £25,000.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): The hon. member is not quite clear in his statement that £25,000 odd has been expended for miscellaneous services; and his remarks would lead hon. members to believe that this money has been expended without the votes of this House, and without any information being given by the Government as to the services on which the money was spent. The £1,300 which the hon. member referred to as having been spent on a former occasion was no doubt a sum spent in excess of the items that had been approved of by this House. However, I shall be glad to afford the hon. member every information, and he can obtain it now instead of waiting for the next annual report of the Auditor General, in which report every item that is spent in excess of the amount voted will be shown. As some time must elapse before the Auditor General's report for 1892 can be placed before the House, I shall have pleasure in presenting the return now moved for.

Question—put and passed.

CARRIAGE OF ROLLING STOCK, &c., OVER GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS.

MR. DEHAMEL, in accordance with notice, moved, "That a return be laid on the table of this House, stating the total

amount paid or due to the Government Railway Department for the carriage of all rails, rolling stock, plant, and other materials carried over the Government Railways since the 1st January last, for or in respect of the construction of the Midland and South-Western Railways, and showing how much of such carriage has been paid by or is due from the Government and from the Contractors respectively." He said: The return I move for is to enable me to ascertain whether the Government railways are paying or not. I know it is hoped that this year the revenue from our railways will pretty nearly equal, if not quite, the working expenditure and interest on cost. There are various statements flying about as to the amount that the Government are receiving from extraneous sources, such as the carriage of rolling stock, rails, plates, and so on, required for the new South-Western and the Midland Railways, and carried over the Government railways at so much per ton; and the object of this motion is to ascertain the amount of money that will be due to the Government for the haulage of this railway material, which, though it occurs as an item of income this year, will not occur next year, except as regards the new railway to Yilgarn, and none of which can be permanent revenue.

THE COMMISSIONER OF RAILWAYS (Hon. H. W. Venn): I do not understand exactly why the hon. member requires this return, but it will be made willingly. I do not think there are any outstanding accounts at all, unless it be a small item this month for material carried on account of the South-Western Railway.

Question—put and passed.

COST OF MAINTENANCE, &c., OF ENGINES IMPORTED FROM NEW ZEALAND.

MR. DEHAMEL, in accordance with notice, moved, "That a return be laid upon the table of this House showing how much has been expended by the Government in maintenance of and repairs to each of the engines purchased from the New Zealand Government since their importation into this colony." He said: The object of this return is really to settle a matter which has caused a good deal of public comment in various quarters, and led to assertions of the

most opposite character. We hear, on one hand, that these engines from New Zealand have been a great success, and have cost very little; while on the other hand we hear that they have cost a great deal. I do not wish to harass the Government in any way by moving for this return, but I do so for the purpose of having the matter set at rest.

Question—put and passed.

COST OF SURVEYS OF YILGARN RAILWAY ROUTES.

MR. MONGER, in accordance with notice, moved, "That a return be laid upon the table of the House showing:—
1. The costs incurred for surveys for the Northam-Yilgarn railway. 2. The costs of surveys on the York route for the same railway. 3. The costs incurred in trying to find a suitable route from Beverley."

Question—put and passed.

STOCK ROUTE BETWEEN KIMBERLEY DISTRICT AND ROEBOURNE.

MR. A. FORREST, in accordance with notice, moved, "That steps be at once taken to open up a stock route between the Kimberley district and Roebourne." He said: I have submitted this motion for approval, because I hope the Government understand that it is a question of money, and I hope this House will agree in requesting the Government to place a sufficient sum for this purpose on the Estimates for 1893. The West Kimberley Road Board has completed the stock route from Derby nearly to the district boundary; and the Roebourne Road Board is without funds to complete the work.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): Have the Road Board ever asked for the money? I know they have not.

MR. A. FORREST: The request to move in this matter has come to me from the West Kimberley division, because it is hoped this will be the outlet for the grazing districts of the far North, and the Road Board wish to make water-holes and wells for enabling the stock to be travelled at any period of the year.

