

elected to fill any casual vacancy was to go out of office at the time when the governor, by whose death or retirement such casual vacancy occurred, would have gone out of office. The object of the new clause now moved was to render any vacancy caused by the retirement of a governor, under the present Bill, subject to the same regulation.

Motion agreed to.

Some verbal amendments were made in the second clause of the Act of 1876, and the Bill was then reported to the House.

**POLICE ORDINANCE, 1861, AMENDMENT BILL, 1878.**

MR. BROWN moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking), as an amendment, moved, That it be read a third time that day six months. He admitted this was a somewhat unusual course to pursue at this stage of the passage of a Bill; but, when the House went into Committee on the Bill the previous day, it had only been in the hands of hon. members a few minutes, and the scope of the Bill had not been fully understood. It appeared to him an extraordinary thing that the Bill should have been brought forward at all: no complaints had been heard from any section of the community with reference to the existing Ordinance, and he thought that in a matter of this kind where a great many people, especially of the poorer classes, were concerned, the House should not be asked to legislate in a hurried manner, without the matter having ever been before the country or the Council, or any case made out showing that the law as it stood at present worked any hardship or inconvenience.

MR. BROWN said the Bill was a very simple one indeed, and in order that the House should not be taken by surprise he had caused the substance of the Bill to be embodied in the Notice of Motion which he had given with respect to its introduction. He had brought forward the Bill at the request of the majority of the representative members of the House.

MR. BURT would support the amendment. He had noticed the object and scope of the Bill when it was before the House yesterday. He thought that in seaport towns especially the Bill would

work a good deal of inconvenience and entail considerable hardship on vessels arriving in harbor on a Sunday. These vessels, if this Bill became law, would not be able to obtain either bread, meat, or vegetables, from shore until next day, which would be very inconvenient, to say the least, in some cases, especially if a vessel had to leave before she could get her supplies.

MR. CAREY could not see why butchers, and bakers, and greengrocers should be allowed to open their shops and trade on Sundays, any more than other people, and the Bill would have his support.

The motion for the third reading was carried, on a division—

Ayes	...	...	9.
Noes	...	...	4

Majority for	...	5
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AYES.	NOES.
Mr. Carey	The Hon. R. T. Golds-
Mr. Glyde	worthy
Mr. Hardey	Mr. Burt
Mr. Harper	Sir T. C. Campbell
Mr. Marmion	The Hon. H. H. Hocking
Mr. S. H. Parker	(Teller.)
Mr. Shenton	
Mr. Pearse	
Mr. Brown (Teller.)	

Bill read a third time.

The House adjourned at a quarter to ten o'clock, p.m.

**LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,**

*Tuesday, 23rd July, 1878.*

Roman Catholic Church Property Bill: first reading—  
System of classification of clerks—Appropriation Bill: first reading; standing orders suspended; second reading; in committee; third reading—  
Telegraphic Communication with Nicol Bay—Eastern Railway Bill: in committee; third reading—  
Police Force, Perth and Fremantle—Third Reading—Adjournment.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at noon.

PRAYERS.

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH PROPERTY BILL.

MR. BURT, in accordance with notice, moved the first reading of a Bill to em-

power the Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church for the time being, and his successors in office, to mortgage for certain purposes certain lands vested in him, and belonging to, or used in connection with, the Roman Catholic Church.

Bill read a first time, and ordered to be printed.

#### CLASSIFICATION OF CLERKS.

MR. BROWN moved the following resolution:—"That the members of this Council having had under their consideration the system of 'The Classification of Clerks,' now in vogue in the Public Service of this Colony, are unable to arrive at a decision that the system is a satisfactory one. They therefore humbly pray that His Excellency the Governor will be pleased to investigate the subject, with a view to ascertaining whether a more desirable system could be adopted." He believed the Government, as well as some hon. members were agreed that the existing system was open to objections, and he therefore hoped that, at the next Session, the Government would be prepared to submit a more desirable system for the consideration of the House. In view of the action taken by the House with regard to the resolutions brought forward on this subject by the hon. member for Perth (Mr. Parker), he thought it was desirable that the Government should be asked to consider the subject during the recess. Unless this were done, and a resolution passed, the Government, unless disposed of their own mere motion to do so, might excuse themselves by pointing to the action of the House in connection with the resolutions brought forward by the hon. member for Perth, and subsequently withdrawn.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

#### APPROPRIATION BILL.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. R. T. Goldsworthy) moved, The first reading of a Bill to appropriate the sum of One hundred and fifty-four thousand seven hundred and eleven pounds fourteen shillings and eight pence out of the General Revenue of the Colony, for the service of the year one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine.

The motion was agreed to, and the Standing Orders were suspended with a view to pass the Bill through its various stages.

#### TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION WITH NICOL BAY.

MR. CAREY, with leave, without notice, moved—"That in the opinion of this Council it is desirable that telegraphic communication should be established with Nicol Bay. And with that view the Government is requested to take such steps as may be deemed necessary, to place an estimate of the cost of the work and suggested route before this House at its next Session." He did not think there would be any divergence of opinion as to the desirability of extending the telegraph to our North-West settlements, which though increasing in importance, were, comparatively speaking, isolated from the other parts of the Colony. The resolution did not commit the House to any line of action in the matter, before an estimate of the cost of the work was placed before it; but as some time would possibly be required to determine which would be the best route for the line he thought it would be well that the House should affirm the resolution this Session, so as to afford the Government time to decide what route would be best to follow.

Resolution agreed to, *nem. con.*

#### EASTERN RAILWAY BILL.

##### IN COMMITTEE.

Clause 1—"Short Title:"

Agreed to.

Clause 2—"It shall be lawful to construct and maintain a railway from Fremantle to Guildford, with all necessary, proper, and usual works and conveniences in connection therewith, and upon the lands described in the schedule to this Act."

MR. PEARSE asked if the site of the Fremantle station had yet been determined upon? If not, he thought it would be somewhat premature to describe the line in the schedule.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking): It will be ample time next Session to express an opinion on the point referred to by the hon. member.

MR. BROWN: I rise in consequence of the very discouraging statement just made by the hon. gentleman opposite (the Attorney General), namely, that it will be time enough twelve months hence to fix upon the site of the railway station at Fremantle.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking): We shall not necessarily begin the railway at the site intended for the station at Fremantle.

Clause agreed to.

Schedule and preamble agreed to.

Bill reported, and—the Standing Orders being suspended—read a third time and passed.

#### POLICE FORCE AND POLICE HORSES.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. R. T. Goldsworthy) laid on the Table the papers asked for by the hon. member for Vasse on the 10th July. [A return showing the number of officers, men, and horses attached to the Police Force at Perth and Fremantle, on the 18th April, 1865, and 18th April, 1878, showing also the nature of the employment of the men and horses on each of those days].

MR. CAREY, in accordance with notice, drew the attention of [the House to the returns. He said that on April 11th, 1865, seventeen years ago, the number of policemen attached to the force at Perth was 21, and 8 native constables; and as Mr. Campbell, who was now employed in the office of the Superintendent of Police as a clerk, was at that time (1865) a sergeant on active duty on the force, the number of men then employed was reduced to twenty. In this present year, according to the returns just furnished, there were 25 men attached to the force—no mention was made of native constables in the return for this year—showing an increase of five as compared with the number employed in 1865. Though this increase was not as great as had been represented to him, still it appeared to him that the number of policemen at present attached to the metropolitan force was considerably in excess of what it ought to be, especially when it was borne in mind that the number of convicts had been much reduced since 1865, when the police force was not so numerous as at present. With regard to horses,

it appeared from the returns before him that, while on the 18th April, 1865, there were only 10 horses attached to the force at Perth, there were 12 horses so attached on the 18th April, this year. He failed to see why the number should be greater now than it was in 1865, and could hardly imagine that there was any actual necessity for such a number of horses being attached to the service, so far as the exigencies of the service itself were concerned. But possibly other use was found for both horses and men, and, as a case in point, he might mention that being down at Fremantle the other day—on the very day, he believed, referred to in the returns, namely, the 18th April—he might be wrong in the date—he saw one of the police-vans with a pair of horses conveying two officials who were in no way connected with the police service, nor engaged on police duty. [Cries of "Name."] In this van was the Colonial Secretary and the Director of Public Works, and in another van were Capt. Smith and his wife. He did not think that, apart from His Excellency the Governor, any other official, unconnected with the police department, had any right to drive about in these vans, and the system of official livery stables should not be permitted. If the police horses were employed for other purposes than the police service it was evident either that the service itself must suffer, or that there must be more horses employed than there was any necessity for. Only seven policemen were now employed on police duty in Perth, as compared with nine in 1865, although there was a larger number of men on the force now than there was then; therefore, if not employed on police duty, they must be employed at something else, or wasting their time in idleness. Having thus drawn the attention of the House to the returns which had just been laid on the Table, he now begged to move the following resolution: "That in the opinion of this Council it is desirable that neither the police constables nor the police horses should be employed on other than police duties, unless when required by His Excellency the Governor."

MR. S. H. PARKER seconded the resolution.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY (Hon. R. T. Goldsworthy) said the hon. mem-

ber who moved for the returns and who had just moved a resolution must have thought, when he called for the returns, that he had a much stronger case against the Government than he really had; for it must be apparent to the House and to the hon. member himself that his investigations had only led to the discovery of a "mare's nest." The hon. member seemed somewhat surprised that in the face of decreased crime there should not be a corresponding decrease in the strength of the police force, forgetting that the diminution of crime was attributable to the strength and efficiency of the police, and that in proportion as police supervision was increased the ratio of crime diminished. The hon. member, also, seemed to have overlooked the circumstance that population had considerably increased since 1865, and as the number of inhabitants increased and settlement extended, police supervision must also be extended. As to the Colonial Secretary, or the Superintendent of Police, being accompanied by his wife when out for a drive or on business, he hardly thought the House would object to that; it would be exceedingly hard if it did. If, in doing so,—if, in accommodating the lady with a seat—it would require four horses instead of two, or necessitate the taking of a portmanteau instead of a carpet bag, it would be quite a different thing; and the hon. member who was so jealous a guardian of the public interests, and so observant a traveller withal, might have some justification for his strictures, and for his virtuous indignation. The hon. member had not brought forward the matter in a spirit which recommended it to the House, but in that captious spirit which had characterised his conduct throughout the Session in dealing with the Police Department—a spirit that could not commend itself to any right-minded member.

