

1933.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

REPORT

OF THE

Joint Committee of the Legislative Council
and Legislative Assembly

APPOINTED TO

PREPARE THE CASE FOR SECESSION

PRESENTED TO BOTH HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT 19TH SEPTEMBER, 1933.

Ordered to be Printed.

[FIRST SESSION OF THE FIFTEENTH PARLIAMENT.]

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EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES—LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
AND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Legislative Assembly.

TUESDAY, 29th AUGUST, 1933.

10. *Secession—Appointment of Committee to prepare Address.*—The Premier, pursuant to notice, moved, That in view of the result of the referendum taken under the provisions of the Secession Referendum Act, 1932, this House is of the opinion that it is the indispensable duty of the Parliament, on behalf of the people of Western Australia to endeavour by a dutiful address to His Majesty, and humble applications to both Houses of the Imperial Parliament to procure such legislation by the said Imperial Parliament as may be necessary to effectuate the withdrawal of the people of the State of Western Australia from the Federal Commonwealth established under and by virtue of the provisions of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (Imperial), and that a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament be appointed to consider and recommend what action shall be taken in relation to the preparation, completion, and presentation of the said address and the said applications in order to give effect to this resolution.

Question—put and passed.

A ballot having been held, the following members were appointed, in addition to the mover, to serve on the Committee:—Mr. Hawke, Mr. Keenan, Mr. Latham, and Mr. Withers.

Ordered—That the Committee have power to call for persons and papers, to sit on days over which the House stands adjourned, with power to confer with any similar Committee of the Legislative Council, and to report on Tuesday, 12th September.

Ordered further—That a Message be transmitted to the Legislative Council requesting its concurrence in the resolution, and asking that House to appoint a similar Committee, with power to confer with the Committee of this House.

TUESDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER.

4. *Extension of Time for Select Committee.*—The time for bringing up the report of the Select Committee on the Preparation of Address on Secession was extended until Tuesday, 19th September.

TUESDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER.

6. *Report of Joint Committee—Preparation of Case for Secession.*—The Premier brought up the report of the Joint Committee appointed to make recommendations regarding the preparation of the case for Secession, and moved, That the Report be received and read.

Question—put and passed.

Report received and read.

Ordered—That the Report be printed, and its consideration made an Order of the Day for the next sitting of the House.

Legislative Council.

WEDNESDAY, 30th AUGUST.

6. *Secession—Appointment of Committee to prepare Address.*—The Order of the Day for the consideration of Message No. 13 from the Legislative Assembly, as follows:—

Message No. 13.

Mr. President,

The Legislative Assembly acquaints the Legislative Council that it has this day agreed to the following resolution, in which the Legislative Assembly desires the concurrence of the Legislative Council:—

“That in view of the result of the referendum taken under the provisions of the Secession Referendum Act, 1932, this House is of the opinion that it is the indispensable duty of the Parliament on behalf of the people of Western Australia to endeavour by a dutiful address to His Majesty and humble applications to both Houses of the Imperial Parliament to procure such legislation by the said Imperial Parliament as may be necessary to effectuate the withdrawal of the people of the State of Western Australia from the Federal Commonwealth, established under and by virtue of the provisions of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (Imperial), and that a Joint Committee of both Houses of Parliament be appointed to consider and recommend what action shall be taken in relation to the preparation, completion, and presentation of the said address, and the said applications in order to give effect to this resolution.”

The Legislative Assembly has appointed a Committee of five members, and requests the Legislative Council to appoint a Committee with a similar number of members with power to confer with the Committee of the Legislative Assembly.

A. H. PANTON,

Speaker.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Perth, 29th August, 1933.

having been read,

The Chief Secretary moved, That the resolution of the Legislative Assembly contained in Message No. 13 be concurred in.

Debate ensued.

Question—put and passed.

A ballot having been held, the following members were appointed to serve on the Committee, viz.:—The Honourables J. M. Drew, C. F. Baxter, W. J. Mann, J. T. Franklin, and A. M. Clydesdale.

The Chief Secretary moved, That the Committee have power to call for persons, papers, and records, and to confer with the Committee of the Legislative Assembly, and to report on Tuesday, 12th September.

Question—put and passed.

The Chief Secretary moved, That a Message be transmitted to the Legislative Assembly acquainting it that the Legislative Council concurs in the resolution set out in Message No. 13 from the Legislative Assembly, and has appointed five members of the Legislative Council to act on the Committee referred to therein, and has fixed Friday, the 1st September, at 11 a.m. in the President's Room, as the time and place for the first meeting.