MR. RICHARDSON: I have frequently urged the great necessity for this stock route being thoroughly opened up to Kimberley, but the reply has generally been that it would cost a large sum of

money, that a considerable amount had been voted already, and that the Government did not see their way clear to complete the whole thing. Possibly the work will cost several thousands of pounds, as the water supply is very deficient on the Kimberley track, and water may be difficult to obtain on account of the sand falling in. It is only a question of time as to when a thorough stock route for all seasons of the year will have to be provided right away from Kimberley to Perth—I mean a stock route that is capable of watering 300 or 400 head of cattle or 3,000 to 4,000 sheep at once. No doubt it will cost money; but in the meantime the Government might do something towards making permanent and good wells here and there, perhaps 25 or 30 miles apart, with the ultimate intention of making them 15 miles apart. It must be apparent that the day will come when a thoroughly trafficable stock route from Kimberley to Perth will have to be provided.

THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS (Hon. H. W. Venn): I believe the hon. member has never moved in this House for a sum of money to be expended on a stock route between Roebourne and Kimberley. The sum of money voted years ago for a stock route has not been expended until this year, and I am happy to say now we are able to fix on a route, after considerable trouble, which will be a good one from Roebourne to Champion Bay, or rather to Perth. But the Government have not had funds at their disposal, nor have they been asked to provide them, for making a stock route as far as Kimberley; yet they have done a considerable amount towards that work in the West Kimberley district. It is no use for the Government to expend money in making wells and providing troughs, unless the travellers who use them will exercise more care; because it is frequently found that, after every convenience has been provided, the next traveller who comes along with stock finds everything smashed—the troughs knocked about, or the bucket and rope gone—so that he cannot get water for his stock where he was expecting it. This is a bad state of affairs, for the safety of the live-stock depends upon water being obtainable within certain distances; so that it behoves those who are interested in the

travelling of stock to take active measures for finding out the offenders. I can assure hon. members that this has happened, and that we have had to provide fresh troughs, and fresh windlasses and buckets. One person will take away the bucket from a well, and leave nothing for the next traveller. The Government have no objection to this motion, and I dare say the Colonial Treasurer will be willing to place a sum on the Estimates for this work. I will endeavor to get it carried out, but it cannot be done for many months yet, because I shall first have to ascertain, from persons who know most about it, the best route, and then have wells sunk in accordance with the recommendation of the various Road Boards.

THE PREMIER (Hon. Sir J. Forrest): No recommendation has been made to the Government, as far as my memory serves, for this work between Roebourne and Roebuck Bay. I remember the Kimberley Road Board asked for some money to be expended between the Fitzroy and Roebuck Bay; and that was approved of. Again, only the other day we approved of a sum of money being spent on the route to the Irwin, and the Commissioner of Public Works is now engaged in spending £2,500 between Mullewa and the Ashburton, where wells are required, and he has consulted the Roads Boards with the view of their undertaking the work. I can at once say that we never refuse an appeal from those who are interested in procuring water on the routes for stock, so long as it is possible to find money for this work, and it has been possible up to the present time. We always help those who are anxious to improve the water supply on the routes, and I do not remember any reasonable request of this kind made to the Government that has not been acceded to, if not altogether, yet to some extent, for we always recognise the importance of having wells along the routes between these centres of population and the North-West. At the same time, there has been great carelessness on the part of those who use the wells. No traveller along routes where troughs and buckets are provided by the Government ever expects to find them in a condition for use, and he has to carry buckets himself, for he knows that if a good bucket were

left at a well, someone would carry it off and leave those who had to come afterwards to shift for themselves. The only chance is that if the bucket is so heavy that it cannot be carried off it will be left. This is a most mischievous state of things, yet it is notorious that in this colony very little attention is given by travellers to the state of the wells, and the convenience of other travellers who have to follow after. The Government have done a great deal in the past on this very route between the DeGrey and the Fitzroy. It is some nine years since I was up there, when the Government were engaged in sinking wells some 20 miles apart over the whole way from the DeGrey to the Fitzroy; but whether all those wells have since fallen in or got out of repair, I am not aware. I am quite in accord with the views expressed, that something should be done to keep these wells in repair, and I will see what can be done. I have no objection to placing a sum on the Estimates for putting in repair the wells already in existence, and keeping them so, but whether they will accommodate 1,000 sheep at a time I am not prepared to say.

