

Votes

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 12 MAY, 1896.

1. **OPENING OF THE SESSION:**—The House met at Twelve o'clock at Noon, pursuant to a Proclamation of His Excellency the Governor, bearing date the first day of April, 1896.

Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

The Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, read a copy of the said Proclamation, as follows:—

“ NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency the Right Honorable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT
“ to wit. } HAMPDEN, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New
“ (L.S.) } South Wales and its Dependencies.
“ HAMPDEN,
“ Governor.”

“ WHEREAS the Parliament of New South Wales now stands prorogued to Tuesday, the fourteenth day of April instant: Now, I, HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, in pursuance of the power and authority in me vested as Governor of the said Colony, do hereby further prorogue the said Parliament to Tuesday, the twelfth day of May now next ensuing: And I do hereby further announce and proclaim that the said Parliament shall assemble for the despatch of business on the aforesaid twelfth day of May next, at twelve o'clock at noon, in the buildings known as the Council Chambers, situate in Macquarie-street, in the City of Sydney: And the Members of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly respectively are hereby required to give their attendance at the said time and place accordingly.

“ Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Sydney, this first day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, and in the fifty-ninth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

“ By His Excellency's Command,

“ JAMES N. BRUNKER.

“ GOD SAVE THE QUEEN !”

2. **WRITS OF ELECTION:**—Mr. Speaker informed the House that during the recess, in accordance with the direction of the 55th section of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, he had issued Writs for the Election of Members to serve in the Legislative Assembly in the room of the undermentioned gentlemen, viz.:—

Angus Cameron, Esquire, Member for Waverley, deceased.

Denis Cornelius Joseph Donnelly, Esquire, Member for Cowra, deceased.

And that the said Writs had been duly returned to him, with certificates endorsed thereon, by the respective Returning Officers, of the election of the following gentlemen to serve as Members for the Electoral Districts mentioned in connection with their names:—

Thomas Jessep, Esquire—for Waverley.

Michael Thomas Phillips, Esquire—for Cowra.

3. **MEMBER SWORN:**—Michael Thomas Phillips, Esquire, having taken and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance, and signed the Roll of the House, took his seat as Member for the Electoral District of Cowra.

4. **MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR:**—The Usher of the Black Rod being admitted, delivered the following Message:—

“ MR. SPEAKER,—

“ It is the pleasure of the Governor that this Honorable House do attend His Excellency immediately in the Legislative Council Chamber.”

The House went,—and being returned, adjourned, on motion of Mr. Reid, at twenty-two minutes past Twelve o'clock until Four o'clock This Day.

12th May, 1896.

The House resumed, pursuant to adjournment.

5. MEMBER SWORN :—Thomas Jessep, Esquire, having taken and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance, and signed the Roll of the House, took his seat as Member for the Electoral District of Waverley.
6. ASSENT TO BILLS :—Mr. Speaker acquainted the House that during the recess he had received the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor :—

- (1.) Municipal Loans Validation Bill :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 1.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to validate certain loans contracted and securities given by the Councils of certain Municipalities,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd December, 1895.

- (2.) Locksley Deviation Bill :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 2.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a Deviation at Locksley, on the Great Western Line of Railway, and to constitute the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales the Constructing Authority thereof within the meaning of the Public Works Act of 1888,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd December, 1895.

- (3.) Public Service Bill :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 3.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the better regulation of the Public Service, and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd December, 1895.

- (4.) Appropriation Bill :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 4.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the supplies granted for the Service of the year from the 1st day of July, 1895, to the 30th day of June, 1896, inclusive of both dates, and for the period from the 1st day of January to the 30th day of June, 1895, inclusive of both dates, and for previous years; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd December, 1895.

- (5.) Treasury Bills Deficiency Bill :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 5.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the issue of Treasury Bills to cover the Deficiency Debt up to the 30th June, 1895; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to enable trustees and others to invest therein; to amend the 'Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1889'; and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd December, 1895.

- (6.) Australasian Federation Enabling Bill :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 6.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable New South Wales to take part in the framing, acceptance, and enactment of a Federal Constitution for Australasia,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd December, 1895.

(7.)

12th May, 1896.

(7.) Wellington Show Ground Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 7.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the trustees of certain lands dedicated for the use of the Wellington Pastoral and Agricultural Society to mortgage and sell the said lands, and to purchase other lands in the town or in the vicinity of the town of Wellington for the use of the said Society; to raise money on mortgage of the lands so purchased; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd December, 1895.

7. **ORDNANCE LANDS TRANSFER BILL:**—Mr. Reid presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill for confirming the transfer to the Secretary at War in England from the Principal Officers of Ordnance there of certain lands in New South Wales, and for amending the Ordnance Land Act of Council, 1840,*"—which was read a first time *pro forma*.
8. **THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH:**—Mr. Speaker reported that the House had this day attended the Governor in the Legislative Council Chamber, when His Excellency was pleased to deliver an Opening Speech to both Houses of Parliament, of which, for greater accuracy, he had obtained a copy,—which he read to the House, as follows:—

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

I congratulate you upon the legislative changes made last Session, which have enabled me to call you together at this convenient season of the year.

2. The death of Sir Henry Parkes has evoked feelings of profound regret, shared, I believe, by all parties and all classes of the people. The public services of the veteran statesman constitute a claim to national gratitude, which has been freely acknowledged in all parts of Australia.

3. In March last, at a Conference of Australian Ministers, representing New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, and Victoria, it was resolved that a measure should be submitted to the respective Parliaments extending the provisions of the Chinese Restriction Acts to all coloured races. In accordance with that promise, a Bill containing those provisions will immediately be placed before you.

4. In dissolving the late Parliament, a few months ago, owing to a disagreement between the two Houses with regard to the proposals for direct taxation, my Advisers also placed prominently before the electors the necessity for radical changes in the constitution of the Legislative Council. Ministers intend to adhere to the course they marked out for themselves when before the country. A measure will shortly be submitted providing for reference to the electors of all important Bills upon which the Assembly and Council have failed to agree in two consecutive Sessions. A further measure to limit the number and to abolish the life tenure of the Members of the Legislative Council will be introduced next Session.

5. The strife in Parliament on fiscal policy having terminated, Ministers are convinced that they will fulfil the desire of an overwhelming majority of the people if they take advantage of this Session to submit a number of large and important proposals free from party lines, and affecting the industrial welfare of the whole community,—measures which for many years past have been considered urgently necessary by each successive Administration.

6. The settlers in the more remote districts of the Colony have been called upon to endure untold losses and hardships, and the development of many large and fertile areas has been arrested, owing to the absence of legislation for the conservation and distribution of water. Private enterprise in this direction has also been paralysed from the same cause. A Bill dealing with these matters, and defining riparian rights, has been prepared, and will be submitted without delay. I may add that the Government is taking steps to secure the services of an eminent authority to advise upon these subjects.

7. Another want of the highest practical consequence to all classes is legislation on matters affecting the health of the people, such as the suppression of nuisances dangerous to health, the discovery and treatment of cases of infectious and contagious disease, the enforcement of sanitary precautions, and the punishment of attempts to make dishonest gains out of the adulteration and fraudulent description of articles of human food and drink. A Bill dealing with these questions, and placing the existing Board of Health upon a more efficient basis, will be another prominent measure of the Session.

8. My Advisers also propose that the present Session shall not be allowed to close without a large instalment of reform in the constitution, procedure, and practice of our Courts of Law. The distinction between Law and Equity can no longer be allowed to exist. The rules of Equity should prevail in every case and in all jurisdictions. Every action should be made the means of a final settlement between all the parties who are joined and also those who ought to be joined, whether as plaintiffs or defendants. Procedure must be simplified, redress made less costly and more speedy. For these purposes the jurisdiction of the lower Courts will be enlarged and improved, and Supreme Courts made available for the trial of causes for much longer periods than at present.

9. Your earnest consideration will be invited to much-needed amendments in the "*Mining on Private Property Act of 1894,*" and the "*Mining Act of 1874,*" and you will be again asked to pass a Bill for the Regulation of Collieries.

10. A Bill to Regulate Factories and Workshops, especially as to the employment of women and children, will also be taken up as an urgent question.

11. The labours of the Royal Commission on Fisheries have resulted in a well-considered measure for the promotion of this national industry, which will be introduced this Session.

12. A Bill to extend the provisions of the law relating to Municipalities, to remove serious defects discovered in its operation, and to provide, under stringent conditions, for placing approved Municipal Loans under the guarantee of the Government, will also be proceeded with.

12th May, 1896.

13. Bills dealing with Electoral Reform, Relief to the Free Selectors, the Rabbit Plague, Stock Routes, a Bill to Amend the Navigation Act, the Church and School Estates, the Amalgamation of the Savings Banks, a Medical Bill, a Pharmacy Bill, Public Roads Bill, Truck Bill, Juries Bill, and other measures of minor importance will also be presented. Even though it be impossible to pass all these measures during the present Session, they may be advanced one or more stages under the new Standing Orders, and their consideration resumed next Session.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

14. The Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1896-7 will be placed before you in a form showing the changes made by the Board now reorganizing the Public Service. The new financial system is working smoothly, and I am advised that there is every probability that the Revenue will exceed and the Expenditure fall short of the Estimates.

HONORABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL,

AND GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

15. I am glad to be enabled to state that there is now a reasonable prospect of the whole of the Colonies of Australia and Tasmania being represented in the Convention to frame a Federal Constitution.

16. It is also highly gratifying that the Land Act of 1895 is proving, in the opinion of my Advisers, a marked success. Homestead selections have been taken up by a large number of families. The growing demand for agricultural lands on the part of a genuine class of farmers is one of the most satisfactory, amongst many signs of returning prosperity. In order to fully meet this demand, the Government will ask Parliament to provide, under safe conditions, for the acquisition of private lands, in suitable localities, for the purpose of that closer settlement the absence of which has been one of the greatest drawbacks to our prosperity and good government.

17. The Government intend to continue the policy of making light lines of railway in connection with existing lines. The growing need for a new Metropolitan Railway terminus has brought the question of an extension into the City again into prominence. A proposal on this subject has been considered, and will be submitted to Parliament without delay. It is also the intention of the Government to ask authority for the extension to Broken Hill of the railway now under construction to Condobolin.

18. I have received with satisfaction assurances that the widespread distress arising from dearth of employment, since the Banking panic of 1893, has of late sensibly diminished; and that in many other directions there are signs of increased enterprise. My Advisers have determined that the tendency shown by so many of the unemployed to leave the country districts and assemble in the Metropolis shall be resolutely discouraged, and the claims of those who remain in the country districts will be preferred to the claims of those who do not. The network of local registration now established throughout the Colony will enable the Government to give full effect to this policy.

I now leave you to the discharge of your high and honorable duties, and I pray that the wisdom of the Almighty may guide your deliberations, so that they may largely tend to the advancement of the Colony.

Mr. Jessep then moved, and Mr. Bull seconded the motion,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to prepare an Address-in-Reply to the Speech delivered by His Excellency the Governor on opening this Session of the Parliament of New South Wales.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bull, Mr. Lee, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Greene, Mr. Millen, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Simeon Phillips, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

And the Committee retired to prepare the Address.

And Mr. Jessep having brought up the Address prepared by the Committee, the same was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

To His Excellency the Right Honorable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our thanks for your Excellency's Speech, and to assure you of our unfeigned attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty's Throne and Person.

We desire to assure your Excellency that the utmost consideration will be given to the various important measures that will be submitted to us.

We join your Excellency in the hope that under the guidance of Divine Providence our labours may be so directed as to advance the best interests of the Colony.

Mr. Jessep then moved, and Mr. Bull seconded the motion, That the Address-in-Reply to the Governor's Opening Speech, as read by the Clerk, be now adopted by this House.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Parkes moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraph 3:—

"We desire to express the opinion that your Excellency's Ministers should at once invite Parliament to appoint a Select Committee to inquire into the administration of public works in this Colony."

Question proposed, That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.

Debate continued.

Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Question put and passed.

Ordered that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow, and (with the unanimous concurrence of the House) take precedence of other business.

The House adjourned, on the motion of Mr. Reid, at ten minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 2.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 13 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL:—Mr. E. M. Clark presented a Petition from William Kenwood, of Sydney, Civil Engineer, and a Member of the Engineering Association of New South Wales, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise William Kenwood, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to construct, erect, and maintain a High-level Bridge over the waters of Port Jackson, between the city of Sydney and the borough of North Sydney, and to construct, maintain, and work a tramway upon and over the said Bridge, and between the city of Sydney and the borough of North Sydney; and for other purposes in connection therewith. And Mr. Clark having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and *North Sydney*, newspapers containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.

2. **NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:**—Mr. Morton presented a Petition from Benjamin Crispin Simpson, of Sydney, Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the construction of a bridge and approaches thereto to connect the south and north shores of Port Jackson from a point in Cumberland-street, about thirty-three chains fifty links north from the intersection of Cumberland-street with Charlotte-place, in the city of Sydney, to Dawes' Point; thence to and crossing the waters of Port Jackson to Milson's Point, North Sydney; thence to and terminating at a point in Alfred-street about ten chains fifty links north of the intersection of Dind-street and the said Alfred-street, in the borough of North Sydney; to authorise the building over and diversion of streets or roads; to authorise the appropriation or use of certain lands required for or in connection with the carrying out of the said work; to make provision for compensating the owners of and others interested in such lands; to authorise the imposition of tolls; to confer powers for the making and enforcement of by-laws; and for all other purposes which may be incidental thereto. And Mr. Morton having produced the *Government Gazette* and the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Bulletin*, and *North Sydney*, newspapers containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.

3. **TAMWORTH WATER SUPPLY:**—Mr. A. B. Piddington presented a Petition from certain ratepayers of the Municipality of Tamworth, representing that, for the reasons in the Petition set forth, the Petitioners are strongly opposed to the scheme for supplying the town of Tamworth with water; and praying the House to stop all further proceedings in that very expensive project.
Petition received.

4. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:**—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans, relating to the proposed erection of buildings at Rookwood for infirm and destitute persons.
(2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed water supply for the town of Tamworth,
Ordered to be printed.

13th May, 1896.

5. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the requirements of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, laid upon the Table his warrant appointing the Committee of Elections and Qualifications for the present Session, of which the following is a copy:—

“ By the Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
“ of New South Wales.

“ PURSUANT to the power in that behalf vested in me, as Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of
“ New South Wales, by the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, I do hereby
“ appoint—

“ Thomas Bavister, Esquire,
“ John Henry Cann, Esquire,
“ Henry Clarke, Esquire,
“ William Patrick Crick, Esquire,
“ James Alexander Hogue, Esquire,

“ William Henry Mahony, Esquire,
“ John Cash Neild, Esquire,
“ Edward William O’Sullivan, Esquire,
“ Thomas Waddell, Esquire,

“ being Members of the said Assembly, to be Members of the Committee of Elections and
“ Qualifications in the said Act referred to, during the present Session of the Assembly aforesaid.

“ Given under my hand, at the Legislative Assembly Chamber, Macquarie-street, Sydney,
“ this thirteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and
“ ninety-six.

“ J. P. ABBOTT,
“ Speaker.”

6. BUSINESS DAYS (*Sessional Order—Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be a Sessional Order that, unless otherwise ordered, this House shall meet for the despatch of business at Four o’clock p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in each week.
Question put and passed.

7. THE GOVERNOR’S OPENING SPEECH:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Jessep, That the following Address-in-Reply to the Governor’s Opening Speech, as read by the Clerk, be now adopted by this House:—

“ To His Excellency the Right Honorable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, Governor and
“ Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

“ MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

“ We, Her Majesty’s loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislative Assembly
“ of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our thanks for your Excellency’s
“ Speech, and to assure you of our unfeigned attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty’s Throne
“ and Person.

“ We desire to assure your Excellency that the utmost consideration will be given to the
“ various important measures that will be submitted to us.

“ We join your Excellency in the hope that under the guidance of Divine Providence our
“ labours may be so directed as to advance the best interests of the Colony.”

Upon which Mr. Parkes had moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraph 3,—

“ We desire to express the opinion that your Excellency’s Ministers should at once ‘invite
“ ‘Parliament to appoint a Select Committee’ to inquire into the administration of public works in
“ this Colony.”

And the Question being again proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

Mr. Copeland moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by leaving out the words “invite
“ Parliament to appoint a Select Committee,” and inserting the words “appoint a Royal
“ Commission consisting of not less than three Members” instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the proposed amendment.
Debate continued.

Mr. Neild moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow, and (*with the unanimous concurrence of
the House*) take precedence of other business.

8. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at two minutes after Eleven o’clock, until To-morrow at Four o’clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 14 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Frank Farnell presented a Petition from John Lang, representing that the Capertee Tramway Bill, which was introduced into this House during the last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.

And the 409th Standing Order of this House permitting of the prayer of the Petitioner being entertained,—

Petition received.

(2.) Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 26th May.

2. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Parkes presented a Petition from John Sulman, of Sydney, representing that the City and North Sydney Railway Bill, which was introduced into this House during the last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.

And the 409th Standing Order of this House permitting of the prayer of the Petitioner being entertained,—

Petition received.

(2.) Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 26th May.

3. CITY MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY'S (LIMITED) ACT ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Frank Farnell presented a Petition from the City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited), praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited), its successors or assigns, or the directors, or the manager for the time-being thereof, to refuse inspection of the register of members to the members thereof, or to any member of the public, anything contained in the Companies Act, 37th Victoria No. 19, to the contrary notwithstanding.

And Mr. Farnell having produced the *Government Gazette*, and *The Australian Star* newspaper, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—

Petition received.

4. CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Lee moved, pursuant to Notice, That William McCourt, Esquire, be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House for the present Session.

Question put and passed.

Whereupon Mr. McCourt made his acknowledgments to the House.

5. MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Harris moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 26th May.

6. LAW PRACTITIONERS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the admission of persons to practise in Courts of Law.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Neild then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate the admission of persons to practise in Courts of Law*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 26th May.

14th May, 1896.