Question—put and passed.

TUESDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER.

4. *Report of Joint Committee—Extension of Time for.*—The time for bringing up the Report of the

Joint Committee upon "Secession—Preparation of Address," was extended for one week.

TUESDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER.

5. *Preparation of Address re Secession—Report of Joint Committee.*—The Chief Secretary brought up the Report of the Joint Committee appointed to consider the preparation of an Address re Secession, and moved, That the Report be received and read,

Question—put and passed.

Report received and read.

Ordered—That the consideration of the Report be made an Order of the Day for the next sitting.

MINUTES OF MEETINGS JOINT COMMITTEE—PREPARATION
OF ADDRESS—SECESSION.

FRIDAY, 1st SEPTEMBER, 1933, 11 a.m.

Present.—The Honourables J. M. Drew, M.L.C.; C. F. Baxter, M.L.C.; A. M. Clydesdale, M.L.C.; J. T. Franklin, M.L.C.; W. J. Mann, M.L.C.; N. Keenan, M.L.A.; Mr. C. G. Latham, M.L.A.

Apologies.—Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Hon. P. Collier, M.L.A. (Premier), Mr. F. J. Withers, M.L.A., and Mr Hawke, M.L.A.

Election of Chairman.—Mr. Drew was elected Chairman for the meeting.

Adjournment.—After discussion, it was decided to adjourn the meeting until 11 a.m. Monday, 4th September.

Formation of Sub-Committee.—The matter of the formation of the sub-committee was further discussed and deferred to the next meeting.

Adjournment.—The Committee adjourned at 7 p.m. until Thursday, 14th September.

THURSDAY, 14th SEPTEMBER, 1933.

By mutual agreement, the meeting fixed for this day was postponed until Tuesday, 19th September, at 3.30 p.m.

TUESDAY, 19th SEPTEMBER, 3.30 p.m.

Present.—The Honourables P. Collier, M.L.A. (Chairman); J. M. Drew, M.L.C.; A. M. Clydesdale, M.L.C.; J. T. Franklin, M.L.C.; W. J. Mann, M.L.C.; N. Keenan, M.L.A.; Messrs. C. G. Latham, M.L.A.; A. R. G. Hawke, M.L.A.; F. J. Withers, M.L.A.

Rescinding of Resolution.—The Committee rescinded their previous resolution for the appointment of a Committee of five, and decided that six persons should be appointed a Committee to prepare the Case for Secession.

Appointment of Committee.—After discussion, it was decided to recommend that the Committee should consist of the following six gentlemen:—Mr. C. Dudley, Mr. J. Lindsay, Mr. A. J. Reid, B.A.; Mr. J. L. Walker, K.C.; Mr. H. K. Watson, and the Hon. J. Scaddan, C.M.G.

Report.—The Chairman presented a draft report, and after discussion and amendment, the report was adopted.

Adjournment.—The Committee adjourned.

MONDAY, 4th SEPTEMBER, 11 a.m.

Present.—All the members.

Election of Chairman.—Mr. Collier was elected to the Chair.

Appointment of Sub-Committee.—On the motion of Mr. Latham, seconded by Mr. Clydesdale, it was decided that a Committee of five be appointed to prepare the Case for Secession.

Adjournment.—The Committee adjourned until Tuesday, 12th September, at 7 p.m.

TUESDAY, 12th SEPTEMBER, 7 p.m.

Present.—All the members, with the exception of Mr. Hawke.

Apology for Non-attendance.—Mr. Hawke sent an apology for non-attendance.

**Report of the Joint Committee appointed to recommend action
to be taken on the question of Secession.**

Your Committee has held four sittings.

Your Committee recommend that the following gentlemen be appointed a Committee to prepare a dutiful address to His Majesty, the statement of the case for Secession, and humble applications to both Houses of the Imperial Parliament to procure such legislation by the Imperial Parliament as may be necessary to effectuate the withdrawal of the People of the State from the Federal Commonwealth:—Mr. C. Dudley, Mr. J. Lindsay, Mr. A. J. Reid, B.A.; the Hon. J. Scaddan, C.M.G.; Mr. J. L. Walker, K.C.; Mr. H. K. Watson, and to submit the case for the subsequent approval of both Houses of Parliament.

P. COLLIER,
Chairman.

19th September, 1933.