MR. CLARKSON: I am sure no hon. member can find fault with this motion. I think it is necessary that before public money is expended in this matter, some suitable route should be recommended, and the probable amount of money required should be ascertained, because in that country a lot of money may easily be wasted. I believe a large sum of money has already been wasted in the Northern district, in trying to find water, some twenty years ago, for I remember the Government spent a large sum between Sharks Bay and the Ashburton, and I have been informed that all those wells have fallen in and become useless; therefore, before the Government spend a further large sum of money in that country, they should have some idea of what is required, and there should be a supervision over the wells when completed. To show how little consideration some people have for others who use the wells, only the other day I had a letter from Yilgarn about men bathing and washing in the wells up there. In my own experience I have come to some of those wells provided for public use, and have found a dead sheep in them. I think the

wells should be protected in every possible way.

Question—put and passed.

POLICE ACT, 1892, AMENDMENT BILL.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved that the committee's report upon this Bill be adopted.

MR. QUINLAN moved, as an amendment, that the Bill be recommitted, with a view to striking out the clause prohibiting advertisements of betting and of lotteries.

Amendment put, and, on a division, the numbers were as follow:—

Ayes	11
Noes	13

Majority against ... 2

AYES.

Mr. Baker
Mr. Canning
Mr. Darlôt
Mr. DeHamel
Mr. A. Forrest
Mr. Hassell
Mr. Molloy
Mr. Monger
Mr. Pearse
Mr. Solomon
Mr. Quinlan (Teller).

NOES.

Mr. Burt
Mr. Clarkson
Sir John Forrest
Mr. Harper
Mr. Lefroy
Mr. Loton
Mr. Marmion
Mr. Paterson
Mr. Piesse
Mr. Richardson
Mr. Simpson
Mr. Venn
Mr. Traylen (Teller).

Amendment negatived, and the report adopted.

SCAB ACT, 1891, AMENDMENT BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt): I rise to move the second reading of this Bill, which is a very short one, comprising two clauses. The object of the Bill is to secure the Northern parts of the colony from the risk of scab.

MR. CLARKSON: What about the Southern parts? You don't provide for them.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt): My friend objects, that I don't care much about the Southern parts. I represent a Northern district, and I must care for it; but as to the Southern parts, some people do not seem to care whether their districts become infected with scab or not, therefore I have dropped them out of this Amending Bill. When the Scab Act of 1891 was brought in, the measure applied to the North and the South; but it was then objected on behalf of the Victoria district—which continues to be the only scabby district in the colony—that the sheep

there should not be treated in the same manner. I can only presume that this continues to be the sense of those hon. members who now represent that district. I propose in this Bill to still further protect the Northern part, where, if scab were to break out, it would be disastrous and even ruinous, because there are very few people in the Northern part who have any acquaintance with scab in sheep, and the disease might extend and become widespread before it was recognised and the danger was understood. There would also be difficulty and delay in procuring the materials from outside the district for dipping the sheep to prevent the infection spreading still further. The expense of procuring the necessary materials would be infinitely greater than in the Southern districts; for if the scab appears in the Southern or Eastern districts, there is the means of rapid transit of the materials by railway, and plenty of labor obtainable, whereas in the North-West these facilities do not exist, and valuable time would be wasted before the disease could be coped with effectually. The Northern part has been free from scab for the last 15 or 20 years, and there has therefore been no necessity for keeping the materials required for dipping sheep. Before these materials could be procured, after an outbreak of scab became known, the disease might be spread over the whole district; so that an outbreak there, after the severe drought has reduced the stock, would be severely disastrous, and there is very much reason for saying that a large proportion of the pastoralists in the North would be absolutely ruined by the spread of scab in their remaining flocks. This Bill will not impose any hardship on anyone, because as a matter of fact very few sheep go from the Southward to the North; and were it not that a few runs might be re-stocked from the Southern parts, there would be absolutely no demand for sheep in those districts. But it is feared that sheep may be purchased for re-stocking and be sent from the Southern districts to the North, and it is that fact which calls for this Bill. Still, this restriction will not be felt for very long, because sheep can be obtained elsewhere than from the Victoria district for sending to the North, or if the sheep have to travel Northward they