7. SMALL DEBTS RECOVERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to extend the law relating to the attachment of debts, and to confer upon any two Justices of the Peace the powers of a Police Magistrate under the Small Debts Recovery Act.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Affleck then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to extend the law relating to the attachment of debts, and to confer upon any two Justices of the Peace the powers of a Police Magistrate under the 'Small Debts Recovery Act,'*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 26th May.
8. STANDARD TIME ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the "Standard Time Act of 1894."
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Cann then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the 'Standard Time Act of 1894,'*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 9th June.
9. AGREEMENTS VALIDATING ACT REPEAL BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Willis moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to repeal the "Agreements Validating Act," and to make provision for continuance of agreements lawfully made thereunder before the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven.
 Question put and passed.
10. RECREATION RESERVE, DENILIQUN—CLAIM OF MR. J. S. BRAIM (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all letters, papers, and other documents relating to the application by residents of Deniliquin for a recreation reserve adjoining the police paddock at Deniliquin, and to the alleged claim of Mr. J. S. Braim for compensation for the removal of a fence.
 Question put and passed.
11. HOMES PROTECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Homes Protection Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during the last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
 Question put and passed.
 Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 26th May.
12. THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Jessep, That the following Address in Reply to the Governor's Opening Speech, as read by the Clerk, be now adopted by this House:—
"To His Excellency the Right Honorable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.
"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—
"We, Her Majesty's loyal and dutiful subjects, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled, desire to express our thanks for your Excellency's Speech, and to assure you of our unfeigned attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty's Throne and Person.
"We desire to assure your Excellency that the utmost consideration will be given to the various important measures that will be submitted to us.
"We join your Excellency in the hope that under the guidance of Divine Providence our labours may be so directed as to advance the best interests of the Colony."
 Upon which Mr. Parkes had moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraph 3,—
"We desire to express the opinion that your Excellency's Ministers should at once 'invite Parliament to appoint a Select Committee' to inquire into the administration of public works in this Colony."
 In which proposed amendment Mr. Copeland had moved to leave out the words "invite Parliament to appoint a Select Committee," and insert the words "appoint a Royal Commission consisting of not less than three members" instead thereof.
 And the Question being again proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the proposed amendment,—
 The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 15 MAY, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Copeland, by leave, withdrew his proposed amendment of the amendment.

Mr. Parkes then, by leave, withdrew his proposed amendment of the Address.

Whereupon Mr. Miller moved, That the Address be amended by the addition thereto of the following words:—"We further regret to state to Your Excellency that, though your present advisers have received a mandate from the people at the last General Election to effect an immediate reform of the Legislative Council, they propose to postpone this important matter until next Session; and we also take occasion to protest in the most emphatic manner against the payment of the Vice-President of the Executive Council's salary by your present advisers without constitutional authority."

Question

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be added be so added.
Debate continued.

Question put, and Division called for,—but there not being Tellers on the part of the *Ayes*, no Division could be had, and Mr. Speaker declared the Question to have passed in the *negative*.

Original Question,—That the Address in Reply to the Governor's Opening Speech, as read by the Clerk, be now adopted by this House,—put and passed.

Mr. Reid informed the House that he had ascertained it to be the pleasure of the Governor to receive their Address in Reply to His Excellency's Opening Speech on Tuesday next, at half-past Four o'clock.

13. **PRECEDENCE OF BUSINESS (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, General Business shall take precedence of Government Business on Tuesdays, and Government Business shall take precedence of General Business on Wednesdays and Thursdays.
(2.) That General Notices of Motions and General Orders of the Day shall take precedence respectively on each alternate Tuesday.
Question put and passed.
14. **STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Standing Orders Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. McCourt, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Sec, Mr. Lee, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Crick, Mr. Young, and the Mover, with leave to sit during any adjournment, to report in any matter or thing referred to or pending before the said Committee, and to confer upon subjects of mutual concernment with any Committee appointed for similar purposes by the Legislative Council.
Question put and passed.
15. **LIBRARY COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Library Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Neild, Mr. Hogue, Mr. O'Sullivan, Dr. Hollis, Mr. Perry, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Black, and the Mover, with leave to sit during any adjournment, and authority and power to act jointly with the Library Committee of the Legislative Council, in accordance with the Assembly's resolution of 6th August, 1862.
Question put and passed.
16. **REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That the Refreshment Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Neild, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Frank Farnell, Mr. Parkes, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Chapman, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Bavister, and the Mover, with leave to sit during any adjournment, and authority to act in matters of mutual concernment with any Committee appointed for similar purposes by the Legislative Council.
Question put and passed.
17. **PRINTING COMMITTEE (Sessional Order)**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That all papers laid upon the Table, except such as the Standing Orders direct shall be printed, be referred to a Printing Committee.
(2.) That the Printing Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Cann, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Millen, Mr. Price, Mr. Rose, Mr. Dugald Thomson, and the Mover, to whom shall be referred all Papers (except Reports from Select Committees on Private Bills) laid upon the Table of the House. It shall be the duty of such Committee to report from time to time which of the Papers referred to them ought, in their opinion, to be printed, and whether in full or in abstract; and it shall be in the power of the Committee to order such Papers, or abstracts thereof, to be prepared for Press by the Clerk in attendance upon such Committee.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
18. **COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into the Committee of Supply.
Question put and passed.
19. **COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Question put and passed.
20. **COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the "Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888" to all persons of any coloured race, and to repeal section 15 of that Act.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
21. **MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That this House will, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend and extend the "Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894," and to amend the Mining Acts, 1874 and 1889, and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.

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22. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Point of Order :—Mr. Parkes making statements of a serious nature respecting the competency of the permanent head of the Public Works Department,—Mr. Reid submitted to the Chair that it was irregular to make charges affecting a Public Officer on a motion for the adjournment of the House.

Mr. Speaker sustained the Point of Order.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at seven minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

E. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 4.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 19 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

ADDRESS IN REPLY TO THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH:—The Assembly proceeded to Government House, there to present to the Governor their Address in Reply to the Speech His Excellency had been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament on opening the Session,—

And being returned,—

Mr. Speaker reported that the Assembly had presented to the Governor their Address in Reply to His Excellency's Opening Speech, and that His Excellency had been pleased to give thereto the following answer:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly,—

I receive with much gratification your Address and the renewed assurance of your unfeigned attachment to Her Most Gracious Majesty's Throne and Person.

I fully rely on your patriotism and wisdom in the consideration of the important measures to be submitted to you, and I fervently trust that the result of your labours will conduce to the welfare and development of the Colony, and to the happiness and prosperity of all classes of the community.

*Government House,
Sydney, 19th May, 1896.*

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

2. TEMPORARY CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES:—Mr. Speaker, pursuant to Standing Order No. 28, appointed,—

James Ashton, Esquire,
John Moore Chanter, Esquire,
Charles Alfred Lee, Esquire,
William Henry Mahony, Esquire,
Edward William O'Sullivan, Esquire,—

to act as Temporary Chairmen of Committees during the present Session.

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Land and Income Tax Returns:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What has been the cost up to date of the preparations, clerical and otherwise, in connection with the new system of taxation?

(2.) What has been the cost of the printed forms and envelopes issued gratis to the public in connection with the Land and Income Tax returns?

(3.) What saving, if any, has been effected in the Custom House staff owing to the repeal of the tariff duties?

Mr. Reid answered,—It would be inconvenient and unnecessarily expensive to prepare a partial return. So soon as all the expenditure in connection with the first year's taxation has been ascertained a return thereof will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the Assembly?

(2.) Reclassification in Public Works Department:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the total amount saved by the reclassification in the Works Department by the Public Service Board Commission?

(2.) Previous to the classification by the Commissioners, who held the position of Commissioner and Chief Engineer for Roads; who holds that office now?

(3.)

19th May, 1896.

- (3.) Previous to the classification referred to, who held the office of Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works; who holds that office now?
- (4.) Is there any saving on these two offices as now classed compared with the expenditure for the same duties performed previous to the reclassification by the Public Service Board; if so, what is the amount saved; if the expenditure is greater, how much more is it?
- (5.) Will he inform this House why, under the 3rd schedule of the classification of officers by the Board, which professes to be reduced salaries, only four have been reduced, one retained at the same salary formerly paid to him, and one increased by £75, seeing the schedule says, "The officers were in receipt of greater salaries than the maximum determined"?

Mr. Reid answered,—It would be very much better for the Honorable Member to wait for this information until the report of the Public Service Board is placed upon the Table. I am informed that that report will give full information upon all these matters. It will be ready in a very few weeks.

- (3.) Case of John Whealy:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) During and previous to 1887 was there a person of the name of John Whealy in the Police Force?
- (2.) What position did he occupy in the Force, and how long was he in it?
- (3.) Had any complaints been made against him by any person; if so, how many, and what was the nature of them?
- (4.) What was the cause of his leaving the Force, and on what date were his services dispensed with?
- (5.) After his leaving the Force, did he receive any gratuity or pension; if so, how long did he receive such, or why was it stopped?
- (6.) Was any of Whealy's salary kept back; if so, how much, and by whose authority, and for what purpose?
- (7.) Has any inquiry been made into the reason why the services of Whealy were dispensed with; if so, will the Minister lay the papers upon the Table of this House as soon as possible?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) A constable from 4th September, 1861, to 16th February, 1887.
- (3.) Yes; I will presently lay upon the Table a copy of "Defaulter Sheet," giving the information desired.
- (4.) He was discharged for refusing to perform duty, and being considered wholly unsuited for police service.
- (5.) No.
- (6.) He was paid to 31st January, 1887, and struck off the strength on the 16th February. He refused to receive the balance of pay due to him.
- (7.) The Inspector-General dealt with the case. There will be no objection to lay the papers upon the Table if moved for in the ordinary way.

- (4.) Inmate in Benevolent Asylum:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that an old person is now in the Benevolent Asylum, aged 74 years, who was twenty-nine years in the Civil Service as Clerk of Petty Sessions in two important districts of this Colony?
- (2.) Is he aware that this person has a brother at present a Police Magistrate, a son a Bank manager, another son a Justice of the Peace, all in good circumstances?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the amount subscribed by these three relatives to the State in support of the person referred to is one shilling per week?
- (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill during this Session dealing with such cases?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1, 2, and 3.) The Director of Government Asylums reports that a person corresponding to the description given in the Question was in the institution for several years, but ceased to be an inmate in 1893.
- (4.) The matter is under consideration.

- (5.) Director of Botanical Gardens:—*Mr. Hurley* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has any appointment been made to the position of Director of the Botanical Gardens; if so, what are his name and his qualifications for the position, giving the dates and durations of his former appointments?
- (2.) On whose recommendation was the gentleman appointed, and what practical knowledge has this gentleman of the duties pertaining to this position?
- (3.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of all applications, with the accompanying testimonials, that were received from the various candidates?
- (4.) Is the Government aware that the Melbourne Botanical Gardens and Domains were temporarily ruined by the appointment of an inexperienced Director some years ago; that the Victorian Government superseded this person by a scientific and practical man; and that it took years of labour and a great expenditure to remedy the effects of inexperience and lack of scientific knowledge?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am unable to give a reply to the Honorable Member's Question. The action taken with regard to the changed positions will be dealt with by the Public Service Board. Until I receive the report of the Board it will be impossible to give the information asked for by the Honorable Member.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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(6.) Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) What will the scheme of retrenchment effected by the Civil Service Board up to date cost the Superannuation Fund per annum?

(2.) What amount will have to be voted out of the Consolidated Revenue—(a) to meet the abatements involved in the above-mentioned scheme of retrenchment; (b) the same information for gratuities?

Mr. Reid answered,—Perhaps the Honorable Member will permit me to suggest that it would be as well to defer asking questions of this nature until the report of the Public Service Board is laid before Parliament, which, I understand, will contain full information on the operations of the Board.

(7.) Railway Charges on Imported Agricultural Produce:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that, while grain duties have been abolished at the Custom House, the Railway Commissioners propose to levy an additional charge of about 20 per cent. to carry imported agricultural produce inland?

(2.) Does he intend, in the interests of free trade, to acquiesce in substituting increased railway charges for Customs duties?

Mr. Reid answered,—The question of railway rates is one dealt with by the Railway Commissioners. The rate now charged is the same as that which was in operation in 1889, and is considered a reasonable one.

(8.) Accident at Wallsend Colliery:—*Mr. Watson*, for *Mr. Watkins*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
Has any action been taken by the Mines Department in connection with the fatal accident which occurred at the Wallsend Colliery on the 26th March last; if so, what?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The matter has been submitted to the Crown Law Officers as to what action, if any, the Department should take in regard to this accident, and they advise that, although there may have been an error of judgment by the overman, they do not think there has been negligence on his part sufficient to justify any proceedings being taken against him or the owners or agents of the colliery.

(9.) Exchange of Lands on Gobbagumblin and Tooyal Pastoral Holdings:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Was an application made by the holders of lands on Gobbagumblin and Tooyal pastoral holdings for the grant of Crown lands in exchange for private lands?

(2.) Was the application referred to the Local Land Board for the purpose of taking evidence, and submitting a report and recommendation?

(3.) Were the exchanges made?

(4.) What number of acres of Crown lands were granted, and what number of acres of private lands surrendered in making the exchange?

(5.) To what extent was the report and recommendation of the Local Land Board carried out or departed from?

(6.) What was the cause of the report and recommendation of the Board, as submitted, not having been carried out?

(7.) How were the lands granted by the Crown situated as to proximity to the Murrumbidgee River, the town of Wagga Wagga, and railway communication, in comparison to the private lands surrendered?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) 6,980 acres 3 roods of Crown lands were granted in exchange for 8,643 acres 3 roods 17 perches of private lands surrendered by the lessee.

(5.) The Board reported that on the original exchange proposal the Crown was surrendering land worth £2,766 1s. 8d. more than it was receiving, and instead of demanding payment of that sum the Department succeeded in obtaining 1,663 acres and 17 perches of additional land for settlement, &c., of the value of about £3,000.

(6.) Because such additional area of agricultural land would thereby be thrown open to settlement.

(7.) The surrendered land embraces a greater frontage to the Murrumbidgee River than that granted in exchange. The private land acquired by the Crown is better situated as regards railway communication than the land granted. Some small portion of the land granted by the Crown is closer to Wagga Wagga than that acquired, but this is fully compensated for by the nearness of the great proportion of the acquired land to the railway township of Coolamon.

(10.) Timber License Fees:—*Mr. Wheeler* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has he considered the advisability of reducing the royalty at present charged on timber and timber license fees?

(2.) If so, what decision has he arrived at in the matter?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; but it is considered that it would not be advisable to further reduce the rates at the present time.

(11.) Amendment of Government Railways Act:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he consider the advisability of amending the Railway Act in such a manner as to enable servants under the Railway Commissioners to discontinue their 4 per cent. payments to the Superannuation Fund, thus placing them on an equality with Civil Servants?

Mr. Reid answered,—I think this matter ought to be considered.

(12.)

19th May, 1896.

(12.) Settlement Leases and Homestead Selections:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for *Mr. Collins*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) How many settlement leases and homestead selections have been applied for in the Land Districts of Narrabri, Walgett, and Moree?

(2.) How many of the said leases have been confirmed?

(3.) Have all the leases that have been confirmed by the Land Board been issued by the Department; if not, what is the cause of the delay?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

	Settlement Leases.	Homestead Selections.
(1.) Number applied for at Narrabri	30	1
Walgett	11	7
Moree	38	0
(2.) Number confirmed at Narrabri	6	None.
Walgett	1	"
Moree	21	"

Two applications for settlement leases have been disallowed by the Walgett Land Board at their present sitting up to date.

(3.) Twenty-six settlement-lease applications have been received from the Local Offices; of these twenty-one were received only yesterday (18th instant), and of these four leases have issued, and one is ready for the approval of the Governor and the Executive Council, but must wait the result of an appeal to the Supreme Court as to whether the applicant is under legal disability. The remaining cases cannot be dealt with until the period of twenty-eight days, allowed for an appeal, has expired.

(13.) Proposed Railway from Narrabri to Walgett:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for *Mr. Collins*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In connection with the Government Railway policy, does he intend submitting a proposal for a railway from Narrabri to Walgett, *via* Wee Waa and Pilliga?

Mr. Young answered,—No decision on this point has yet been come to.

(14.) Fees to Members of Royal Commission on Coal Mines Regulation Bill:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many members of the Royal Commission on the Coal Mines Regulation Bill have been paid fees?

(2.) Who were the members of the Commission, and what amount, if any, was paid to each?

Mr. Brunker answered,—There were three Commissioners, who received fees as follows:—*F. E. Rogers*, Q.C., £608 8s.; *J. Curley*, £396 18s.; *J. Gregson*, £396 18s.

(15.) The Queensland Tick:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Mines,—What steps, if any, has he taken to prevent the introduction of what is known as the Queensland tick into this Colony?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I fully realise the importance of this matter, and, immediately attention was directed to the prevalence of the disease in question, the Government authorised the issue of a proclamation prohibiting the introduction of cattle and horses from the tick-infested districts, but admitting those from the non-infested districts, at prescribed crossing-places, on production of a declaration that they are not infected, and have not been in the prohibited districts during the preceding three months. Inspectors are stationed at every crossing-place on the border, and the police have been instructed to exercise the utmost care to see that no stock is received into the Colony unless under a certificate of the Chief Inspector of Stock. The Customs officers are instructed in a similar manner. Additional inspectors have also been appointed to watch the border-line, and the Chief Inspector of Stock is in Queensland consulting with the Stock Department there, and visiting the affected parts to see whether better provision can be made to prevent the introduction of the plague into New South Wales. I can assure the Honorable Member that the Government are aware of the importance of preventing it from coming into this Colony, and every possible step will be taken to secure that object. I believe that the steps taken will have that effect. *Mr. Tozer*, the Colonial Secretary of Queensland, is co-operating with the Government in every possible way to help us to prevent the plague from being introduced into New South Wales. Indeed, it is as important for the Government of Queensland to prevent the spread of it in the unaffected parts of that Colony as it is for us to prevent it from coming into New South Wales. Therefore the most vigilant precautions are being taken, and the Government will do all in their power to prevent the introduction of the pest. The additional precaution is taken of a personal examination by the Inspectors to see that the cattle are free from tick. Extra Inspectors have been appointed at the border, and police and Customs officers are empowered to take action against any cattle coming in without a necessary permit. As a further precaution, the Chief Inspector of Stock has proceeded to Queensland to ascertain whether the steps taken are sufficient to prevent the introduction of the disease into this Colony. When his report is received the Government shall lose no time in taking any further action which may be necessary to protect the interest of the stock-owners of this Colony. I may add that the Chief Inspector of Stock, who was instructed to visit Muswellbrook in regard to some cattle which it was stated had reached there in a diseased state, reports that there was no foundation for the statement.