MR. BROWN said there was no doubt that a great many reports were in circulation—excessively false reports—with regard to the police department, leading the public to believe that some outrageous proceedings had been carried on in connection with that branch of the public service. This impression was no doubt strengthened by the action of the hon. member for Vasse during the present

Session of Council in moving for returns and otherwise calling attention to alleged abuses in connection with the department. But he thought it must be plain that the hon. member had failed to bring home any charges against the department worthy of the notice of the House. As to the increased number of men on the force now as compared with fourteen years ago, he did not think that the increase was at all disproportionate with the increase of population, which of course required increased protection and supervision; and although we might have had a larger number of convicts in 1865 than we had at present, it must be borne in mind that the number of men who were "at large" and requiring police supervision was not so great then as now. Personally, he felt content with the action of the Government during the past twelve months as regarded the management and reorganisation of the police department, and he believed that was the general feeling among the majority of hon. members in that House. As to that part of the resolution before the House relating to the undesirability of police constables, or police horses, or police vans, being employed by officials other than those connected with the department, he was not aware that they had been so employed, except when those who made use of them were on public duty of some kind; and he could hardly think that the hon. member would object to the vans or horses being used by Government officials who were entitled to travelling allowances. As to their being accompanied by their wives, the matter really appeared to him (Mr. Brown) to be beneath the notice of that House altogether. He would move as an amendment upon the resolution of the hon. member for Vasse, That all the words after the word "That," be struck out, and the following words be inserted in lieu thereof:—"The Members of this Council having considered the returns laid upon the Table of this House, showing the number of officers, men, and horses attached to the Police Force at Perth and Fremantle, on the 18th April, 1865, and the number so employed on the 18th April, 1878, have much pleasure in expressing their satisfaction at the result shown by the said returns."

SIR T. COCKBURN-CAMPBELL seconded the resolution.

MR. CAREY disclaimed any intention of seeking to depreciate the value of the services rendered by the police, as insinuated by the hon. the Colonial Secretary. His sole object was to ascertain whether there were grounds for the rumours which were current outside, with respect to the abuses connected with the department. As to his having discovered a "mare's nest," he considered it was something more than that when it was shown that half the police horses in Perth were employed by officials when on private business, or at any rate when not engaged on any duty connected with the police department. It was no "mare's nest," when the return showed only two horses employed on certain business on a certain day, when, in reality, there were four horses so employed. As to the amendment of the hon. member for Geraldton, there were only nine members out of twenty then present in the House, and those who were present were asked after a few minutes' examination of the returns furnished only a quarter of an hour ago—but called for several days since—to express their satisfaction at the result shown by those returns. Let those hon. members who did feel satisfied do so by all means; he was not going to stultify himself.

MR. S. H. PARKER considered that after all the talk outside, and the extravagant rumours current with respect to alleged abuses in connection with the police department, the hon. member for Vasse was quite justified in calling for these returns; and he (Mr. Parker) thought the Government ought to feel grateful to the hon. member for affording them an opportunity of refuting the stories which were flying about with reference to the police department. With a view to pour oil upon the troubled waters which the debate had stirred up, he would suggest that progress be reported.

The amendment was then put and carried, on the voices.

### THIRD READINGS.

The following Bills were read a third time and passed: Railways Bill, 1878; Northern Districts Special Revenue Act,

1873, Amendment Bill, 1878; High School Act, 1876, Amendment Bill, 1878.

The House adjourned at half-past three o'clock, p.m., until noon next day.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

*Wednesday, 24th July, 1878.*

Election of a Governor of the High School—Message from His Excellency the Governor (acknowledging addresses and assenting to Bills)—Financial Condition of the Colony, on 1st January, 1878—Roman Catholic Church Property Bill: second reading; in committee—Prorogation.

THE SPEAKER took the Chair at twelve o'clock, noon.

PRAYERS.

### ELECTION OF A GOVERNOR OF THE HIGH SCHOOL.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL (Hon. H. H. Hocking), with leave, without notice, moved, "That the House proceed with the election of a Governor of the High School, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the retirement of Mr. Steere." He thought the choice of the House should be limited to persons residing in Perth, and, under the circumstances, he would move that the Chairman of the Municipal Council and the member for the City—Mr. S. H. Parker—be elected.

MR. MARMION proposed that Mr. Shenton, the hon. member for Toodyay, be elected.

A ballot having been called for, and hon. members having delivered to the Clerk their respective votes,

THE CLERK reported to Mr. Speaker the following result:

Mr. S. H. Parker	...	6
Mr. George Shenton	...	5
Majority for Mr. Parker		1