must travel somehow without going through the Victoria district. I certainly look to those members who represent the Northern districts to support this Bill; while those who represent the Southern districts should equally recognise the strong reason there is for this provision. If it is desired to extend the provisions of the Act to districts in the South, I am sure the Government will not object to any reasonable suggestion of that sort; but, with regard to sheep coming Southward from the North, it should be remembered that we have to deal with this difficulty: that all the fat sheep from the North come to the central markets at Perth or Fremantle, therefore the risk of scab being communicated by sheep arriving from the North is not so great as in the case of scabby sheep being sent to the North for re-stocking the runs. In the Scab Act of 1891 the distinction was made on the ground that the sheep coming Southward were intended to be butchered; hence the requirement that sheep going Northward should be dipped twice, but if going Southward should be dipped only once. But I presume that butchers' sheep are just as likely to spread scab as any other sheep, because they do not all go to the butcher. We think that, as the Victoria district continues to be infected, it is desirable to prohibit sheep absolutely from going to the North at all from the Victoria district. The only other clause in the Bill relates to the interpretation of the word "run." This is rendered necessary on account of a recent decision of the Supreme Court upon an appeal case from the Victoria district. It was discovered that there was a most curious interpretation of the word "run" in the interpretation clause of the principal Act; for after speaking of a run as including every paddock, spot, lease, leasehold, or other place where sheep are kept or depastured, it went on to say that in the absence of a quarantine boundary being defined by the inspector in his declaration, it included the whole run. But when an inspector had declared a portion of the run to be the quarantine boundary, every sheep getting astray outside the quarantine boundary was held not to be on the run. This interpretation nullified the intention of the Act, for by taking all the portions of a run other than the small portion quarantined as

not forming part of the run, the benefit of that measure, which provided that all stray infected sheep on a run should be instantly destroyed, and the owner be heavily fined, was nullified. It is proposed in this Bill to alter the interpretation clause, so that the word "run" may include every station, spot, or other place where sheep are pastured or kept, and, in the case of an adjoining lease, all the leasehold held by the owner. This alteration will put the question beyond dispute, and I now ask the House to read the Bill a second time.

MR. CLARKSON: The hon. gentleman has been very candid. As the Bill states, it proposes only to prevent the spread of scab to the North of the Champion Bay district. I think he might have added a few words, and just said, "North, South, East, or West" of that scabby district. I cannot see why the Southern districts of the colony should be left open to this scourge, any more than the Northern district; and notwithstanding what the Attorney General has said, I think an outbreak of scab would be as great a curse to the Southern as to the Northern districts. It is time that this scab question should be put an end to; for year after year, instead of scab decreasing, it appears to me to be increasing.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt): No.

MR. CLARKSON: I am told that it is spreading in the Northern districts; but, however that may be, the fact remains that there is scab in the Champion Bay district, and that this district has never been free since the first Scab Act came into force. The time has arrived when very severe measures should be brought to bear on the owners of sheep in that district. It is preposterous that the whole colony should be menaced with such a trouble as this. How is it that the Southern part of the colony, which was formerly as scabby as Champion Bay, has got rid of scab? I say the time has arrived when very severe measures should be brought to bear on the owners of sheep in that district. It is all bunkum to talk about sheep running wild in thickets for years. I know that is all nonsense. Scabby sheep would not live three years. If left to themselves they would die of the disorder, and they also must come to water. I know that

no great number of wild sheep could live in the Victoria district; and I say it is neglect on the part of someone, either the inspector, or the Scab Board, or the owner, that stray scabby sheep should be kept alive, and I should like to see a severe law brought to bear. Destroy the sheep. Why should these owners go on, year after year, keeping that scourge? They are threatening to overrun the colony with the disease. Now it is proposed to protect those in the North, while we in the South are to take our chance. It would be more difficult to eradicate in the South, if it once got a hold. I shall move, in committee, to add to this Bill the words: "To the North, South, East, or West of the Scab District of Victoria."