(16.) Water Supply for Tamworth:—*Mr. W. H. B. Piddington*, for *Mr. A. B. Piddington*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he received from the Municipal Council of Tamworth any official approval of the proposed scheme for water supply to Tamworth?

(2.) If so, will he lay the communication upon the Table of the House?

Mr.

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Mr. Young answered,—When the first or pumping scheme was under consideration the Council complied with the terms of the Act, and submitted a resolution, under seal, agreeing to the carrying out of the works provided that the cost did not exceed £20,000. Notwithstanding this proviso the Mayor, representing the Council, gave evidence before the Public Works Committee in favour of the scheme, which was then estimated to cost £22,500. This scheme, however, was subsequently abandoned in favour of a gravitation scheme, which was referred to the Public Works Committee, and has been approved by that body. No further official communication has been received from the Council approving of this scheme beyond the fact that the Mayor and one of the aldermen, representing the Council, appeared before the Public Works Committee, and expressed strong approval of the work proposed. The work will not, of course, be commenced until the Council have complied with the terms of the Act.

(17.) *Employés boarding with Road Contractors*:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Is he aware that road contractors are now making it a rule that all persons employed by them must board with them, or they will not get employment, and the result is the men nearly eat out all they earn?

(2.) Will he issue instructions to contractors, or have it a clause in the contract, that where it is made known to him that this boarding is made compulsory the contract will be cancelled?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) I am not aware that any such rule exists, although no doubt in some cases men may find it convenient to board with the contractor who is employing them.

(2.) Workmen are already fully protected by the "Truck" clause of the general conditions forming part of all contracts, which provides that workmen and labourers of every class shall be paid their wages in full in money at least once in every month, and that no payment by provisions, liquors, or goods will be allowed. If any breach of this clause on the part of any contractor is brought under my notice I shall be prepared to deal with it.

(18.) *Appointment of Dr. Roth as Lecturer on Alimentary Anatomy, &c.*:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Dr. Roth has been appointed lecturer on alimentary anatomy, physiology, and school hygiene to students attending Training College at Fort-street?

(2.) The number of students attending such lectures, and amount of fees (if any) charged for the same?

(3.) The amount of salary paid to Dr. Roth, and how often such lectures are delivered?

(4.) Is it a fact that Dr. Roth has also been appointed to deliver lectures on the same subjects at Hurlstone Ladies College, how often, number of students attending, fees paid, and the amount of salary he receives?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Twenty-six students and ten teachers attend. No fees are charged.

(3.) The salary paid is £100 per annum, and lectures are delivered once a week, on Saturday mornings from 9 to 10.30 o'clock.

(4.) Yes. He lectures once a week, on Thursday afternoons from 4 to 5 o'clock. Twenty-nine students attend. No fees are charged. The salary paid is £100 per annum.

(19.) *Report by Dr. Cobb on Diseases in Stock*:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) When will Dr. Cobb's report on diseases in stock, especially fluke and worms, be ready?

(2.) Also his reports on diseases or blights in wheat?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) It is expected it will be issued in about a month.

(2.) Dr. Cobb is engaged on a series of articles, some of which have already been published in the *Agricultural Gazette*, and the results of his further investigations will appear in the next two issues of the same publication.

(20.) *Justices of the Peace in the Northumberland Electorate*:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that at Cooranbong, in the Northumberland electorate, where there is a lock-up, and a Police Court held, there is only one Justice of the Peace?

(2.) Was a petition received from the residents of Martinsville, near Cooranbong, asking for additional Justices, and pointing out the inconvenience in the absence of the only resident Justice—Gosford, the next nearest Court, being over 30 miles distant?

(3.) Was any gentleman recommended; and, if so, there being now no resident Police Magistrate, will he, in the interest of the public and of justice, have some additional appointments made to the Commission of the Peace in that district?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) I am informed that such is the case.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes; the matter shall have attention.

(21.) *Justices of the Peace in the Northumberland Electorate*:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that in the late appointments of gentlemen to the Commission of the Peace that on the Macdonald River, in the Northumberland electorate, two brothers were selected, there being already one brother of the same family a Magistrate, all residing within an area of 10 miles?

(2.) Is he aware that in the same district a son of another Magistrate has been appointed, making in all three brothers and a father and son to constitute the Bench at St. Albans?

(3.) Has the Colonial Secretary's attention been called to the matter; and, if so, what action, if any, does he propose to take in regard to the abovenamed appointments?

(4.)

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- (4.) Were the abovenamed the only gentlemen recommended?
- (5.) Is it a fact that on the Upper Macdonald, where there is a large settlement, extending a distance of 14 miles, there is no resident Magistrate, while the present Justices all reside between St. Albans and Wiseman's Ferry, a distance of 10 miles?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—
- (1, 2, and 5.) It has been ascertained that such is the case.
- (3.) The matter will receive consideration.
- (4.) No.
- (22.) Travelling Expenses of Government Officers:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will the return, ordered by this House on 17th September last, respecting the travelling expenses incurred by the various Departments, be laid upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Reid answered,—The return will be laid upon the Table this week.
- (23.) Influx of Hindoos:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the serangs on the P. and O. mail steamers are in the habit of introducing numbers of Hindoos into this country, by shipping them in India as supernumeraries, and discharging them here?
- (2.) This Company being subsidised by the Government, will he take steps to at once put a stop to this practice?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that no such introduction takes place. The serang has nothing to do with the shipping and discharging of the crew; that duty is performed only by the captain or purser. The only Hindoo scamen discharged from the P. and O. ships at this port are those left in gaol or hospital, and immediately they are able to resume work the Company finds employment for them on board the vessel then in port.
- (24.) Harris-street Post Office:—Mr. Hughes, for Mr. Davis, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware that inconvenience and annoyance are caused to the residents of the northern end of Pyrmont by the closing of the Harris-street Post Office?
- (2.) With a view of minimising the evil, will he give effect to the desire of the inhabitants of this important district by removing the present office to some central site in Harris-street?
- (3.) Is he adverse to the Government erecting a building worthy of the district adjacent to the late office?
- (4.) Is he aware of what amount of profit would accrue to the Department by such action?
- Mr. Cook answered,—
- (1.) Some little inconvenience is possibly occasioned, but insufficient to warrant the continuance of a second post office within 400 yards of the present official one.
- (2.) Yes; on the expiration of the present lease in August, 1897.
- (3.) I have come to no definite decision as to the precise locality of the future office, and purpose making full inquiry before doing so.
- (4.) No; much will depend on the class of building erected by the Government should it be determined to erect one.
- (25.) Royal Commission on Fisheries:—Mr. Parkes asked the Colonial Secretary,—What is the total cost of the late Royal Commission upon Fisheries, giving all detail expenditure?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—I will lay the information upon the Table in the form of a return to-morrow afternoon.
- (26.) Shipping Regulations:—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has he received the amended regulations recently brought into force by the British Board of Trade relative to ensuring proper accommodation and sanitary conveniences for seamen?
- (2.) If so, does he consider it advisable to adopt the same as applying to the shipping of this Colony?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Not otherwise than those in the Imperial Merchant Shipping Consolidated Act of 1894.
- (2.) This matter will receive consideration when a local Act dealing with it is again submitted.
4. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY TUNNEL-ROADWAY BILL:—Mr. Parkes presented a Petition from John Sulman, of Sydney, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise John Sulman, or his assigns, to construct, work, and maintain a Tunnel-roadway from Milson's Point, North Sydney, to the city of Sydney; and for other purposes.
- And Mr. Parkes having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Daily Telegraph* and *North Shore and Manly Times* newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—Petition received.
5. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- (1.) Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill:—
- HAMPDEN, Message No. 8.
Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 14th May, 1896.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

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(2.) Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
*Governor.**Message No. 9.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.

Government House,
Sydney, 14th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(3.) Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
*Governor.**Message No. 10.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes.

Government House,
Sydney, 14th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

6. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Sydney Smith, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
*Governor.**Message No. 11.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to alter and amend sections 14 and 63 of the "Mining Act, 1874"; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Government House,
Sydney, 12th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(2.) Coal Mines Regulation Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
*Governor.**Message No. 12.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to make better provision for the regulation of Coal-mines and Collieries; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Government House,
Sydney, 12th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(3.) Water Rights Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
*Governor.**Message No. 13.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water, and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses; to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Government House,
Sydney, 12th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

7. PAPERS:—

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Substituted Amended Form No. 47, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (2.) Substituted Amended Forms Nos. 7, 46, and 50, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (3.) Substituted Amended Regulations Nos. 49, 50, 148, and 149, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (4.) Substituted Amended sub-section (b) to Regulation No. 35, under the Crown Land Acts.
- (5.) Substituted Amended Regulation No. 110, under the Crown Lands Acts.

(6.)

19th May, 1896.

- (6.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (7.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (8.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (9.) Copies of *Gazette Notices*, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the Dedication of certain Lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (10.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Additional Regulation under the Prisons Regulations Act, 4 Vic. No. 29, and the Prisons Act, 37 Vic. No. 14.
- (2.) Return of particulars of Inquests and Magisterial Inquiries for the year 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) By-laws for the Water Supply of Junee, under the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880.
- (2.) Reports of the completion of Reticulation Sewers and Additional Sewers, North Sydney.
- (3.) Amended Metropolitan Water By-law, No. 1, for Country Districts in the county of Cumberland; Amended Metropolitan Water By-law No. 6; Amended Metropolitan Sewerage By-law No. 2; and Amended Metropolitan Drainage By-law No. 4.
- (4.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of additional land, parish of Field of Mars, county of Cumberland, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Parramatta North.
- (5.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Coorumbung, county of Northumberland, for a Bridge over Sandy Creek.
- (6.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Warren, county of Oxley, for a Weir near Warren.
- (7.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Alexandria, county of Cumberland, for a Battery for quick-firing guns at Green Point, Watson's Bay.
- (8.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bowra, county of Raleigh, for a way of approach to Bowra Wharf.
- (9.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of St. John, county of Cumberland, for a Court-house and Police buildings at Parramatta.
- (10.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Wickham, county of Brisbane, for a Bridge over Giant's Creek.
- (11.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Lismore, county of Rous, for Police Barracks at Lismore.
- (12.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Barringun, county of Culgoa, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Barringun.
- (13.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Wondalga, county of Wynyard, for a Bridge over Adelong Creek at Moore's Crossing.
- (14.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Willoughby, county of Cumberland, for certain Drainage Works on the north shore of Port Jackson.
- (15.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Mugga, county of Bland, for works of Water Supply for Wyalong.
- (16.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Newcastle, county of Northumberland, for Drainage Works at Newcastle.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of December, 1895.
- (2.) Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of January, 1896.
- (3.) Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of February, 1896.
- (4.) Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of March, 1896.
- (5.) Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of April, 1896.
- (6.) Statement of Trust Monies Deposit Account for the year ended 31st March, 1896.
- (7.) Report on the working of Part I of the Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act, 1894, for the year ended 30th June, 1895.
- (8.) Despatch respecting the tonnage measurement of ships belonging to the United States of America.
- (9.) Report of Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended December, 1895.
- (10.) Report of Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended March, 1896.
- (11.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of certain lands, parish of Magdala, county of Cook, for improving the grades and curves between Valley Heights and Springwood, on the Great Western Railway.

(12.)

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- (12.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of certain lands, parishes of Linden and Woodford, county of Cook, for improving the curves between Linden and Woodford, on the Great Western Railway.
- (13.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of certain lands, parishes of Yetholme and Melrose, county of Roxburgh, for the deviation of the Great Western Railway near Locksley.
- (14.) Amended Orders and Regulations under the Act 14 Vic. No. 36, for the control of the Public Abattoirs, Glebe Island.
- (15.) Regulations under the Customs Duties Act of 1895.
- (16.) Regulations under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895.
- (17.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895.
- (18.) Regulation under the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to equipment-allowances to officers of the Public Works Department.
- (19.) Despatch respecting a Convention between Great Britain and Japan, signed at Tokio, 16th July, 1895, supplementary to the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between the countries, of 16th July, 1894.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return respecting ex-Constable John Whealy.
- (2.) By-law of the Municipal District of Ermington and Rydalmerc.
- (3.) By-law of the Municipal District of St. Peters.
- (4.) By-law of the Municipal District of Blayney.
- (5.) By-law of the Municipal District of Tumut.
- (6.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Deniliquin.
- (7.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Inverell.
- (8.) By-laws of the Borough of Waterloo.
- (9.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Peak Hill.
- (10.) By-laws of the Borough of Kempsey.
- (11.) By-laws of the Borough of Newcastle.
- (12.) By-laws of the Borough of Annandale.
- (13.) By-law of the Municipal District of Moree, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (14.) By-law of the Borough of Wagga Wagga, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (15.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Cobarr, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (16.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Katoomba, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (17.) By-laws of the Borough of Jamberoo, under the Municipalities Act of 1867 and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (18.) By-laws of the Borough of Mudgee, under the Municipalities Act of 1867 and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (19.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Gulgong, under the Municipalities Act of 1867 and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (20.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Aberdeen, under the Municipalities Act of 1867 and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- (21.) By-laws of the Borough of Newcastle, under the Newcastle Paving and Public Vehicles Regulation Act.
- (22.) By-laws of the Borough of Goulburn, under the Municipalities Act of 1867; Goulburn Cattle Sale-yards Act of 1875; Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875; and Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880.
- (23.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st December, 1895.
- (24.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st December, 1895.
- (25.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st March, 1896.
- (26.) Report on Police Department for the year 1895.
- (27.) Report on Immigration for the year 1895.
- (28.) Report on the Department of Charitable Institutions for the period ending 31st August, 1895.
- (29.) Report of Board for the Protection of the Aborigines for the year 1895.
- (30.) Report on the Naval Forces of the Colony for the year 1895.
- (31.) Tenth Annual Report of the Goulburn Fire Brigades Board, under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.
- (32.) Returns, under the several Acts of Parliament administered by the Registrar-General, for the year 1895.
- (33.) Supplementary Report of the Royal Commission on Fisheries.
- (34.) Evidence, Appendix, &c., to the Report of Royal Commission on Coal Mining Regulation Bill.
- (35.) Return to an Order, made on 17th October, 1895,—“Salaries paid out of Loan Votes.”
- (36.) Return to an Order, made on 17th September, 1895,—“Travelling Expenses of Government Officers.”
- (37.) Return to an Order, made on 26th September, 1895,—“Crown Prosecutors.”
- (38.) Return to an Order, made on 13th November, 1895,—“Retirement of Mr. Lewis Scott from the Civil Service.”
- (39.) Return to an Order, made on 5th December, 1895,—“Retirement of Mr. Lewis Scott from the Civil Service.”

(40.)

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(40.) Report of the Electoral Districts Commissioners, together with authenticated maps of the Electoral Districts defined in such report.

(41.) Proclamation, under the Customs Regulation Act, 1879.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Additional Regulation under the Mining or Private Lands Act of 1894.

(2.) Substituted Regulations under the Vine Diseases Act of 1893.

(3.) Regulations under the Mining Act, 1874, relating to Mineral Licenses.

(4.) Report of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

8. LANDS FOR CLOSER SETTLEMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Carruthers, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 14.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to authorise the purchase, acquisition, and resumption of land for the purposes of closer settlement, and to regulate the disposal thereof; to authorise the making of provisional agreements in respect of the same; to enable funds to be provided for the above purposes by the issue of debentures and otherwise; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 19th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

9. LIENS ON WOOL AND STOCK MORTGAGES BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday, the 23rd June, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the law relating to preferable liens on wool and mortgages on stock and stations.
Question put and passed.
10. AGRICULTURAL HOLDINGS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Price moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to agricultural holdings, and to amend such other statutes as may be necessary to give effect to the same.
Question put and passed.
11. SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Price moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to proceedings in the Supreme Court.
Question put and passed.
12. REMOVAL OF MR. E. D. DYSON, ROADS SUPERINTENDENT, FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers in connection with the removal of Mr. E. D. Dyson, Roads Superintendent, from the Public Works Department.
Question put and passed.
13. CITY MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY'S (LIMITED) ACT ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited), its successors or assigns, or the directors, or the manager for the time being thereof, to refuse inspection of the register of members to the members thereof, or to any member of the public, anything contained in the Companies Act, 37 Victoria No. 19, to the contrary notwithstanding.
Question put and passed.
14. NATIVE FLORA PROTECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
(1.) Mr. Frank Farnell moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to protect the native flora of New South Wales.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Farnell then presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to protect the Native Flora of New South Wales,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 9th June.
15. CANCELLATION OF ANNUAL LEASE, PARISH OF BOREE-CABONNE, MOLONG (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all correspondence, minutes, petitions, and reports relative to the cancellation of annual lease No. 13,458, in the parish of Boree-Cabonne, district of Molong, county of Ashburnham.
Question put and passed.
16. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT ABOLITION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Capital Punishment Abolition Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 9th June.

