

to withdraw his motion and have the debate adjourned until this day week. There will then be farther time to consider the matter, and perhaps some members would like to go down and see the locality for themselves. I should not like to see anything done which would interfere with this project, which so far has been carried on very successfully, but if the debate is adjourned it will give the Government an opportunity of looking into the question farther. Although the leader of the House says he has gone over the ground and there is no site so suitable as the one selected, yet he may find another site. The views of some members of the House are strong on the matter, therefore the Government may see their way to reconsider the question and make another suggestion. I urge the hon. member to withdraw his motion and then some other member may move that the debate be adjourned for a week.

HON. A. G. JENKINS : I ask leave to withdraw my amendment.

Amendment by leave withdrawn.

On motion by Hon. J. W. HACKETT, debate adjourned for a week.

ADJOURNMENT.

The House adjourned at 8-50 o'clock, until the next day.

Legislative Assembly,

Tuesday, 19th August, 1902.

Petition: Esperance to Goldfields Railway—papers presented—Question: Poor-box Donations, Fremantle—Question: Police-court Procedure, Subiaco—Question: Museum, New Wing (funds)—Fremantle Harbour Trust Bill, first reading—Returns ordered (2): Estates Purchased under Statute, Leonora Railway Cost—Explosives Act Amendment Bill, third reading—Elementary Education (District Boards Bill), in Committee, progress—Justices Bill, in Committee, reported—Fremantle Prison Site Bill, first reading—Public Works Bill, second reading—Droving Bill, second reading (moved)—Indecent Publications Bill, second reading (resumed)—City of Perth Building Fees Validation Bill, first reading—Adjournment.

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

PRAYERS.

PETITION--ESPERANCE TO GOLD-FIELDS RAILWAY.

MR. R. HASTIE presented a petition from 35 public bodies on the Eastern Goldfields, including municipal councils, roads boards, chambers of mines, mine managers, workers' associations, Trades and Labour Council, etc., praying the House to authorise the immediate construction of the Esperance Railway.

Petition received, read, and ordered to be printed.

PAPERS PRESENTED.

By the PREMIER: 1, Woods and Forests Department, Report for year ended 31st December, 1901. 2, Regulations for Ticket-of-Leave Holders. 3, Regulations for the Management and Control of Gaols and Prisons. 4, Report on Industrial and Reformatory Schools for 1901. 5, Report on Rottnest Prison for 1901. 6, Report of Charities Department for 1901. 7, By-laws made by the Municipalities of Perth, Bunbury, Coolgardie, Collie, Fremantle, East Fremantle, Leonora, Guildford, Leederville, Mt. Morgans, North Perth, and Norseman.

By the MINISTER FOR WORKS AND RAILWAYS: Alteration to Railway Classification and Rate Books (reduced fares to students).

By the COLONIAL SECRETARY: 1, Report of the Committee of the Victoria Public Library, 1901-02. 2, Report of the Chief Inspector of Explosives and Government Analyst for 1901.

Order: To lie on the table.

QUESTION—POOR-BOX DONATIONS, FREMANTLE.

MR. HASTIE asked the Attorney General: 1, What had been the receipts of the poor-box placed in the Police Court, Fremantle, for the past 12 months. 2, Whether the poor-box benefited materially by substantial donations given by successful applicants for special marriage licenses. 3, If any fees were now charged at Fremantle for special marriage licenses; if so, since when, and under what authority; if the fees continued to be placed in the poor-box; if not, why was the system stopped, and who benefited by the present custom.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL replied: 1, £1 5s. 2, No; such donations were given to the hospital. 3, Yes; a fee of 10s. 6d. is charged; since the 21st of February, 1902, and under authority of the Registrar General; the fees are not and never were placed in the poor-box; the system was not stopped, never having existed; the Resident Magistrate receives these fees.

QUESTION — POLICE COURT PRO- CEDURE, SUBIACO.

MR. DAGLISH asked the Attorney General: 1, Whether it was true that a man recently arrested in or near Subiaco on a charge of wilful and obscene exposure was admitted to bail contrary to the custom in such cases, and that the evidence against him was taken in private by the Police Magistrate. 2, If so, who was the person so treated, and by whose authority the case was heard *in camera*. 3, Whether this action was taken on account of the social influence of the accused, or, if not, for what reason. 4, Whether a similar procedure was ever adopted where the accused person was without social influence. 5, Whether complaints of similar offences being committed within a short distance of the locality where the arrest took place had been made recently, and whether the description of the alleged offender corresponded in any respect with that of the person accused in this instance. 6, Whether the depositions of the witnesses in this case were recorded; and, if so, whether they could be placed upon the Table of this House.

THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied: The Police Magistrate informs me that

any person charged with the offence alleged is entitled to bail. He also informs me that no person so charged, nor indeed any person charged with any other offence, was tried in private or the case heard *in camera*. In a recent case, the person accused was tried in the clerk's room, this room being constantly used as a court room. This is the usual procedure, and the Press is always represented at such hearings, and no member of the public is refused admission. In the case in question the person accused was acquitted, and the Press were supplied with the depositions to copy if necessary. I shall be glad to show a copy of the depositions to any member of Parliament. Complaints of similar offences have been made, and steps were taken to see if the accused in the present case was the person referred to in such complaints, with the result that he was declared not to be the same.

QUESTION—MUSEUM, NEW WING (FUNDS).

MR. JACOBY, for Mr. Throssell, asked the Treasurer: 1, Whether a sum of £10,000 was approved by Parliament and provided in the Estimates for 1900, for the erection of a new wing to the Public Museum. 2, Whether it was the intention of the Government to make provision on the present year's Estimates for carrying out the work.

THE TREASURER replied: 1, No. A sum of £1,000 was provided by Parliament on the Estimates for the year ended 30th June, 1901, for Victoria Public Library and Museum Additional Accommodation, the probable cost of which, when completed, was set down at £10,000. 2, The question as to farther provision is now under consideration.

FREMANTLE HARBOUR TRUST BILL.

Introduced by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, and read a first time.

RETURN—ESTATES PURCHASED UNDER STATUTE.

On motion by MR. STONE, ordered "That there be laid on the table of the House a return, showing—1, What estates have been purchased by the Government under the Lands Purchase Act. 2, The acreage of each of such estates. 3, The districts in which they have been