MR. LEFROY: I cannot go so far as the hon. member in this matter, but I agree with him in most of his remarks with reference to the existence of scab. I consider that no Act can be too strict for the purpose of preventing the spread of scab through this colony, but I can see there must be great difficulty in extending the clause in this Bill so as to take in the Southern portion of the colony. It is well known that the greater portion of the mutton that is used in the Southern districts comes from the North, and that the fat sheep all pass through the Victoria district to the Southern centres of population. Consequently the extension of the clause would prevent all sheep from the North passing southward through the Victoria district; and it seems rather hard that this traffic to market should be barred by a provision of that kind. The next best way to prevent the spread of scab in the Southern districts from the North would be to prevent sheep from coming to the South at all. It would be advisable that sheep coming from the North should be distinguishable in some way. These fat sheep pass all down the coast line from Champion Bay to Perth and Fremantle, through country which is pasturing sheep nearly all the summer months; and, as it would be well to distinguish them, I shall move to add a clause to the Bill for that purpose. I would commend this clause to the attention of hon. members, and when they see it in print I hope they will accept it as being likely, to a great extent, to prevent the spread of scab to the Southern portion of the colony. I cannot see that we

can go much further at present. I have had my fight against scab, in my early days of sheep-farming, and I think no measure would be too strong that would stop the spread of this disease.

MR. RICHARDSON: I cannot help thinking that the remarks of the hon. member for Toodyay are unpremeditated, for the effect of his suggestion would be that the people in the Southern portion of the colony must take their choice between starvation for want of mutton, or importing their meat from the other colonies, while our settlers in the North were glutted with fat sheep for want of a market or for want of access to it, because not allowed to travel their sheep Southward, except by ship-board. I sympathise with the Attorney General in his efforts to stop any danger of scab infection travelling from the South to the North. The two cases of travelling sheep from North to South and from South to North are not parallel, for it must be apparent that there is a great necessity for bringing sheep from the North to the South, and experience has shown that the existing Act is efficacious in preventing the spread of scab by that traffic, as the disease has not travelled Southward yet, and the South has been free from scab for some years. There remains a great responsibility on the authorities and on scab inspectors to take the most strenuous measures for ensuring against the possibility of infection. I would suggest to the Attorney General that the remaining danger has not been sufficiently grappled with, namely, that sheep carried on the coasting steamers for killing are often sold or exchanged at a port because they have become too poor during the voyage; so that these sheep are landed wherever it is most convenient, although they may have come from an infected district, and may spread the infection wherever they are put ashore. This is an element of danger which might be guarded against; and, with this exception, the present Bill is sufficient to meet the case.

MR. CANNING: I quite agree with the remarks of the hon. member for Toodyay as to the necessity of checking the spread of this disease in the South as well as in the North. Where flocks are known to be diseased, the most effectual means would be to destroy them abso-

lutely. At the same time, it has been pointed out that the cases of removing sheep from the South to the North and from the North to the South are not parallel, because sheep must be brought from the North Southward in order to supply the Southern market with meat, the North being the principal source of our food supply; consequently, if we be cut off from that source of supply, I am afraid we should be driven to import nearly all the mutton we require for consumption. It should not be lost sight of that sheep, under the existing Act, if found to be diseased, or suspected of being diseased, would not be allowed to go Southward; and that, as a precaution in the case of sheep traversing any infected district, they must be dipped twice if going North and once if going South. So that I think, with the precaution already provided in the existing Act, there would be very little danger of the spread of the disease in the Southern districts. The necessary precaution can be taken for preventing suspected sheep from coming into the Southern districts, and as a rule we know that sheep coming from the North are generally intended for butchers, very few finding their way among the flocks in the Southern districts. If any danger be apprehended, provision may be made in this Bill to prevent the danger. I think the suggestion that they should have a distinguishing brand would be in some degree a protection, and additional precautions may be suggested when the Bill gets into committee. If we bear in mind the disastrous consequences of an outbreak of scab in the Northern districts, the absolute necessity of such a measure as that now under consideration must be manifest. I shall support the second reading.

Motion—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

FEDERAL COUNCIL REFERRING BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved the second reading of this Bill, and said: This is a short Bill, to refer certain matters for the exercise of legislative authority to the Federal Council of Australasia. That Council will sit in Hobart at the latter end of

next January, but the Council cannot enter upon the consideration of any questions other than those that are specially referred to it by some two or more of the colonies. It has been customary for two or more colonies in the group to refer certain questions to that Council. We propose in this Bill to refer two questions, and they have been referred to it, in a way, before. One of the questions is that of the defence of King George's Sound; and on a prior occasion, some two or three years back, we referred that question generally under the denomination of general defences, without specifying anything definitely; but we have thought it more advisable, in concert with the other colonies—Queensland having referred the defence of Thursday Island in the same manner—to refer this question as set out in the Bill as being a more definite reference to the Council than existed in the prior Act. Queensland is in a somewhat similar position as to the defence of Thursday Island, the colonies generally having guaranteed the up-keep of the garrison. The other question is the trial and punishment in one colony of offences against the laws of another colony, in lieu of "offences against the laws of an adjoining colony," this latter being the form in which the question was referred before. We want to refer the punishment of offenders, not only against the laws of an adjoining colony, but against the laws of any one of the colonies in the group; therefore the question is now proposed to be referred in the form stated in the Bill. That is the whole scope of the Bill.