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17. BANK HOLIDAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Thomas Brown, for Mr. Griffith, moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the "Bank Holidays Act, 1875."
Question put and passed.
- (2.) Mr. Brown then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the 'Bank Holidays Act, 1875,'*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 9th June.
18. SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise William Kenwood, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to construct, erect, and maintain a high-level bridge over the waters of Port Jackson, between the city of Sydney and the borough of North Sydney, and to construct, maintain, and work a tramway upon and over the said bridge, and between the city of Sydney and the borough of North Sydney; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Question put.
The House divided.
- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | Ayes, 66. | | Noes, 13. |
| Mr. Brunker, | Mr. Frank Farnell, | Mr. Thomas Brown, | Mr. Perry, |
| Mr. Linc, | Mr. Haynes, | Mr. Millen, | Dr. Ross, |
| Mr. A. B. Piddington, | Mr. Smailes, | Mr. Macdonald, | Mr. Schey, |
| Mr. Cook, | Mr. Storey, | Mr. McMillan, | Mr. Crick, |
| Mr. Sydney Smith, | Mr. O'Sullivan, | Mr. T. R. Smith, | Mr. Thomas, |
| Mr. Carruthers, | Mr. Hawthorne, | Mr. Law, | Mr. Chanter, |
| Mr. Gould, | Mr. Kelly, | Mr. Raymond, | Mr. McGowen, |
| Mr. Garrard, | Mr. Affleck, | Mr. Hayes, | Mr. Watson, |
| Mr. Young, | Mr. Knox, | Mr. Gormly, | Mr. Wilks, |
| Mr. Wright, | Mr. Henry Clarke, | Mr. Copeland, | Mr. M. T. Phillips, |
| Mr. Reid, | Mr. Cotton, | Mr. Barnes, | Mr. Hassall. |
| Mr. Russell Jones, | Mr. McLean, | Mr. F. Clarke, | <i>Tellers,</i> |
| Mr. Molesworth, | Mr. Bull, | Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, | Mr. Ferguson, |
| Mr. Moore, | Mr. Harris, | Mr. Fegan, | Mr. Willis. |
| Dr. Graham, | Mr. Simeon Phillips, | Mr. Wheeler, | |
| Mr. Lec, | Mr. Nelson, | Mr. Hughes, | |
| Mr. Whiddon, | Mr. Bavister, | Mr. Chapman, | |
| Mr. Millard, | Mr. Howarth, | Mr. McLaughlin. | |
| Mr. Jessep, | Mr. James Thomson, | <i>Tellers,</i> | |
| Mr. Neild, | Mr. Black, | Mr. E. M. Clark, | |
| Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, | Mr. Dick, | Mr. Morton. | |
| Mr. McCourt, | Mr. O'Rally, | | |
| Mr. Hurley, | Mr. Price, | | |
- And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
- (2.) Mr. Clark having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise William Kenwood, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to construct, erect, and maintain a High-level Bridge over the waters of Port Jackson, between the city of Sydney and the borough of North Sydney, and to construct, maintain, and work a tramway upon and over the said Bridge, and between the city of Sydney and the borough of North Sydney; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—read a first time.
19. EIGHT HOURS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That the "Eight Hours Bill," which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 9th June.
20. LEGAL PROFESSION AMALGAMATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the practice of the legal profession by amalgamation of the separate branches thereof; and for other purposes connected therewith.
Question put and passed.
- (2.) Mr. Schey then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate the practice of the legal profession by amalgamation of the separate branches thereof; and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 9th June.
21. MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the "Municipalities Act of 1867."
Question put and passed.
- (2.) Mr. Neild then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the 'Municipalities Act of 1867,'*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 23rd June.
22. LAW OF LIBEL AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Law of Libel Amendment Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 23rd June.

19th May, 1896.

23. CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY ACT OF 1889 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. KNOX moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the
 "Church of England Property Act of 1889 Amendment Act of 1892."
 Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. KNOX then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the 'Church of England Property Act of 1889 Amendment Act of 1892,'*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 7th July.

24. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Morton moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the construction of a bridge and approaches thereto to connect the south and north shores of Port Jackson from a point in Cumberland-street, about thirty-three chains fifty links north from the intersection of Cumberland-street with Charlotte-place, in the city of Sydney, to Dawes' Point; thence to and crossing the waters of Port Jackson to Milson's Point, North Sydney; thence to and terminating at a point in Alfred-street, about ten chains fifty links north of the intersection of Dind-street and the said Alfred-street, in the borough of North Sydney; to authorise the building over and diversion of streets or roads; to authorise the appropriation or use of certain lands required for or in connection with the carrying out of the said work; to make provision for compensating the owners of and others interested in such lands; to authorise the imposition of tolls; to confer powers for the making and enforcement of by-laws; and for all other purposes which may be incidental thereto.

Point of Order:—Mr. Crick submitted that the Notice of Motion should give the name of the party desiring to have authority under the Bill to construct the Bridge.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

25. DOG ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Dog Act.
 Question put and passed.

26. MINING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to alter and amend sections 14 and 63 of the "Mining Act, 1874," and for other purposes in connection therewith.
 Question put and passed.

27. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Sydney Smith, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 15.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend and extend the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, and to amend the Mining Act, 1874, and the Mining Act of 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Government House,

Sydney, 19th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

28. DEPUTY-SPEAKER'S COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE:—Mr. Speaker reported that he had received a Commission, under the Great Seal of the Colony, dated eighteenth May, 1896, and signed by His Excellency the Governor, empowering William McCourt, Esquire, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly, in the absence of the Speaker, to administer to Members the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance required by law,—which Commission, by direction of Mr. Speaker, was read by the Clerk, as follows:—

"By His Excellency the Right Honorable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, Governor and
 "Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

"To all to whom these Presents shall come,—

"Greeting:

"In pursuance of the authority in me vested in that behalf, I, HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, as Governor of the Colony of New South Wales, do hereby authorise WILLIAM MCCOURT, Esquire, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly of the said Colony, in the absence of the Honorable the Speaker of the said Assembly, to administer from time to time, as occasion may require, to any Member of the said Assembly to whom the same shall not have been previously administered, the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to Her Majesty the Queen, required by law to be taken or made and subscribed by every such Member before he shall be permitted to sit or vote in the said Legislative Assembly.

"Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Colony, at Government House, Sydney, in New South Wales aforesaid, this eighteenth day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, and in the fifty-ninth year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

"HAMPDEN,

"By His Excellency's Command,

"JAMES N. BRUNKER."

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th May, 1896.

29. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Canterbury, Mr. Parkes, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The appointment of one Royal Commissioner to inquire into the charges made by Mr. Parkes against the Public Works Department.”

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Parkes moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

30. BOOT AND CLOTHING FACTORY FOR GOVERNMENT SUPPLIES:—Mr. Copeland moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday, 9th June, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider an Address to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause provision to be made on the Estimates for 1896-7 to cover the cost of establishing a boot and clothing factory in which to make all boots and uniforms supplied by the Government.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Haynes moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Question put and passed.

Ordered that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 9th June.

The House adjourned, at Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 5.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 20 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Book 341, Deeds Branch, Registrar-General's Department :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that in the Registration of Deeds Department, book 341, folio 298, appears a substituted memo. written thereon "Omitted, 24/6/86. Department Registrar-General"; if so, by whose direction was it so placed?

(2.) Is it a fact that a perfect conveyance, so numbered, was registered on the date mentioned, and was it bound in such book, and by whom?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Registrar-General :—

(1.) In the position referred to is a memorandum by Mr. Deputy Registrar-General Abbott, placed there by him on 24th June, 1886, in consequence of the deed tendered for the number in question being refused registration on that day.

(2.) No.

- (2.) Sydney Harbour Colliery Company :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked The Secretary for Mines,—Has a suspension of labour conditions been granted to the Sydney Harbour Colliery Company; if so, for what period, and when will the time of such suspension expire?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; three months' suspension, which expires on the 20th June.

- (3.) Letting Contracts for the supply of Sleepers :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the following statements in a recent issue of *Truth*, a weekly paper, published in Sydney :—"The Railway Commissioners are in the habit of letting contracts for the supply of sleepers to small storekeepers, who will only pay us in bad rations; also to impecunious teamsters, who frequently receive the money, and then never pay us at all. Another great injustice is that the fettleers, or others, who are appointed to pass the sleepers on behalf of the Department, for some trifling fault—say, a sun-crack or a thin margin of sap—condemn a very large portion of our timber, for which, knowing that we are quite at their mercy, the Department offer a nominal price"?

(2.) If not, will the Colonial Treasurer, as Minister for Railways, cause an inquiry to be made into this method of sweating?

(3.) What price was recently paid by the Railway Commissioners in the Dubbo district for 8-foot second-class sleepers?

(4.) The same information with regard to the 9-foot second-class sleepers now stacked in the railway-yard at Dubbo?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that the practice is for the Railway Commissioners to invite offers publicly for the supply of railway sleepers, and contracts are let to tenderers who offer the most favourable terms. It is quite competent for the sleeper-getters to tender direct, and large supplies are obtained under contracts in this way. Regarding the passing of sleepers, the railway inspectors are held responsible for passing only sleepers in accord with specification. Inferior sleepers are taken at their value to the Department, and used for purposes for which they are suitable. If any grievance is thought to exist, if it is represented to the Railway Commissioners they will be glad to make inquiry.

(3.) 1s. each

(4.) 1s. 3d. each.

(4.)

20th May, 1896.

- (4.) Water Supply for Tamworth:—Mr. A. B. Piddington asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it intended, under the present water supply scheme for Tamworth, to supply West Tamworth?
 - (2.) If so, does the Departmental estimate for reticulation, submitted to the Public Works Committee, include the cost of reticulation for West Tamworth?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
- (5.) Removal of Magistrates from Brewarrina:—Mr. Willis asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Why are Police Magistrates sent to and removed from the town of Brewarrina?
 - (2.) Has he made himself acquainted with the revenue drawn from Brewarrina and district?
 - (3.) If so, will it not compare favourably with inland towns enjoying the benefit of District Courts?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) Brewarrina has not been treated in any exceptional way in this respect; it has become necessary several times, in the ordinary course of promotion, to transfer Police Magistrates who might have been stationed at Brewarrina.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) In some respects, but not in others.
- (6.) Annuity to Lady Parkes:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When does he propose to ask Parliament to sanction the payment of an annuity to Lady Parkes?
- Mr. Reid answered,—A proposal with reference to the widow and children of Sir Henry Parkes will be submitted without delay.
- (7.) Refund to Civil Servants from the Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In consideration that some Civil Servants in the country, ignorant of the provisions of the amended Civil Service Act, have lately resigned from the Service without first withdrawing from paying into the Superannuation Fund, will he make an inquiry into such cases with a view of granting them a refund?
- Mr. Reid answered,—If there are any such cases the persons concerned ought to apply to the Public Service Board.
- (8.) Dairy Farming:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Have the dairy farmers of New South Wales expressed a desire for the Government to teach them how to make butter?
 - (2.) If not, what necessity exists for the proposed dairy on the North Coast?
 - (3.) Does he propose to sell the butter made at the proposed establishment?
 - (4.) If yes, why does he desire to compete with the existing dairies?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1 and 2.) Yes; a very general desire has been expressed by leading dairy companies, factories, farmers, and agricultural societies for technical instruction on dairying subjects, and as proof of this it may be instanced that the advance made by the department in the manufacture of cheese at the Hawkesbury Agricultural College has resulted in the leading cheese makers asking that their employees may receive instruction as to the process of manufacture.
 - (3.) It is proposed to export the butter produced.
 - (4.) There is no desire to compete with existing dairies, as it is the intention to export the product, and I think the Honorable Member will admit that as England imports to the value of £13,000,000 of butter annually, towards which this Colony only contributes £140,000, the comparatively small quantity that will be made on the experimental farm will in no way prejudicially affect those at present engaged in the export of dairy produce. On the other hand, any success that may be attained will have the effect of benefiting those engaged in dairying pursuits.
- (9.) Distribution of Medals to Members of the Volunteer Force:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What has occasioned the delay in distributing the long-service medals to the non-commissioned officers and privates of the Volunteer Force?
 - (2.) When is it intended to make the distribution?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The medals have not yet been received from England, and I may state that two reminders have already been sent to the Agent-General in regard to them.
- (10.) Victoria Barracks:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has the freehold of the Victoria Barracks been formally transferred to the New South Wales Government?
 - (2.) What is the estimated value of the said land?
 - (3.) What is its estimated value as a ninety-nine year leasehold?
 - (4.) What is the estimated value of the buildings now on the said land?
 - (5.) What is the average number of the men occupying the said barracks?
 - (6.) Has the Government considered the question of removing the barracks to a less valuable site and selling the land for building purposes?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) No; I may say that the matter is now proceeding; it is in the hands of the Crown Solicitor, and will shortly be completed.
 - (2.) Land value, 30 acres, taken in 1895, £120,000.
 - (3.) I am unable to supply this information at present.
 - (4.) Buildings, £60,000; walls, &c., £10,000.
 - (5.) Approximately 300.
 - (6.) This matter has not yet been considered.

20th May, 1896.

(11.) Appointment of Analytical Chemists in cases of Poisoning:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—Have any steps yet been taken in all cases of poisoning, or where persons are charged with having administered poison with intent to kill, to have two competent analytical chemists appointed to make a separate and distinct analysis in place of the system that is at present adopted, viz., of placing such cases in the hands of one person, in justice to persons charged with the offence of administering poison?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am informed by my Honorable colleague the Attorney-General that no steps have yet been taken in this matter.

(12.) Road from Eugowra to Nanima Run, Goolagong:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Have any complaints been made by petition or otherwise, from residents of Eugowra, of the obstruction to the travelling public by the erection of five or six gates on the road from Eugowra to Nanima Run and Goolagong, county of Ashburnham, and district of Molong; if so, have any steps been taken to have the gates removed?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Yes, by a petition from the residents of Eugowra; and it was found, after obtaining Surveyor's report, that the road being of minor importance the removal of all the gates would not be necessary, but the lessees were asked to have three of them removed, and a reply has been received from them that the request would be attended to.

(13.) Amounts paid from Consolidated Revenue Fund during 1894–5 to Sir Julian Salomons:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What amount was paid from the Consolidated Revenue during 1894–5 to Sir Julian Salomons, showing in such answer any amounts paid from the Railway Commissioners or any other source chargeable to the revenue of the country?

(2.) What was the particular amount paid this gentlemen in connection with the Dean case?

Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(14.) Mr. Wade, Crown Prosecutor:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) When was Mr. Wade appointed Crown Prosecutor?

(2.) At what salary?

(3.) Has he been paid anything beyond his salary from the Consolidated Revenue?

(4.) If so, will he state the amounts and the purposes for which paid?

(5.) Is it intended to keep this gentlemen in his present position; if so, at what salary?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) April, 1895.

(2.) £300 per annum.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) £60 8s. Prosecuting at Police Court in *Regina v. Rofe*; *Regina v. Taylor* and another; *Regina v. Crick* and others; *Regina v. Dean*.

(5.) Yes; £800 per annum.

(15.) Amounts paid from the Consolidated Revenue Fund during 1894–5 to Mr. C. G. Heydon:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What amount was paid (or is to be paid) to Mr. C. G. Heydon in connection with the Dean case?

(2.) What amount was paid (or is to be paid) to this gentleman in connection with the Mercadool land case?

(3.) What amount has been (or is to be) paid to this gentleman from the Consolidated Revenue (all sources) for the year 1895–6?

Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(16.) The Dean Case:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What, up to the present, is the amount paid from the Consolidated Revenue in connection with the Dean case (all sources)?

(2.) Are any further claims pending; if so, to what amount?

Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(17.) Mr. Want, Attorney-General:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) On what date was Mr. Want appointed Attorney-General?

(2.) From what dates and to when was he absent from his duties?

(3.) What is his salary?

(4.) What amount of salary was paid him for the time he was absent from duty?

(5.) Who performed his duties while he was absent?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) 18th December, 1894.

(2.) 21st December, 1894, to end of February, 1895; 21st December, 1895, to 18th April, 1896. As to the first leave, Mr. Want had made arrangements to leave the Colony before accepting the office, and it was a condition of his acceptance that he should be allowed to go.

(3.) £1,800 per annum.

(4.) Salary was paid at above rate during absence.

(5.) The Honorable the Premier was appointed Solicitor-General, and performed Mr. Want's duties whilst he was absent.

(18.)

20th May, 1896.

- (18.) Proposed Railway from Gundagai to Tumut:—Mr. Travers Jones asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to include the proposed line of railway from Gundagai to Tumut in the Government railways extension scheme?
 - (2.) Are the plans and books of reference, &c., prepared, and ready to lay before the Public Works Committee?
 - (3.) When will he give instructions to have the construction of the line laid before the Works Committee for consideration?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) This has not yet been decided.
 - (2.) The plan, book of reference, &c., have been prepared.
 - (3.) Answered by No. 1.
- (19.) The Acting Governor :—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What was the amount paid to the Chief Justice during the time he was Acting Governor (gross amount)?
 - (2.) What was his salary as Chief Justice during this period?
 - (3.) What were the dates from which to which he was Acting Governor?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) £4,381 5s. 5d. (amount paid as Acting Governor).
 - (2.) £2,386 13s. (amount paid as Chief Justice).
 - (3.) From 16th March, 1895, to 20th November, 1895. I may add that the question whether a Chief Justice acting as Governor was entitled to both salaries was raised by 'Sir Alfred Stephen many years ago, and decided by the Imperial Law Officers in the affirmative. The sum of £367 10s. was repaid by Sir Frederick Darley, being amount paid by Treasury to E. Barton, Esq., who was appointed to act as Judge of the Supreme Court during the period 31st March to 2nd May, 1895. I might also add that the Aide-de-camp's salary for month of July, 1895, was repaid to the Treasury on the 3rd September, 1895, the amount being £55 16s. 8d., and that no further charge for this particular service has been made on public funds since the month ended 30th June, 1895.
- (20.) Mr. Justice Windeyer:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) What is the whole time Judge Windeyer has been absent from his duties on pay since his appointment?
 - (2.) What amount has been paid to him for these periods?
 - (3.) Why was he granted this last six months leave of absence on full pay?
 - (4.) When does he intend to resume his usual work?
 - (5.) Has there been any understanding that this gentleman intends to retire at the end of his present leave?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1 and 2.) Prior to the present occasion the Honorable Mr. Justice Windeyer was granted nine months' leave from 9th February, 1887, though, on account of illness, he was relieved from duty in the month of December previous. He was paid the salary attaching to his office while on leave.
- (3.) Leave was granted on account of ill-health.
- (4 and 5.) I am not in a position to say whether His Honor will resume work or not; but he is eligible for retirement, and the Government in granting leave were aware of the possibility that he would not return to the Bench.
- (21.) Amount paid to Dr. Garran, M.L.C.:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What amount has, without any Parliamentary sanction, been paid to Dr. Garran, M.L.C.?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to continue paying Dr. Garran before this House has an opportunity of expressing its opinion thereon?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) £166 13s. 4d.
 - (2.) No. As before explained, the House when in Committee of Supply last Session cheered a suggestion from me that we should attach a fixed salary to the office of Vice-President of the Executive Council, such salary to include the services of a secretary, for whom £250 was voted. During the recess the Cabinet made the arrangement indicated, it being provided that the matter should be subject to Parliamentary approval. In view of the very strong objections which have been made since the House met, Ministers do not propose to continue the payment, and the amount abovementioned will be repaid into the Treasury.
- (22.) Charge of Conspiracy heard at Bathurst:—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to a case recently heard at Bathurst, in which one Lucas prosecuted two residents of that city on a charge of conspiracy?
 - (2.) Will he ascertain the grounds on which a criminal summons was issued in the case?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) The case referred to was heard at Temora, not Bathurst.
 - (2.) The matter is now being inquired into.
- (23.) Costs of Case Parliamentary Representatives Allowance Act:—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) With respect to the private appeal to the Privy Council on the question of the validity of the Parliamentary Representatives Allowance Act, and with respect to the general proceedings here in regard to the same, has the Crown been paid the costs of the case, or been guaranteed the amount?
 - (2.) Will he give particulars?
- Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answer has been supplied by my Honorable colleague, the Attorney-General:—"Not yet; security for costs was given in the usual way."

20th May, 1896.

(24.) Ringbarking on Mining Areas:—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Is he aware that the Land Boards in the various mining districts are permitting such a wide destruction of timber under ringbarking permits to annual lessees as to render mining operations impossible in those localities?

(2.) Is he aware that complaints have been made to his Department, and that since they were made many miles of mining country have been denuded of timber?

(3.) Will he arrange with the Lands Department to stop all ringbarking on mining areas forthwith until reports on the subject are called for from the various mining wardens?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) I am not aware; but inquiry will be made.

(2.) Complaints were received at this Department, and forwarded to the Department having jurisdiction in the matter, but it is not known that many miles of mining country have been denuded of timber since the complaints were received.

(3.) The attention of the Lands Department will be drawn to the matter.

(25.) Trial Bay:—Mr. Chapman, for Mr. McLaughlin, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 Will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of all letters, plans, and designs written and prepared by Mr. D. Kirkwood, to convert Trial Bay into a shipping port, which were submitted to him on the 20th of June, 1895, together with all letters and reports thereon?

Mr. Young answered,—I shall have no objection if the Honorable Member moves for them in the usual way.

(26.) Publicans' Licenses:—Mr. FitzGerald asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that directions have been given to Licensing Magistrates to refuse to grant publicans' licenses to married women living apart from their husbands, and having obtained the usual order under the Deserted Wives and Children's Act?

(2.) If so, was such direction given upon the opinion of the present Attorney-General?

(3.) If not, will he obtain the opinion of the Honorable the Attorney-General upon the subject?

Mr. Gould answered,—In view of the decision of the Supreme Court, in the case *ex parte Day*, that a publican's license may not be granted to a woman residing with her husband, and a question having been raised as to whether this decision applied to a married woman living apart from her husband, but having a protection order, the matter was referred to the present Attorney-General, who gave an opinion that a married woman living apart from her husband and having a protection order cannot hold a publican's license. This opinion was communicated to the Licensing Benches of Magistrates throughout the Colony in October last.

(27.) Prevention of Floods at Maitland:—Mr. FitzGerald asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that certain steps are being taken with the alleged object of preventing floods at Maitland by retaining the flood-waters of the Hunter River, near Denman?

(2.) Has such scheme been prepared by officers of the Works Department?

(3.) If so, what area of land is it proposed to make available for the purpose of holding back such flood-waters?

(4.) Will such area include the town of Denman?

(5.) Have calculations been made of the probable depth of such waters when confined; if so, what depth of water will such retention produce at the following points, viz., the Post Office, the Court-house, the "Royal Hotel," Denman, the Denman Bridge, and Merton House?

(6.) Are these the highest points in and around Denman?

(7.) What will be the permanent rise given to the Hunter River at Bell's Crossing, at Edinglassie, and at Muswellbrook?

(8.) What funds are available for resumptions rendered necessary for the purposes of the scheme?

(9.) What area will have to be resumed?

(10.) What will be the probable cost of resumptions and carrying out of this scheme?

Mr. Young answered,—I have given instructions for a report to be prepared on the possibility of mitigating the floods in the Hunter. This report is not yet before me, so I am unable to answer the Questions submitted by the Honorable Member.

(28.) Amending Brands Bill:—Mr. Howarth asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it his intention to introduce an amending Brands Bill this Session; if so, at about what date?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—A Bill has been prepared, and if an opportunity should present itself during the present Session the measure will be considered.

2. BRIDGE TO CONNECT NORTH SHORE WITH SYDNEY:—Mr. Molesworth presented a Petition from ship-owners, wharf-owners, shipping agents, merchants, and others interested in commerce in the Colony of New South Wales, representing that the provisions of the Bills now before Parliament for authority to construct a bridge connecting the North Shore with Sydney have been under their consideration, and praying that any Bill which shall be sanctioned by Parliament for the construction of such a bridge shall provide for a clear height for the passage of vessels of 200 feet above high-water mark, and that no pier or other similar obstruction shall be placed in the fairway of the harbour.

Petition received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Statement of Accounts of the Government Savings Bank for the year 1895.

(2.) Amended Telephone Regulations.

(3.) Regulations for transmission of telegrams by Telephone.

(4.) Report of the Delegates to the Intercolonial Postal and Telegraphic Conference, held in Sydney, in January, 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

20th May, 1896.

- Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Report of the University of Sydney for the year 1895.
 - (2.) Report of the Trustees of the Public Library of New South Wales for the year 1895.
 - (3.) Notifications of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for Public School Purposes at Arcadia, Branga, Grassy Creek, Keewong, Canyon Leigh, Lerida, Nurung, Wetherill Park, and Woodglen.
 - (4.) Report of the Trustees of the National Art Gallery of New South Wales for the year 1895.
 - (5.) Report of the Trustees of the Sydney Grammar School for the year 1895.
 - (6.) Report of the Government Labour Bureau for the year ended 17th February, 1896.
 - (7.) Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1895, with Appendices.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return (*in part*) to an Order made on 17th March, 1892,—“Convictions under the Licensing Act.”
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Return respecting expenditure in connection with the late Royal Commission on Fisheries.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans, relating to the proposed Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station; and also along Harris-street to the intersection of John-street.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. IMPORTED STOCK ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Sydney Smith, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- HAMPDEN, Message No. 16.
Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871 and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
- Government House,
Sydney, 20th May, 1896.
- Referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
6. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make better provision for the regulation of coal-mines and collieries, and for other purposes in connection therewith.
- Question put and passed.
7. AMENDED LIFE ASSURANCE ENCOURAGEMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Russell Jones moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the “Life Assurance Encouragement Act of 1862;” to further encourage and protect Life Insurances and other like provident arrangements for insurers and their families.
- Question put and passed.
- (2.) Mr. Jones then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the ‘Life Assurance Encouragement Act of 1862;’ to further encourage and protect Life Insurances and other like provident arrangements for insurers and their families,*”—which was read a first time.
- Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 7th July.
8. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY TUNNEL-ROADWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Parkes moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise John Sulman, or his assigns, to construct, work, and maintain a Tunnel-roadway from Milson’s Point, North Sydney, to the City of Sydney; and for other purposes.
- Question put and passed.
- (2.) Mr. Parkes having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled “*A Bill to authorise John Sulman, or his assigns, to construct, work, and maintain a Tunnel-roadway from Milson’s Point, North Sydney, to the City of Sydney; and for other purposes,*”—read a first time.
9. AMENDMENT MADE BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL IN AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of the letters said to have passed between the Honorable Member for Paddington (Mr. Neild) and Sir Reginald Palgrave, K.C.B., Clerk of the House of Commons, respecting the Australasian Federation Enabling Bill.
- Question put and passed.
10. PAPER:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 20th May, 1896,—“Amendment made by Legislative Council in Australasian Federation Enabling Bill.”
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th May, 1896.

11. **THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH—DISSENT FROM MR. SPEAKER'S RULING** :—Mr. Parkes moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House dissents from Mr. Speaker's ruling, given on Thursday's sitting, the 14th of May, that the Honorable Member for Canterbury was not in order in speaking to and using new arguments and statements sustaining the motion of the Honorable Member for Phillip Division to amend an amendment upon the Address in Reply.
Debate ensued.
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.
12. **ADJOURNMENT—DISSENT FROM MR. SPEAKER'S RULING** :—Mr. Parkes moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House dissents from the ruling of Mr. Speaker in preventing the Honorable Member for Canterbury from speaking to the Motion for Adjournment of the House upon the close of the sitting upon Thursday, the 14th of May.
Debate ensued.
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.
13. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wagga Wagga, Mr. Gormly, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.,—"The excessive capital value placed on land set apart for homestead selection."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members.
Mr. Gormly moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
14. **DEATH OF SIR HENRY PARKES, G.C.M.G.** :—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House desires to place on record its deep sense of the great loss which the Colony has sustained by the death of Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., for many years one of its most distinguished Members, and who rendered in the highest offices great and priceless services to the people.
And several Members having addressed the House in support of it,—
Question put and carried unanimously.
15. **DARLING ISLAND** :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House approves of the resumption of the properties hereunder mentioned, for the better utilisation of Darling Island :—All that piece or parcel of land situate at Pyrmont, in the parish of St. Andrew, county of Cumberland, and Colony of New South Wales: Commencing at the intersection of the western boundary of Murray-street with the northern boundary of Union-street, and bounded thence towards the south by the aforesaid northern boundary of Union-street bearing westerly to the eastern boundary of Edward-street; towards the west by the eastern boundary of Edward-street and its prolongation across Alma-street east and Smelter's lane, being a line bearing northerly to the limit line of reclamation of Darling Harbour; towards the north by that limit line bearing easterly to the aforesaid western boundary of Murray-street, and towards the east by that boundary bearing southerly to the point of commencement. All that piece or parcel of land situate as aforesaid: Commencing at the junction of the western boundary of Edward-street with the north-eastern boundary of Alma-street West, and bounded thence on the south-west by the aforesaid north-eastern boundary of Alma-street West bearing north-westerly about 181 feet; thence on the south-east by a line forming the north-western termination of Alma-street West bearing south-westerly about 44 feet; again on the south-west by lines bearing north 46 degrees 57 minutes west 15 feet, north 28 degrees 14 minutes west 291 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and north 22 degrees 31 minutes west 409 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet to the south-eastern boundary of John-street; thence on the north-west by that boundary bearing north 63 degrees 50 minutes east 475 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet to Darling Harbour; thence on the north-east and again on the south-east by that Harbour, being lines bearing south 28 degrees 40 minutes east 74 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and south 63 degrees 50 minutes west 36 feet to the limit line of reclamation of Darling Harbour; thence on the east and north-east by that limit line bearing southerly and south-easterly to the aforesaid western boundary of Edward-street; and thence on the remainder of the east by that boundary bearing southerly to the point of commencement.
Debate ensued.
Mr. See moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered that the Debate be adjourned until to-morrow.
16. **LANDS FOR CLOSER SETTLEMENT BILL** :—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the purchase, acquisition, and resumption of land for the purposes of closer settlement, and to regulate the disposal thereof; to authorise the making of provisional agreements in respect of the same; to enable funds to be provided for the above purposes by the issue of debentures and otherwise; and for other purposes.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
17. **GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (COMPENSATION LIMITATION) BILL** :—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to limit the amount of damages recoverable against the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales in certain cases.
Question put and passed.
18. **METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL** :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

20th May, 1896.

19. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
20. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
21. WATER RIGHTS BILL:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water; and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.
22. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at six minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 6.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 21 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—

(1.) *Maturity of Warrant reported*:—Mr. Speaker reported that his Warrant, appointing the Committee of Elections and Qualifications for the present Session, laid upon the Table on Wednesday, 13th May, 1896, not having been disapproved by the Assembly in the course of the three next sitting days on which the Assembly met for the despatch of business, had now taken effect as an appointment of such Committee, and intimated that it was therefore open to Members of the Committee to be sworn at the Table by the Clerk, in accordance with the 125th section of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893.

(2.) *Members sworn*:—John Henry Cann, Esquire, Henry Clarke, Esquire, James Alexander Hogue, Esquire, and Edward William O'Sullivan, Esquire, came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) *Dee Why Lagoon*:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has portion of the land known as Dee Why Lagoon, and the ocean adjoining, been fenced in by the property-owners adjacent, shutting off the public access to same?

(2.) Will he cause a resurvey of this land to be made, so as to properly define the public and private interests?

(3.) Has a road of access to Dee Why Lagoon been surveyed and marked by the Department; and, if so, when will such road be proclaimed and opened?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) The owners of adjoining land have fenced it so as to include the lagoon, and thereby shut off direct access between the main road and part of the ocean beach; but as they contend that the lagoon is not tidal water, and that it is included in their deed of grant, the matter has been referred for legal advice.

(3.) A proposed road of access to the lagoon has been surveyed, but no action to establish it can be taken until the legal opinion with regard to the lagoon has been received.

(2.) *Stock Routes in the Barwon Electorate*:—Mr. Willis asked the Secretary for Lands,—What are the reasons for the protracted delay in dealing with the question of withdrawing from lease several stock routes in the Barwon Electorate, as set forth in letters sent to the Land Agent?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The District Surveyor has been asked to report on the question of withdrawing these stock routes from lease, and requested to expedite his report.

(3.) *Approaches to Bridges in the Barwon Electorate*:—Mr. Willis asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What has caused the delay in making proper railing approaches to the several bridges in the Barwon Electorate?

(2.) Is he aware that they are now in a dangerous state to the travelling public?

Mr. Young answered,—I am not aware what bridges are referred to. If the Honorable Member will let me know I will have inquiries made without delay.

(4.) *Stock and Pastures Protection Act*:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it his intention to introduce during the present Session a Bill to amend the "Stock and Pastures Protection Act"?

(2.) Is it his intention to introduce a Bill for the eradication of lantana, sweet brier, and all other noxious weeds during the present Session?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is the intention of the Government to deal with these matters this Session if the state of public business will permit.

(5.)

21st May, 1896.

(5.) *Bullocks destroyed near Potts' Hill Reservoir*:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Black*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that tuberculous bullocks are periodically destroyed within half a mile of Potts' Hill Reservoir?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that no tuberculous bullocks have been destroyed in the vicinity of the reservoir at Potts' Hill during the past ten years.

(6.) *Solicitors struck off the Roll*:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Black*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—If his attention has been drawn to the following paragraph appearing in the law notices of May 19th:—"In the Supreme Court of New South Wales, Saturday, the 9th day of May, A.D. 1896.—No solicitor of the Court, without leave of the Court, shall employ as a clerk, assistant, or writer, or in any other capacity, in or about his business as a solicitor, any person who has been or who shall be struck off the roll of solicitors of the Court, or suspended by order of the Court from practice as a solicitor, so long as the said person shall remain struck off the said roll or suspended as aforesaid.—*Frederick M. Darley, C.J.*; *M. H. Stephen, J.*; *William Owen, J.*; *C. J. Manning, J.*; *G. B. Simpson, J.*; *H. E. Cohen, J.*"?

Mr. Reid answered,—No.

(7.) *Appointment of Experts in connection with the Butter and Timber Trade*:—*Mr. McFarlane* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that certain recommendations have been made by the Board for Exports for the appointment of experts in connection with the butter and timber trade; if so, will the recommendations be approved of, and the experts referred to appointed?

Mr. Reid answered,—Certain recommendations have been made, and are under consideration.

(8.) *Waldron's Paddock, at Yalgogrin*:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. Carroll*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it his intention to resume Waldron's Paddock, at Yalgogrin?

(2.) Is he aware that there has been payable gold discovered in this paddock?

(3.) Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table of the House the report submitted by *Warden Clarke*?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1 and 2.) It has been reported that payable quartz has been discovered on this land, but the Department has no power to resume it for mining purposes. The Act limits the resumption in such cases to alluvial mining only, but provision has been made in the Amending Bill, which is now before the House, for the resumption of quartz as well as alluvial fields.

(3.) There is no objection if moved for in the usual way.

(9.) *Sale of Allotments of Land at West Wyalong*:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. Carroll*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that there has been a public meeting held at West Wyalong protesting against the action of the Government in detaining titles to property-holders?

(2.) Will he take steps to at once see that titles are granted to same?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Lands Department has no objection to sale of allotments to business people in West Wyalong?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I am informed such a meeting was held, and there is no objection on the part of the Mines Department to titles being granted where such action does not interfere with mining interests. Every case is dealt with on its merits.

(10.) *Cost of late Royal Commission on Coal-mining*:—*Mr. James Thomson* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is the total cost of the late Royal Commission on coal-mining?

(2.) Has the evidence given before the said Royal Commission been printed in full; if so, when will it be available for the use of Honorable Members?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) £3,397 17s. 11d.

(2.) Yes, and was laid upon the Table of the House on Tuesday last.

(11.) *Inmates of Government Asylums*:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he lay upon the Table a return of all persons now inmates of any of the Government asylums about whom it has been ascertained that they have relatives in good positions who refuse to maintain them, giving the names of such relatives, their relation to the inmate in question, and any reason they may have assigned for such refusal, and their positions and salaries, as far as the information can be supplied by the Director of Charitable Institutions?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The Honorable Member is probably aware that there is at present no law which imposes the collection of contributions from relatives of inmates of Charitable Asylums; but I may inform the Honorable Member that there is now in the hands of the Parliamentary Draftsman a Bill which makes provision for the collection of such contributions.

(12.) *Tree-planting in the different Boroughs*:—*Mr. Frank Farnell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he place a sum of £500 on the next Estimates for the purpose of carrying out tree-planting in the different boroughs?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The matter will receive attention when the next Estimates are under consideration.

(13.) *Lord Howe Island*:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Under what tenure do the occupiers of Lord Howe Island hold land?

(2.) What is the largest area held by any one person?

Mr.