Motion—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

IN COMMITTEE.

The Bill passed through committee without comment, and was reported without amendment.

JURY EXEMPTION BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved the second reading of this Bill, and said: This is another short Bill, for the purpose, chiefly, of exempting from the duty of serving on juries all officers and servants connected with rail-

ways. It is a question whether the present exemption of officers in the public service would include all the workmen employed on the Government railways, because I do not think many of these men hold office in the Public Service, and certainly not in the Civil Service. This Bill is designed chiefly to exempt officers and servants in the employ of railway companies, for it is found that the Great Southern Railway Company are very seriously inconvenienced by the workmen in charge of their trains being called off to serve on juries. This is not so in other colonies, and ought not to be so here, because the public safety depends so much on the trains being in charge of men trained to the work, and it is so difficult to obtain substitutes when railway men are called away to serve on juries, that there is nothing unreasonable in exempting all officers and servants employed on private or Government railways from serving on juries. I have also taken the opportunity of exempting schoolmasters, as well as managers, accountants, cashiers, and tellers in banks, also chemists and druggists. These are excluded almost everywhere from serving on juries. Schoolmasters ought not to be on juries, and I believe the magistrates here do not like putting them on; indeed, if the headmaster of a school in Perth, for instance, were summoned on a jury, the school could not work, and it is well to exempt schoolmasters both in public and private schools. With regard to banks, I think it is most inconvenient that managers, cashiers, and accountants should have to leave their duties to serve on juries, for they are engaged in transactions which affect most of us, and very serious inconvenience might result from their being called away. Every time a jury has to be sworn in a court, some excuse is offered for these persons. With regard also to chemists and druggists there are reasons why they should be exempt, for it will be remembered that in one of Dickens's novels there is a chemist who objects to be sworn on a jury because he says he has only an errand boy to leave in charge of his shop, and as the boy does not understand drugs he may poison half the town during the chemist's absence. That might occur here; and, besides this risk, I do not think a chemist makes a good juryman,

for his mind is hankering after his shop and the drugs he has to dispense and the sick people who may be calling in his absence; so that it is better to let him go. That is the whole object and scope of this Bill, which consists of one clause. I move the second reading.

MR. R. F. SHOLL: I would suggest the advisability also of exempting the mayor of a town, who is also a justice of the peace, for at times it is awkward in his case to attend on a jury, having public duties to perform. Therefore, I would suggest that mayors and justices of the peace should be exempted.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt): How many more?

MR. CANNING: I do not intend to oppose the Bill, but I would point out that in exempting cashiers and accountants of banks, you will deprive the country of the services of a very intelligent section of those who are forced to serve on juries. I can understand why bank managers should be exempted, but it is questionable whether the subordinate officers in a bank should not be required to serve on juries, for it is the duty of a bank to make provisions for such contingencies. We should secure as much intelligence on juries as we can, and if we exempt these three categories, I am afraid we shall have a host of other demands for exemption. A tradesman, a master, may claim exemption on the ground that his business would be completely disorganised if he were absent four or five days on a jury. I am afraid that such a plea would be admitted in his favor; and I do not think there are sufficiently strong grounds for exempting the three classes I have referred to.

Motion—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

TRANSFER OF LAND BILL.