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Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Special leases were granted under the 38th clause of the Lands Acts Amendment Act of 1875 from the 1st January, 1879, having a currency of five years; but since the 16th June, 1879, no tenure of any kind has been granted, so far as this Department is concerned, as on that date all the unalienated Crown lands within the Island were dedicated as a reserve from sale for a sanatorium for this Colony, and placed under the control of the Director of the Botanical Gardens as trustee.

(2.) Eleven acres appears to have been the area of the largest of such special leases.

(14.) Meters used in connection with the Broken Hill Water Supply Company:—Mr. Cann asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that consumers of water under the Broken Hill Water Supply Act are compelled to rent meters from the Water Company?

(2.) Will he take steps to see that consumers be allowed to provide their own meters, if they desire to do so, as required by clause 13 of the Broken Hill Water Supply Act?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) I am not aware; of course, the Honorable Member will understand officially.

(2.) As at present advised, I have no powers under the clause referred to, but I propose to consult the Crown Solicitor on the point.

(15.) Water supplied by the Broken Hill Water Supply Company:—Mr. Cann asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Knowing that the water supplied by the Broken Hill Water Supply Company has been condemned as unfit for human consumption, has he called for a report from the Board of Health?

(2.) If so, will he state what is the nature of such report?

(3.) Have any steps been taken to cause the company to comply with clause 27, 54 Vic.?

Mr. Young answered,—I wrote to the Company, on the 11th instant, to state what they propose to do to improve the condition of the water. If a satisfactory reply be not received next week I shall take further steps in the matter.

(16.) New Wharf at Manly:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Was a wharf erected at Manly for the use of the Manly Co-operative Ferry Company?

(2.) If so, what was the cost?

(3.) Has the Manly Co-operative Ferry Co. amalgamated with the Port Jackson Co.; and, if so, will he consider the advisability of making this wharf a public one for the use of the public generally?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) A wharf was erected by the Government, and an application for a lease thereof was tendered by the Manly Co-operative Ferry Company.

(2.) £3,206 9s. 9d.

(3.) No intimation of any amalgamation has been received in the Department. The report of the Local Land Board on the application for a special lease of this wharf has not yet been received.

(17.) Retiring Allowances to Retrenched Civil Servants:—Mr. Black asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he consider the advisability of paying the retiring allowances to retrenched Civil Servants out of the Advance Account?

Mr. Reid answered,—Each case must be dealt with on its merits so far as the Advance Account is concerned.

(18.) Road Contracts in Country Districts:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he see that in the letting of road contracts in country districts that persons tendering for such work shall be compelled to make a reasonable deposit with their tender to show that the tender is a *bonâ fide* one?

Mr. Young answered,—I have quite recently approved of a revised set of Regulations for the conduct of tendering for road works in country districts, which provide for reasonable cash deposits accompanying every tender.

3. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—Mr. Morton presented a Petition from Benjamin Crispin Simpson, of Sydney, Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise Benjamin Crispin Simpson, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to construct a bridge and approaches thereto to connect the south and north shores of Port Jackson from a point in Cumberland-street, about thirty-three chains fifty links north from the intersection of Cumberland-street with Charlotte-place, in the city of Sydney, to Dawes' Point; thence to and crossing the waters of Port Jackson to Milson's Point, North Sydney; thence to and terminating at a point in Alfred-street about ten chains fifty links north of the intersection of Dind-street and the said Alfred-street, in the borough of North Sydney; to authorise the building over and diversion of streets or roads by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to authorise the appropriation or use of certain lands required for or in connection with the carrying out of the said work by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to make provision for compensating the owners of and others interested in such lands; to authorise the imposition of tolls by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to confer powers for the making and enforcement of by-laws; and for all other purposes which may be incidental thereto.

And Mr. Morton having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald*, *Bulletin*, and *North Sydney*, newspapers containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—

Petition received.

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4. BRIDGE TO CONNECT NORTH SHORE WITH SYDNEY:—Mr. E. M. Clark presented a Petition from certain residents in the city of Sydney and its suburbs, and in the Borough of North Sydney and its environs, representing that they are fully impressed with the urgent need for establishing better communication and greater facility for traffic between Sydney and North Sydney than are available at present to meet the large and increasing requirements of the Petitioners and the public generally, and that the need in question can only be met by the erection of a bridge and tramway between Sydney and North Sydney; giving reasons in favour of the scheme proposed by William Kenwood; and praying the House to receive and favourably consider and pass the Bill applied for by the said William Kenwood, empowering him, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to erect, maintain, and work the said bridge and tramway respectively, and do all other works and things incidental thereto.
Petition received.
5. PAPERS:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Hexham, county of Northumberland, for a General Cemetery at Plattsburg.
(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Saint John, county of Cumberland, for metallurgical works at Newington.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return showing the expenses in connection with the Dean cases since the granting of the Royal Commission.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. CITY MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY'S (LIMITED) ACT ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Frank Farnell having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited), its successors or assigns, or the directors or the manager for the time-being thereof, to refuse inspection of the register of members to the members thereof, or to any member of the public, anything contained in the Companies Act, 37th Victoria No. 19, to the contrary notwithstanding,*"—read a first time.
7. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the First Report from the Printing Committee.
8. CONDITIONAL PURCHASERS RELIEF BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Bruncker, for Mr. Carruthers, moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Conditional Purchasers Relief Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during last Session, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the following Message be sent to the Council:—Mr. President,—A Bill, intituled "An Act to further promote settlement on lands conditionally-purchased from the Crown by providing for the reduction of the annual payments in respect thereof, and for the reduction of the rate of interest now payable upon certain conditional purchases; to make further provision for the conversion of conditional purchases and conditional leases into homestead selections; and to effect such amendments in such statutes as may be necessary for the aforesaid purposes,"—forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the Assembly requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Council's Standing Order in that behalf.
Question put and passed.
Message sent to the Legislative Council accordingly.
9. USURY LIMITATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. McFarlane moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to limit the charges for interest, bonus, or reward by persons lending money, and to regulate the rights and obligations of parties to bills of sale, assignments, or other securities over personal property, and the applicability thereto of the Acts relating to the distress for rent and bankruptcy, and for the protection of persons making or giving securities for loans.
Question put and passed.
10. BILLS OF SALE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Russell Jones moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Bills of Sale Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 7th July.
11. IMPORTED STOCK ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—
(1.) Mr. Sydney Smith moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity that a Bill to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes, should be passed through all its stages on this day.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Smith then moved, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes, through all its stages in one day.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
(3.) Whereupon Mr. Smith moved, That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

Whereupon

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Whereupon Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes in connection therewith.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (4.) Mr. Smith then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

Mr. Smith moved, That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

- (5.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time at a later hour of the day.

12. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Wednesday next:—

(1.) Coal Mines Regulation Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make better provision for the regulation of coal-mines and collieries; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

(2.) Coloured Races Restriction and Regulation Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the "Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888" to all persons of any coloured race, and to repeal section 15 of that Act.

13. DARLING ISLAND:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Young, "That this House approves of the resumption of the properties hereunder mentioned for the better utilisation of Darling Island:—All that piece or parcel of land situate at Pymont, in the parish of St. Andrew, county of Cumberland, and Colony of New South Wales: Commencing at the intersection of the western boundary of Murray-street with the northern boundary of Union-street, and bounded thence towards the south by the aforesaid northern boundary of Union-street bearing westerly to the eastern boundary of Edward-street; towards the west by the eastern boundary of Edward-street and its prolongation across Alma-street east and Smelter's lane, being a line bearing northerly to the limit line of reclamation of Darling Harbour; towards the north by that limit line bearing easterly to the aforesaid western boundary of Murray-street, and towards the east by that boundary bearing southerly to the point of commencement. All that piece or parcel of land situate as aforesaid: Commencing at the junction of the western boundary of Edward-street with the north-eastern boundary of Alma-street West, and bounded thence on the south-west by the aforesaid north-eastern boundary of Alma-street West bearing north-westerly about 181 feet; thence on the south-east by a line forming the north-western termination of Alma-street West bearing south-westerly about 44 feet; again on the south-west by lines bearing north 46 degrees 57 minutes west 15 feet, north 28 degrees 14 minutes west 291¹/₁₀ feet, and north 22 degrees 31 minutes west 409³/₁₀ feet to the south-eastern boundary of John-street; thence on the north-west by that boundary bearing north 63 degrees 50 minutes east 475¹/₂ feet to Darling Harbour; thence on the north-east and again on the south-east by that Harbour, being lines bearing south 28 degrees 40 minutes east 74¹/₁₀ feet, and south 63 degrees 50 minutes west 36 feet to the limit line of reclamation of Darling Harbour; thence on the east and north-east by that limit line bearing southerly and south-easterly to the aforesaid western boundary of Edward-street; and thence on the remainder of the east by that boundary bearing southerly to the point of commencement."

And the Question being again proposed,—

The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Hogue,

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Aspleck,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Gormly,
Tellers.
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Fegan.

Noes, 11.

Mr. Miller,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Ferguson,
Tellers.
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Neild.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

21st May, 1896.

14. **IMPORTED STOCK ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—**The Order of the Day having been read,—
Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a third time,
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Smith, *passed*.
Mr. Smith then moved, that the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to amend the Imported Stock Act, 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill intituled, "*An Act to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st May, 1896.*
15. **MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—**
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend and extend the "Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894," and to amend the Mining Acts, 1874 and 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman (*with the concurrence of the House*), That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend and extend the "Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894," and to amend the Mining Acts, 1874 and 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
On motion of Mr. Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Smith then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend and extend the 'Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894,' and to amend the Mining Act, 1874, and the Mining Act of 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
16. **MINING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—**
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to alter and amend sections 14 and 63 of the "Mining Act, 1874," and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman (*with the concurrence of the House*), That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to alter and amend sections 14 and 63 of the "Mining Act, 1874," and for other purposes in connection therewith.
On motion of Mr. Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Smith then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to alter and amend Sections 14 and 63 of the 'Mining Act, 1874,' and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
17. **LANDS FOR CLOSER SETTLEMENT BILL:—**The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the purchase, acquisition, and resumption of land for the purposes of closer settlement, and to regulate the disposal thereof; to authorise the making of provisional agreements in respect of the same; to enable funds to be provided for the above purposes by the issue of debentures and otherwise; and for other purposes.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman (*with the concurrence of the House*), That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to authorise the purchase, acquisition, and resumption of land for the purposes of closer settlement, and to regulate the disposal thereof; to authorise the making of provisional agreements in respect of the same; to enable funds to be provided for the above purposes by the issue of debentures and otherwise; and for other purposes.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
18. **METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—**
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.
Mr.

21st May, 1896.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman (*with the concurrence of the House*), That the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880–1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880–1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

19. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman (*with the concurrence of the House*), That the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial-Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

20. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman (*with the concurrence of the House*), That the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

21. WATER RIGHTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water; and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

And

21st May, 1896.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 22 MAY, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman (*with the concurrence of the House*), That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows :—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water ; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water ; and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes ; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage ; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water ; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

22. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at thirteen minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 7.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 26 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Wharfs, Jetties, &c., at Newcastle:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
What amount of money has been expended on wharfs, jetties, &c., at Newcastle, during the last twenty years; also the amount of revenue received during the same period for wharfage dues, &c., at Newcastle?

Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

- (2.) Professor Warren, Sydney University:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Willis, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What are the duties of Professor Warren in connection with the Sydney University?
(2.) What salary does he receive for such duties?
(3.) What amount does he receive from students in the way of fees?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Challis Professor of Engineering. To give lectures and practical instruction in engineering, in accordance with the by-laws, and to conduct examinations of students, &c.
(2.) £965 per annum.
(3.) Nothing.

- (3.) Land Valuers under the Land and Income Tax:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have all the land valuers under the Land and Income Tax been appointed?
(2.) Will he have the names of the gentlemen appointed published in the *Government Gazette* without delay for public information, giving also the names of the division or divisions they are appointed for?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) No.
(2.) Yes.

- (4.) Evidence taken before the Reappraisal Court at Wilcannia:—Mr. Willis asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) In view of the great importance to the general community to have a true report of the pastoral industry in the western districts of the Colony, will he have any objection to placing upon the Table of this House copies of all evidence taken before the Reappraisal Court now being held at Wilcannia?
(2.) If so, when?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) This request cannot be complied with at the present stage of the proceedings.
(2.) This matter will be considered when the cases have been decided.

- (5.) Michael Canty:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is there a person named Michael Canty at present drawing a pension; if so, for how long?
(2.) Is there a person named Michael Canty employed in the Land and Income Tax Department, or any other Department?
(3.) Is Michael Canty the pensioner and the other person of the same name one and the same person; if so, has he been drawing his pension and paid a salary too?
(4.) Is there any other person, a pensioner, receiving a pension, and at the same time working for a salary?

Mr.

26th May, 1896.

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes; he drew his pension from 1st July, 1887, to 31st January, 1895.
- (2.) Yes, in the Land and Income Tax Department.
- (3.) The same, but he has not been drawing his pension while employed as above.
- (4.) No, so far as the Treasury is aware.

(6.) Technical Education, Technological Museum:—Mr. Wilks asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What was the total amount spent for the year 1895—(a) on Technical Education; (b) on Technological Museums?
- (2.) What was the total amount expended during 1895 from the Vote for Technical Education granted by Parliament?
- (3.) What was the amount paid by technical students during the same year?
- (4.) What was the total number of Public School students—(a) examined; (b) passed the Technical Education Department's Examination of 1895?
- (5.) In what subjects were they examined?
- (6.) What was the total number of students—(a) ordinary; (b) Public School students under instructions in technical education for the year 1895?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) (a) £15,879 7s. 1d.; (b) £3,731 12s. 9d.
- (2.) From Vote, £20,375 9s. 9d.; from Loan Votes, 1890, £3,444 9s. 5d.; from Loan Votes, 1889, £81 15s.
- (3.) £3,947 15s. 11d.
- (4.) (a) 450; (b) 337.
- (5.) Chemistry, Physics, Manual Training.
- (6.) Enrolments (a), 6,260; (b), 811.

(7.) Rabbit-proof Fence along Railway Line, Albury to Young:—Mr. Barnes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) At the time the Railway Commissioners took over the rabbit-proof fence erected along the railway line from Albury to Young, what arrangement was made in respect to keeping same in repair?
- (2.) Is he aware that portion of the wire-netting is becoming destroyed through neglect, and is thereby useless for the purpose it was erected?
- (3.) Will he cause the matter to be attended to at once, to prevent the influx of rabbits on to the eastern side of the railway line?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the Railway Commissioners did not take over the rabbit-proof fence referred to, but that the netting was attached to the railway fence, and the Commissioners have since endeavoured to have it kept in repair. Tools and netting are supplied to the fettlers, who are instructed to regularly examine and repair. The fettling staff make every effort to keep the rabbit-netting in order, but it is constantly being damaged by local residents climbing over the fences. This the fettlers cannot prevent. In heavy weather both the netting and fencing is at times liable to damage. Rabbit-proof gates are also constantly left open by the public, thus reducing the value of the netting as a barrier.

(8.) Liability of the A.J.S. Bank to the Government Savings Bank:—Mr. Carroll asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What amount of money does the A.J.S. Bank owe the Government Savings Bank?
- (2.) Has demand been made for same?
- (3.) With what result, if any?
- (4.) What security do the Trustees of the Savings Bank hold against such loans, if any?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Australian Joint Stock Bank does not owe any money to the Government Savings Bank.

(9.) Liability of the A.J.S. Bank to the Government:—Mr. Carroll asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are any of the Trustees of the Savings Bank Directors of the A.J.S. Bank?
- (2.) What amount of Government money (outside the Savings Bank Loan) does the A.J.S. Bank hold?
- (3.) Do the Government trade with the A.J.S. Bank; if so, to what extent?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes—the Honorable James Watson.
- (2.) None.
- (3.) No.

(10.) Inspection of the Affairs of the A.J.S. Bank:—Mr. Carroll asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has any official inspection been made by the Government officers of the affairs of the A.J.S. Bank?
- (2.) Does he not, in view of the quotations of the selling price of the Bank shares, think it advisable in the public interest that such inspection should take place?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) Under the "Bank Notes Act of 1893" (when bank notes were made legal tender) power was given to the Colonial Treasurer to nominate an officer for the purpose of inspecting the accounts of any bank, but the Act referred to expired by effluxion of time in October last.

(11.) Insolvency Proceedings instituted by the A.J.S. Bank:—Mr. Carroll asked the Minister of Justice,—How many cases of insolvency proceedings have been instituted against citizens by the management of the A.J.S. Bank during the last three years?

Mr. Gould answered,—As this is a matter in which private interests alone are concerned, I am unable to afford the honourable gentleman the information desired.

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- (12.) Metropolitan and Country Water and Sewerage Supplies:—Mr. Dick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What was the original capital indebtedness of each of the Metropolitan and Country Water and Sewerage (or Water) Supplies of the Colony?
- (2.) What reductions have been made on each?
- Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.
2. PAPER:—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Amended Gaol Regulations.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. FATAL ACCIDENT AT THE WALLSEND COLLIERY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Watkins moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers in connection with the fatal accident at the Wallsend Colliery on 26th March.
Question put and passed.
4. CONTRACT OF MR. JOSEPH WALSH FOR WHARF AT BROADWATER (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Pyers moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all letters, plans, papers, and other documents in connection with Mr. Joseph Walsh's contract for the construction of a wharf at Broadwater, Richmond River.
Question put and passed.
5. CITY MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY'S (LIMITED) ACT ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, pursuant to Notice,—
- (1.) That the City Mutual Life Assurance Society's (Limited) Act Enabling Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
- (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Watson, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Willis, Mr. Perry, Mr. McLean, Mr. Mahony, Mr. O'Sullivan, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
6. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Morton moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise Benjamin Crispin Simpson, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to construct a Bridge and approaches thereto to connect the South and North Shores of Port Jackson from a point in Cumberland-street, about thirty-three chains fifty links north from the intersection of Cumberland-street with Charlotte-place, in the city of Sydney, to Dawes' Point; thence to and crossing the waters of Port Jackson to Milson's Point, North Sydney; thence to and terminating at a point in Alfred-street, about ten chains fifty links north of the intersection of Dind-street and the said Alfred-street, in the borough of North Sydney; to authorise the building over and diversion of streets or roads by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to authorise the appropriation or use of certain lands required for or in connection with the carrying out of the said work by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to make provision for compensating the owners of and others interested in such lands; to authorise the imposition of tolls by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to confer powers for the making and enforcement of by-laws; and for all other purposes which may be incidental thereto.
Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 54.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Copeland,	Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Asleck,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Newnan,
Mr. Graham,	Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Hassall.
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Harvey,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Morton,	Mr. Whiddon,	

Noes, 16.