SECOND READING.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. S. Burt) moved the second reading of this Bill, and said: I fear I am not so fortunate on this occasion, for I cannot say that this Bill consists of only one or two clauses. This is a Consolidation Bill, and it need not give the House any trouble

when I say it is a mere consolidation of all the Acts that at present exist with regard to our registration system of land titles. The Acts that are repealed in the Bill will be found in one Schedule (the first), and they are all consolidated in this one measure. What is new in the Bill, which is very little, has been compiled with very much care and consideration by a Commission which sat to take evidence and to report in Melbourne upon the working of the system there. Our first Act of 1874 was founded upon the Victorian Act, and our law on the subject has been built up from time to time by these subsequent Acts, which we seek to repeal and consolidate into this Bill. After the consideration of that report of the Commission in Melbourne, and gleaning all we could from it, and from the evidence on which it was based, we have adopted certain of their recommendations, which also find a place in the Consolidated Act passed by the Victorian Parliament in 1890. The old sections in this Consolidation Bill are distinguished from the new by all the old sections being noted in the margin, and any new provision being not so noted. The new portions are parts 7, 8, and 9. I may say there is no alteration of principle in any way. If information on any portion of the Bill as it passes through committee be desired, I shall be ready to give it. Some clauses have been put into plainer language to avoid the confliction which has occurred in the working of the Acts in the past. This is a subject with which many of us are familiar, and the details of which we come in contact with almost every day. I am much indebted to the Commissioner of Titles, Mr. James, for the care and attention which he has given to the preparation of this Bill, and the admirable way in which he has put it together. I have also been occupied with it clause by clause, and I do not think it can be improved. There has been an exceeding amount of care bestowed on the clauses and the 40 or 50 schedules; and as the Bill has been under consideration a long time, in order to make it as perfect as possible, hon. members who may not give personal attention to the clauses can be assured that they are in perfect order. I may explain that the old clauses, which I said were so indicated in the margin, refer to corresponding sections in the

existing Acts, and that where no reference appears, the clause is new matter.

Motion—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 9.10 p.m.

Legislative Council,

Thursday, 15th December, 1892.

Public Institutions and Friendly Societies Lands Improvement Bill: third reading—Industrial and Reformatory Schools Bill: committee—Public Health Act, 1886, Further Amendment Bill: first reading—Police Act, 1892: first reading—Federal Council Referring Bill, 1892: first reading—Adjournment.

THE PRESIDENT (Hon. G. Shenton) took the chair at 7.45 o'clock p.m.

PRAYERS.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS AND FRIENDLY SOCIETIES LANDS IMPROVEMENT BILL.

This Bill was read a third time, and passed.

INDUSTRIAL AND REFORMATORY SCHOOLS BILL.

IN COMMITTEE.

Clauses 1 to 4 were agreed to, with verbal amendments.

Clause 5.—“Who to be deemed ‘children’ and ‘inmates’”:

THE HON. J. G. H. AMHERST thought that the age of 16 provided by the clause was rather high, and he would like some explanation why it was so provided.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. S. H. Parker) said that the sixth clause provided that the following should be “neglected children”:

“Any child found begging or receiving alms, or being in any street or public place for the purpose of begging or receiving alms.

“Any child who shall be found wandering about or frequenting any street, thoroughfare, publichouse, or place of public resort, or sleeping in the open air, and who shall not have any home or settled place of abode, or any visible means of subsistence.

“Any child who shall reside in any brothel, or associate or dwell with any person known or reputed to be a thief, prostitute, or drunkard, or with any person convicted of vagrancy under any Act now or hereafter to be in force.

“Any child who, having committed an offence punishable by imprisonment or some less punishment, ought nevertheless, in the opinion of the justices, regard being had to the age of such child and the circumstances of the case, to be sent to an Industrial School.

“Any child whose parent represents that he wishes such child to be sent to an Industrial School, and gives security to the satisfaction of the justices before whom such child may be brought, for payment of the maintenance of such child in such school.

“Any child under fourteen years of age certified in writing by the chairman of a District Board of Education to be habitually absent from school, and to be beyond the control of his parents.

“Any child born of an aboriginal or half-caste mother.”

Under these circumstances, the age did not appear to him to be high, and it was the age universally adopted in the other colonies. The idea was to send the children to the schools, instead of to prison, and if any age less than sixteen were adopted one of the principal objects of the Bill would be defeated.

The clause was agreed to.

Clause 6.—“What children to be deemed neglected”:

THE HON. J. A. WRIGHT said that sub-section 1 of the clause, which made any child found begging or receiving alms a neglected child, appeared to him to be very severe, because immediately a child was found asking for a penny it