Mr. McElhone,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Mucedonald,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Law,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Wilks.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Wood.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- (2.) Mr. Morton having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "A Bill to authorise Benjamin Crispin Simpson, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers, his executors, administrators, and assigns, to construct a Bridge and approaches thereto to connect the South and North Shores of Port Jackson from a point in Cumberland-street, about thirty-three chains fifty links north from the intersection of Cumberland-street with Charlotte-place, in the city of Sydney, to Dawes' Point; thence to and crossing the waters of Port Jackson to Milson's Point, North Sydney; thence to and terminating at a point in Alfred-street, about ten chains fifty links north of the intersection of Dind-street and the said Alfred-street, in the borough of North Sydney; to authorise the building over and diversion of streets or roads by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to authorise the

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the appropriation or use of certain lands required for or in connection with the carrying out of the said work by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to make provision for compensating the owners of and others interested in such lands; to authorise the imposition of tolls by the said Benjamin Crispin Simpson, his executors, administrators, and assigns; to confer powers for the making and enforcement of by-laws; and for all other purposes which may be incidental thereto,"—moved, That the Bill be now read a first time.

Question put, and voices given.—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only fourteen Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Willis, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Wood, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watson, Mr. James Thomson, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Macdonald, and Mr. Thomas Brown. Bill read a first time.

7. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—Thomas Bavister, Esquire, John Cash Neild, Esquire, and Thomas Waddell, Esquire, came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.
8. CARPETTEE TRAMWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Frank Farnell moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Farnell, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Farnell, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time to-morrow.
9. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the City and North Sydney Railway Bill postponed until Tuesday, 21st July.
10. MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Harris moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Harris, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at twenty-five minutes before Twelve o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 8.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 27 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Chinese Gambling:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Schey*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that fan-tan tickets are openly sold about the city, and that their sale is becoming more open and notorious?
- (2.) Is he aware that fan-tan is carried on openly in shops open to the public during the whole of Sundays as well as week-days?
- (3.) Will he give such instructions as will secure that the police, who are busily engaged in hunting down gambling of various kinds, pay a little more attention to fan-tan shops and other Chinese gambling?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—

- (1.) Pak-ah-pu (not fan-tan) tickets are sold by the Chinese at their shops in the vicinity of the Haymarket.
- (2.) Several of the heathen Chinese dispose of tickets on Sundays.
- (3.) Twenty-two prosecutions against Chinese for carrying on lotteries in connection with pak-ah-pu are now pending. It has been ruled by the Supreme Court that this game does not come under the operations of the ordinary gambling laws.

(2.) Unemployed clearing Church and School Lands, Randwick:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Black*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the unemployed now clearing the Church and School Lands at Randwick are to be paid at the rate of 30s. per acre?
- (2.) If so, will the Department pay an extra rate for clearing on those blocks where the men, supplied with inefficient appliances, have spent a day or even two in digging out some of the immense gum-tree roots scattered over the land?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Instructions have been given to the officer in charge of this work to use his discretion as to the payment of an extra rate for clearing where it is shown to him that exceptional difficulties exist.

(3.) Lord Howe Island:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) In reference to Question No. 13, of Thursday, 21st May, bearing on Lord Howe Island, is it a fact that a number of persons are illegally holding land on the island?
- (2.) If so, will he at once take steps to inquire into the matter, with the view of limiting the areas held and enforcing a rental charge?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) I am not aware.
- (2.) Inquiry shall be made.

(4.) Newcastle Collieries:—*Mr. Edden* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the distance from Helensburgh Colliery to Darling Harbour?
- (2.) What is the traction rate per ton in Government hoppers from that colliery to Sydney?
- (3.) Does the Metropolitan Coal Company pay any hire for waggons in addition to traction rates?
- (4.) If so, what is the amount?

(5.)

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- (5.) Do the Commissioners charge the Metropolitan Coal Company a demurrage rate per day when waggons are not running?
 (6.) If so, what is the rate per day?
 (7.) Is any time allowed at the port of shipment before demurrage is charged?
 (8.) If so, what is the time allowed?
 (9.) What is the distance from the Dudley Colliery to the Dyke at Newcastle?
 (10.) What is the traction rate charged in Government hoppers to the Dudley Company?
 (11.) What other charges are made for the use of Government hoppers to the Dudley Colliery, and upon what grounds are such additional charges made?
 (12.) What is the distance from the Co-operative Colliery to the Dyke at Newcastle?
 (13.) What is the traction rate charged the Co-operative Company in private waggons?
 (14.) What is the distance from the Ellemore Colliery to the Dyke at Newcastle?
 (15.) What is the traction in private waggons charged this Company?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Twenty-nine miles.
 (2.) 2s. 3d. per ton.
 (3 and 4.) No.
 (5 and 6.) One hundred hoppers are allowed to stand in the Metropolitan Colliery Siding to provide for urgent shipment orders.
 (7.) Yes.
 (8.) Thirty-six hours.
 (9.) Eight miles.
 (10.) 1s. 3d. per ton.
 (11.) Inquiries were recently made by a representative of the Dudley Colliery *re* leasing some departmental hoppers, the charge for which is 10s. per week each; if this charge were paid the rate would be reduced from 1s. 3d. to 11d. per ton.
 (12.) Seven miles.
 (13.) 10d. per ton.
 (14.) Seven miles.
 (15.) 10d. per ton.

It may be pointed out that the coal proprietors on the Northern Line almost invariably forward their coal in their own waggons, whilst on the South Coast Line all the coal that is hauled to Darling Harbour is conveyed in departmental waggons, at a higher scale of rates to that charged in the Northern District.

- (5.) Lands Department *Weekly Gazette*:—Mr. Cruickshank asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he direct that copies of the Lands Department *Weekly Gazette* be furnished regularly to Members of this House?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Copies of the *Government Gazette* containing all the information given in the Lands Department *Weekly Gazette* are regularly furnished to the Honorable Member by the Government Printer.

- (6.) Value of Taxable Holdings:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Taxation Commissioners propose to make public the value of taxable holdings after the same has been assessed by the Crown Valuers?
 (2.) If so, in what manner will the public have access to ascertain the assessed value?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The Land Tax Register showing the assessed values of lands arranged in the order of locality will be open to the public.
 (2.) The Register will be deposited in the office of the Commissioners, and may be inspected there on payment of a fee of 1s. for each inspection.

- (7.) Appointment of Export Board:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that an Export Board has been appointed, part of whose duties is to endeavour to induce foreign countries to use our timbers for building and other purposes?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes.

- (8.) Flooring in the Parliamentary Building:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it a fact that the new flooring laid down in the Parliamentary building consists of American or other foreign timber?

Mr. Young answered,—The new flooring, necessitated by the ravages of white ant, is constructed of wrought-iron girders, Colonial hardwood joists, and American pitch pine flooring, the latter specially selected in the hope of checking the white ant.

- (9.) Railway Life-passes:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How many railway life-passes are in existence at present?
 (2.) Who are the holders of these, and for what did they receive them; if for services rendered, what was the service that each holder rendered?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Nineteen.
 (2.) The following, which are still current, were issued for service prior to the introduction of the Railways Act of 1888, viz.:—Mr. E. Barton, Hon. J. Lackey, M.L.C., Mr. J. Rae, Mr. T. Woore, Sir F. Darley, C.J., Hon. C. A. Goodchap, M.L.C., Hon. J. Watson, M.L.C.—for distinguished public services. Miss Cowper—in connection with the distinguished services of her father, Sir Charles Cowper, in reference to the introduction of railways into New South Wales. The following have been issued under the provisions of the Railways Act of 1888, viz.:—Hon. J. H. Young, Hon. F. B. Suttor, Sir G. R. Dibbs, Mr. J. F. Burns, Hon. Sir J. P. Abbott, K.C.M.G., Hon. J. N. Brunner, Hon. W. H. Suttor, M.L.C., Mr. Justice Simpson, Hon. J. H. Carruthers, Hon. S. Smith, Hon. A. J. Gould.

(10.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (10.) Road Vote:—*Mr. R. Clarke*, for *Mr. Morton*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Were instructions issued to the officers of the Roads Department informing them that a certain amount of the annual Vote for roads was not to be expended?
 - (2.) Have these instructions been recalled?
- Mr. Young* answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table copies of the instructions given with reference to these matters.
- (11.) Road Vote:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has any instruction been issued to the Road Officer in any district to hold back the expenditure of any money from the Road Vote?
 - (2.) If so, what proportion of Road Vote is to remain unexpended?
- Mr. Young* answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table copies of the instructions given with reference to these matters.
- (12.) Oyster Leases:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. Howarth*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Fisheries Board is granting new leases to applicants for oyster-beds, while legislation is about to be introduced dealing with the subject?
 - (2.) Will he refuse, as he has in the past, to endorse the recommendations of the Board in regard to new oyster leases?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—Such is the case; but before any further leases are issued the matter shall have consideration.
- (13.) Tenders for Armidale District under the Land Tax Assessment:—*Mr. Frank Farnell*, for *Mr. Lonsdale*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) The number of portions into which the Armidale district was divided for the purpose of the Land Tax Assessment?
 - (2.) The names of the tenderers for each portion, and the amount of their tenders?
 - (3.) The names of successful tenderers; the amount of their tenders?
 - (4.) Were fresh tenders called for any portions; if so, why?
 - (5.) Did any person or persons tender for those portions; if so, who?
 - (6.) What were the amounts of their tenders?
 - (7.) Why were no tenders accepted?
 - (8.) The names of the persons tendering on the second occasion; the amounts of their tenders?
 - (9.) The names of successful tenderers; the amount of their tenders?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—The information required will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.
- (14.) Postal Employees:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a large number of postal employees have not received overtime money (now twenty days overdue) for work done last month?
 - (2.) If so, why have the men not been paid?
 - (3.) When do the Department intend to pay them?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—The new Public Service Regulations provide that the Public Service Board shall determine the right to and the amount of overtime payments. The obtaining of their sanction after detailing the circumstances of the different classes of overtime necessarily caused some delay, but approval having been given on the 18th instant to continue payments at present rates, until the matter can be further considered after the grading of the Department is complete, the necessary abstracts were prepared, and the overtime is now in course of payment.
- (15.) The Unemployed:—*Mr. W. H. B. Piddington* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) What is the total sum paid for relief for the unemployed on—1st, *Shea's Creek*; 2nd, *Centennial Park*; 3rd, railway fares; 4th, forest-thinning, from commencement of work to date?
 - (2.) What has been the total cost to the country of the unemployed for the years 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, to date?
 - (3.) Since the establishment of the Labour Bureau country agencies, what sum has been expended for the relief of the unemployed in the country districts?
- Mr. Garrard* answered,—As the Answers to these Questions will take some time to compile, the information will be laid upon the Table in the form of a return.
- (16.) Amendment of the Municipalities Act:—*Mr. Rigg* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Will he inform the House as nearly as possible when it is intended to bring in the proposed Bill to extend the provisions of the law relating to municipalities?
 - (2.) Will provision be made therein for endowment?
 - (3.) If so, will it be equal in amount to the proposal contained in the Local Government Bill as submitted to the House last Parliament?
 - (4.) Will he arrange for special endowment of 5s. in the pound pending the passing of the proposed Bill?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) During the present Session.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) The Questions being of a financial character, should be submitted to the Colonial Treasurer, who, no doubt, would furnish the information without delay.
- (17.) Subway for Telegraph Wires:—*Mr. Frank Farnell*, for *Mr. Haynes*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Under what department or professional head is the subway for telegraphic wires being constructed?
 - (2.) Is it not a fact that the subway under the higher portion of its course is being constructed through ground saturated with water, necessitating unwatering during the late dry weather?
- (3.)

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- (3.) What is the depth of the floor of the said subway below the surface of the ground at Market-street, Bathurst-street, Hay-street, and George-street, opposite Railway Station?
- (4.) What would be the pressure of water per square foot on the lower portion of the subway at the above respective depths?
- (5.) Will the bricks used in the construction of such subway resist the percolation of water at such depths, and with that pressure?
- (6.) In the possible event of the subway or some portion of it being filled with water from percolation or otherwise, what would be the result on the wires?
- (7.) Have samples of the bricks used on this work been subjected to any test as to density; if so, what was the absorption of water by weight in one brick?

Mr. Young answered,—This work is being carried out by the Postmaster-General's Department, and I would suggest that the Honorable Member should ask the Postmaster-General for the information he desires.

(18.) Crown Lands between Penrith and Richmond :—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware of the fact that an area of over 1,000 acres of unalienated Crown land exists between Penrith and Richmond, in close proximity to the Great Western Railway line, removed from any close population area by several miles, and worthless for the purposes of cultivation or settlement, which might, without cost to the State, be made the site of not only the abattoirs but most of the noxious trades associated with this industry?
- (2.) Will he consider the advisability of utilising this area for the purposes indicated?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Such statements have been made.
- (2.) Yes, with all other proposals.

(19.) Road Vote :—*Mr. Wood* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that instructions were issued in March last that one-third of the Road Votes at the disposal of the district officers should be reserved from expenditure?
- (2.) Is it a fact that instructions have since been issued that no road contract is to be entered into after the 31st May of this year, thus preventing the expenditure of amounts reserved through the previous instructions of March?
- (3.) Are all unexpended road balances written off on the 30th June—the end of the present financial year?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I will presently lay upon the Table copies of the instructions given with reference to these matters.
- (3.) Yes.

2 LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—*Mr. Harvey* presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of New South Wales, referring to the manifold evils through the use of intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passing of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.

Petition received.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Newcastle, county of Northumberland, for the Cottage Creek Storm-water Channel, Newcastle.
- (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Riley, county of Richmond, for Drainage Works at Tuckombil Creek.
- (3.) Instructions issued to Local Officers respecting the expenditure of Road Votes.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Substituted amended Regulations Nos. 49 and 148, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (2.) Substituted amended Regulation No. 326, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return showing amount paid from Consolidated Revenue Fund to Sir Julian Salomons, 1894-5.
- (2.) Return showing amount paid from Consolidated Revenue Fund to Mr. C. G. Heydon for the year 1895-6.
- (3.) Return showing amount paid from Consolidated Revenue Fund in connection with the Dean case.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 31st March, 1896.
- (2.) Report on the Military Forces of the Colony for the year 1895.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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4. **CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL**,—(*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Frank Farnell, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Farnell then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise John Lang, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, merchant, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, or any company duly registered for that purpose by agreement with the said John Lang, his executors, administrators, or assigns, to construct and maintain a Tramway from a point near the north-east corner of lease number twenty, in the parish of Gindantherie, county of Cook, to the Mudgee Railway; and to use steam or other motive power upon the said Tramway, and to carry passengers, goods, live stock, ore, and other things over the said Tramway, for hire, for the public generally.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise John Lang, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, merchant, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, or any company duly registered for that purpose by agreement with the said John Lang, his executors, administrators, or assigns, to construct and maintain a Tramway from a point near the north-east corner of lease number twenty, in the parish of Gindantherie, county of Cook, to the Mudgee Railway; and to use steam or other motive power upon the said Tramway, and to carry passengers, goods, live stock, ore, and other things over the said Tramway, for hire, for the public generally.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th May, 1896.

5. **MIDWIFERY NURSES BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Cann, for Dr. Graham, moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Midwifery Nurses Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.

6. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Law Practitioners Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 23rd June.

(2.) Small Debts Recovery Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 21st July.

7. **EMU GRAVEL AND ROAD-METAL COMPANY'S TRAMWAY BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the construction, maintenance, and control by the Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company (Limited) of a tramway from the property known as the Prospect Quarries to the Toongabbie Railway Station, and connecting with the Great Western Railway, and to carry passengers and goods thereon.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 27th May, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

And the 296th Standing Order of the House permitting of the restoration of the Bill to the stage it had reached at the close of last Session,—

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 4th August.

8. **CO-OPERATIVE COLLIERY TRAMWAY BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the maintenance and use of a tramway which has been constructed from the Co-operative Mine, situate on the Wentworth Estate, in the parish of Hexham, county of Northumberland, in the Colony of New South Wales, to the screens above the Co-operative Railway Line, and which said tramway crosses various streets and ways in the borough of Plattsburg; and to enable William George Laidley, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, to divert the course of Kenrick-street between Wentworth-street and Fletcher-street, and giving him compulsory powers to acquire lands forming the site of the said tramway.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 27th May, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

And the 296th Standing Order of the House permitting of the restoration of the Bill to the stage it had reached at the close of last Session,—

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 4th August.

9. **NO-LIABILITY MINING COMPANIES BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal an Act, intituled 'An Act to incorporate No-liability Mining Companies,' and to provide in lieu thereof for the incorporation, regulation, and winding-up of No-liability Mining Companies.*"—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence during

27th May, 1896.

during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Council requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Assembly's Standing Order in that behalf.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 27th May, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

And the 296th Standing Order of the House permitting of the restoration of the Bill to the stage it had reached at the close of last Session,—

Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 18th August.

10. LANDS FOR CLOSER SETTLEMENT BILL:—Mr. Carruthers, pursuant to leave granted on 21st May, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the purchase, acquisition, and resumption of land for the purposes of Closer Settlement, and to regulate the disposal thereof; and to authorise the making of provisional agreements in respect of the same; to enable funds to be provided for the above purposes by the issue of debentures and otherwise; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

11. SUSPENSION OF THE STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain homestead selections and settlement leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land, through all its stages in one day.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

12. PROVISION FOR THE FAMILY OF THE LATE SIR HENRY PARKES, G.C.M.G.:—

(1.) The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 17.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to make certain provision for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G.

Government House,

Sydney, 27th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

- (2.) Mr. Young, for Mr. Reid, moved, pursuant to Notice (*Formal Motion*), That this House will, on Thursday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolutions:—

(1.) That, in view of the long distinguished and patriotic services of the late Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., there be granted sums of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony to make provision for his widow and children, as follows:—

(a) The sum of £1,000 to provide a comfortable home for the said widow and children.

(b) The sum of £100 a year for Lady Parkes whilst charged with the care and supervision of the children, and to continue until the youngest child is of age, unless her care and supervision are sooner determined.

(c) The sum of £80 a year for the education, care, and maintenance of each of the younger children of the late Sir Henry Parkes, five in number, until each of such children attains the age of 21 years. The whole of such moneys to be paid from time to time to a trustee, in whom any property purchased with the said sum of one thousand pounds shall be vested, to be named by the Governor-in-Council, who shall be charged with the responsibility of seeing that the objects of this provision are properly carried out, and who shall receive all such moneys in trust for the purposes hereinbefore specified.

(2.) That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to give effect to the foregoing resolutions.

Question put and passed.

13. CROWN LANDS (HOMESTEAD SELECTIONS AND SETTLEMENT LEASES) BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain homestead selections and settlement leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain homestead selections and settlement leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land,*"—which was read a first time.

Mr. Carruthers moved, That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

(3.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

(4.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th May, 1896.

(4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, *passed*.

Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain homestead selections and settlement leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain homestead selections and settlement leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th May, 1896.*

14. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Wednesday next:—
- (1.) Coal Mines Regulation Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make better provision for the regulation of coal-mines and collieries; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
 - (2.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill; second reading.
 - (3.) Mining Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
15. METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.
16. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-seven minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 9.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 28 MAY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Police Magistrate, Inverell:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Cruickshank*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Has a Police Magistrate for Inverell been appointed yet?
 (2.) If so, what is his name, and when will he enter on his duties?

Mr. Gould answered,—The office of Police Magistrate at Inverell is affiliated to that of Mining Warden, which latter appointment is vested in the Department of Mines. At the instance of that Department I some time since agreed to the appointment of *Mr. Clarke*, who is now Mining Warden and Police Magistrate at Wyalong, to the combined positions at Inverell, but it now appears that the carrying out of this proposal is dependent upon certain other arrangements, involving alterations in the staff of my Department, since suggested by the Department of Mines, and which have not yet been finally dealt with.

- (2.) Committal of man named Cornish at Kempsey:—*Mr. Harvey* asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Is he aware of the circumstances under which a young man named Cornish was committed by the Police Magistrate at Kempsey?
 (2.) Did the Attorney-General refuse to file a bill against Cornish?
 (3.) Has he made any inquiry into the matter; if so, what is the result of such inquiry?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes; that a mistake was committed by the Magistrate, but the Attorney-General, under whose notice the report of the Police Magistrate has been brought, is of opinion, and in this I concur, that the action of the Police Magistrate, although in error, was nevertheless *bonâ fide*.

- (3.) Contributors to the Superannuation Fund in Railway Department:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Dr. Ross*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Why are the provisions of the Public Service Act not extended to contributors in the Railway Service, or why are they not allowed to discontinue contributing to the Superannuation Fund?
 (2.) Is provision likely to be made to correct this anomaly in the Civil Service?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Because the Railway employes are not under the Public Service Act.
 (2.) I will see what can be done.

- (4.) Electric Telegraph Office, Bathurst:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Postmaster-General,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers, petitions, correspondence, and other documents in connection with an application for an extension of the hours during which the Electric Telegraph Office shall be kept open at Bathurst?

Mr. Reid answered,—The correspondence in question is somewhat voluminous and apparently of little public interest; otherwise there is no objection to its production if moved for in the usual way.

- (5.) Crown Prosecutors:—*Mr. Aßeck* asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it the general practice, where a father is a Crown Prosecutor, that a son, a solicitor, is allowed in the same case to assist the father, or even be employed on the opposite side?
 (2.) Will he allow such to continue if such is the practice now?

Mr. Gould answered,—My Honorable colleague, the Attorney-General, informs me that no such practice as that referred to in this Question is known to him.

- (6.) Gundagai Hospital:—*Mr. McElhone*, for *Dr. Ross*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it true that the whole staff of the Gundagai Hospital, including the doctor, secretary, and matron, have lately resigned; if so, for what reason?

Mr. Reid answered,—No official communication has been received upon the subject. (7.)

28th May, 1896.

- (7.) Victoria Barracks:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—When is it probable that the conveyance of the Victoria Barracks freehold to the New South Wales Government will be completed?

Mr. Reid answered,—The conveyance of Victoria Barracks, which forms part of the property to be taken in exchange under the agreement with the Imperial Government, is being dealt with by the Crown Solicitor. As considerable difficulty, however, of a legal nature is experienced in carrying out the exchange which may have to be dealt with by legislation, it is impossible to say at this stage when the matter will be completed. I may add that a case is being prepared for counsel's opinion.

- (8.) Cost of Royal Commission on City Railway Extension and North Shore Bridge:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the cost of the Royal Commission on the City and Suburban Railway Extension and North Shore Bridge connection of 1890?

(2.) Did this Commission recommend that if any connection was made with North Shore it should be by bridge?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) £2,267 19s. 11d.

(2.) Yes.

- (9.) Haulage Rates of Farm Produce on Railway:—*Mr. Perry*, for Dr. Ross, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is there any difference in the haulage of wheat and other farm produce on our railways during the last year compared with the year previously; if so, has the haulage increased or diminished, and by how much?

(2.) The same information with regard to loss or increase of revenue from the same source?

Mr. Reid answered,—The rates for the carriage of grain on the up journey have been considerably reduced within recent years, the rates now authorised being:—

Distance.	Per ton in 6-ton truck loads.
For 200 miles	11s. 4d.
300 "	12s. 0d.
400 "	12s. 8d.
500 "	13s. 4d.

Last month the rates for the carriage of wheat, &c., on the down journey were increased to A rate, plus 20 per cent., similar to the rate in force in 1889. Figures are not available at present as to the extent of the traffic as compared with previous years.

- (10.) Assessors under the Land and Income Tax:—*Mr. Perry*, for Dr. Ross, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The number of applications received for the office of Assessor or Valuer under the Land and Income Tax for the district of Molong?

(2.) Has any application or tender been accepted; if so, the names of the successful applicants, and at what salary or rate are they paid, and the number of cases they have to deal with, and what time is allowed?

(3.) Will he state the names of those whose applications for the office of Valuer in Molong district were declined, and the rate or the amount tendered for by each person respectively?

Mr. Reid answered,—The information required will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

- (11.) Exemption Certificates:—*Mr. Fegan* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) How many exemption certificates have been issued by his Department during the years 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, and 1895?

(2.) What were the ages of the scholars to whom such certificates were issued during the years 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, and 1895?

(3.) In view of the above facts, will he consider the desirableness of raising the standard, so that it will be much more difficult to obtain such certificates?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) The information can be supplied for 1895 only; the number of certificates issued during that year was 8,942.

(2.) This information cannot be given, but most of the pupils who obtained certificates were between the ages of thirteen and fourteen years.

(3.) The standard at present being higher than that of other countries, it is not intended to raise it.

- (12.) Commercial Federation:—*Mr. Hawthorne* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it his intention to ascertain from the Premiers of Australasia their views in regard to the commercial federation of the Empire on the lines shadowed forth in the Canada Club speech by the Right Honorable Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies?

(2.) If so, and a majority of them express their approval of such a scheme, will he be prepared to invite them to meet him in conference some time before the close of the present year?

Mr. Reid answered,—I do not think that this matter has assumed any shape definite enough for concerted action, if that were practicable.

2. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—*Mr. Ewing*, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table.—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plans, relating to the proposed Railway from Nevertire to Warren. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—*Mr. Hayes* brought up the Second Report from the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th May, 1896.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Amended By-laws of the University of Sydney.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Eleventh General Report, together with returns giving a record of the Committee's inquiries, and Minutes of Proceedings of, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. INSANITARY STATE OF TOWN OF PARKES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Perry, for Dr. Ross, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a copy of the report of the medical officer who was lately sent to Parkes to inquire into the prevalence of typhoid fever and the insanitary state of that township.
Question put and passed.

6. FRANCHISE EXTENSION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Franchise Extension Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during last Session, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the following Message be sent to the Council:—Mr. President,—A Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, by extending the franchise to certain persons disqualified from voting "under the said Act," forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the Assembly requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Council's Standing Order in that behalf.

Question put and passed.

Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.

7. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Midwifery Nurses Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 18th August.

(2.) Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 4th August.

8. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Berrigan to Finley*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice,—That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Berrigan to Finley.

Debate ensued.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only two Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. McElhone and Mr. Sleath.

9. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Improvement of Cook's River*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice,—That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of carrying out certain works for the improvement of Cook's River near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters.

Debate ensued.

Mr. See moved, That the Question be amended by the addition thereto of the following words,—
"Provided that such works are carried out on the 'betterment principle.'"

Point of Order:—Mr. Gould submitted that the proposed amendment was out of order on the ground of irrelevancy.

Mr. Speaker sustained the objection.

Original Question again stated.

Debate continued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 54.

Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Moure,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Knox,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Price,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Davis,	Mr. Simcon Phillips,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. McLean,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Ashton.

Noes, 27.

Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. Copeland,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. See,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Waddell.
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Raymond,	
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. McElhone,	
Mr. Levien,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Crick,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Ferguson,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The

23th May, 1896.

The votes of Mr. Bull, Mr. Price, and Mr. Rigg, recorded in the Division, were challenged by Mr. Perry on the ground that those Honorable Members had a direct pecuniary interest in this matter.

And Mr. Speaker having made a suggestion,—

Mr. Perry declined to proceed any further with his challenge.

10. PROVISION FOR THE FAMILY OF THE LATE SIR HENRY PARKES, G.C.M.G.:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolutions:—

(1.) That, in view of the long distinguished and patriotic services of the late Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., there be granted sums of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony to make provision for his widow and children, as follows:—

(a) The sum of £1,000 to provide a comfortable home for the said widow and children.

(b) The sum of £100 a year for Lady Parkes whilst charged with the care and supervision of the children, and to continue until the youngest child is of age, unless her care and supervision are sooner determined.

(c) The sum of £80 a year for the education, care, and maintenance of each of the younger children of the late Sir Henry Parkes, five in number, until each of such children attains the age of 21 years. The whole of such moneys to be paid from time to time to a trustee, in whom any property purchased with the said sum of £1,000 shall be vested, to be named by the Governor-in-Council, who shall be charged with the responsibility of seeing that the objects of this provision are properly carried out, and who shall receive all such moneys in trust for the purposes hereinbefore specified.

(2.) That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to give effect to the foregoing resolutions.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 29 MAY, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—

(1.) That, in view of the long distinguished and patriotic services of the late Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G., there be granted sums of money out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony to make provision for his widow and children, as follows:—

(a) The sum of £1,000 to provide a comfortable home for the said widow and children.

(b) The sum of £100 a year for Lady Parkes whilst charged with the care and supervision of the children, and to continue until the youngest child is of age, unless her care and supervision are sooner determined.

(c) The sum of £80 a year for the education, care, and maintenance of each of the younger children of the late Sir Henry Parkes, five in number, until each of such children attains the age of 21 years. The whole of such moneys to be paid from time to time to a trustee, in whom any property purchased with the said sum of one thousand pounds shall be vested, to be named by the Governor-in-Council, who shall be charged with the responsibility of seeing that the objects of this provision are properly carried out, and who shall receive all such moneys in trust for the purposes hereinbefore specified.

(2.) That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to make certain provision for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes, G.C.M.G.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

11. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—William Henry Mahony, Esquire, came to the Table, and was sworn by the Clerk as a Member of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at seven minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 10.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 2 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

PAPERS:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council,—

(1.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from one item to supplement the Vote for another item of expenditure in connection with the Treasury Department.

(2.) Authorising the transfer of amounts from the Contingent Vote, Agriculture and Forestry, to supplement that for Public Watering Places and Artesian Boring, and from Contingent Vote, Department of Mines, to supplement that for Public Watering Places and Artesian Boring, respectively,—

transmitted to the Legislative Assembly under directions contained in the 18th section of the Audit Act of 1870.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—William Patrick Crick, Esquire, came to the Table, and was sworn by the Clerk as a Member of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Assessments under the Land and Income Tax:—Mr. Afleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Land and Income Tax Commissioners to accept the values sent in by the assessors without question?

(2.) What means do the Commissioners intend to take to find out if the values placed on land by those appointed to value the same are correct?

(3.) In reference to Mr. Rose's Question, No. 11, of Wednesday, 27th May, it was stated that the register would be open at the Commissioners' Office for inspection by anyone on payment of 1s.; will the Commissioners reconsider this decision, and have a register in every district at the Land Office, and allow anyone to see it without charge in the interest of the public?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) Every possible means will be taken to obtain a fair and uniform assessment of the lands in the Colony.

(3.) The matter will be considered by the Commissioners on completion of the Land Tax Assessment Book.

(2.) Rosehill to Dural Railway:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Nicholson, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) When will the first section of the Rosehill to Dural Railway be opened?

(2.) Is it the intention of the promoters to complete the said railway?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I cannot say.

(2.) I cannot say at present.

(3.) Pilotage Charges:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to bring in a Bill early this Session to remedy the present unsatisfactory pilotage charges in this Colony?

Mr. Reid answered,—This matter is provided for in a Bill the Government intend to bring in this Session.

(4.) Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—Mr. O'Sullivan, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill to amend the Public Service Act, so as to enable those officers who are not under the control of the Public Service Board electing to discontinue their contributions to the Superannuation Fund the right to do so?

(2.)

2nd June, 1896.

(2.) If not, will he obtain an opinion from the Crown Law Officers, as to the rights and position of such officers as do not come under the Board, in relation to the matter of their contributions?

(3.) Will he lay upon the Table of the House a return showing—(a) The present position of the Superannuation Fund; (b) the ratio of the contributions in proportion to the amount of the pensions of all officers at present upon the fund; (c) the actuarial position of the fund; (d) the effect of the charges made upon it by the retrenchment effected by the Public Service Board?

(4.) Is it his intention to introduce a Bill dealing with the Superannuation Fund, as promised by him on the 29th October, 1895?

(5.) Is it a fact that the efficiency of the Public Service is being impaired by the appointment, with a view to economy, of junior officers in the place of experienced and capable men; if so, will he take steps in the matter?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I think so. A definite answer will shortly be given.

(2.) Answered by No. 1.

(3.) The Public Service Board will deal with this in their Report.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) If the Honorable Member knows of any instance of the kind referred to, he should bring it under the notice of the Public Service Board, who will at once deal with it.

(5.) Shorthand Reporting and Typewriting in Law Courts:—Mr. O'Sullivan, for Mr. Price, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has he any objection to furnish this House with a copy of any reports which he has in reference to the practice of shorthand reporting and typewriting in the Law Courts of New Zealand?

(2.) Will he obtain, and lay upon the Table of this House, the reports of the Judges of New York, and also the reports of the Bureau of Education of Washington bearing upon this subject; also the reports of the American Judges on the question?

(3.) With a view to expedite the taking of evidence, and assist in shortening the hearing of trials in the various Law Courts of the Colony, is it his intention to appoint a staff of competent shorthand and type writers to take evidence in every Court, both civil and criminal, in New South Wales?

(4.) If so, upon what date will such practice come into force?

(5.) Will he furnish the House with such information as he has at his disposal bearing upon the appointment of shorthand and type writers in the Courts of Justice?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1 and 2.) The reports referred to have not been received.

(3 and 4.) No decision has yet been arrived at.

(5.) When inquiries now being made are completed there will be no objection to tabling copies of all reports, &c.

(6.) Medical Aid to Pauper Patients:—Mr. O'Sullivan, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the present practice in connection with obtaining medical aid for pauper patients is as follows, viz.:—(a) That the local police officer reports the matter to the District Inspector; (b) that the District Inspector forwards the report to the Inspector-General of Police; (c) that the Inspector-General forwards the report to the Chief Secretary; (d) that the Chief Secretary submits the report to the Inspector of Charities; (e) that the report is returned minuted back through the various officers mentioned above; (f) that upon receipt of such report, bearing the respective endorsements, the local police officer advises the local Health Office to attend to the case?

(2.) Is he aware that in a case of malignant fever in the Myall district it took four days to obtain the necessary authority to secure medical advice, and upon the necessary authority being received the man was beyond human assistance?

(3.) Will he see that in future authority is given to the local police officers to call in the Government Medical Officer or nurse without being obliged to adopt the present system of departmental routine?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Medical Adviser to the Government:—

(1 and 3.) The present practice is for the police to call in at once the Government Medical Officer or the nearest medical man.

(2.) I have no information on the matter. I may add that the system, as suggested by the Honorable Member's Question, is not in any way in accordance with the practice, and I have simply referred to applications that have been made to me direct by Honorable Members, who can inform the honorable gentleman whether the greatest expedition has not been used. My experience with regard to recent cases can be explained by the Honorable Member for Tumut and the Honorable Member for Cobar.

(7.) Windsor Bridge:—Mr. Morgan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will the works on the Windsor Bridge be commenced?

Mr. Young answered,—The cylinders and bracing are now under construction by contract; the former are expected to be ready in July, and will enable a start to be made at the site of the bridge early in August.

(8.) Bathurst Burr in the Cassilis Land District:—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In view of the circumstance that nearly the whole of the travelling-stock routes and reserves in the Cassilis Land District are overrun with a noxious growth called Bathurst burr, and that squatters and selectors alike have expended capital and labour in removing same from their own holdings, will he cause some steps to be taken in the direction of eradicating this objectionable and noxious weed?

Mr. Young answered,—I would suggest that the Honorable Member address his questions to the Minister for Mines, as all matters in connection with travelling stock routes and reserves are dealt with by the Mines Department.

(9).

2nd June, 1896.

- (9.) Publication of Taxable Incomes:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Taxation Commissioners to pursue a similar policy of making taxable incomes semi-public as will be applied to the taxable value of lands?
 - (2.) If no, why is a distinction made between a taxable income and a taxable area of land?
 - (3.) Is it not a fact that there is the same risk in undervaluing annual incomes as not sufficiently valuing landed assets?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) No. The Taxation Act provides that the Income Tax Assessment Book shall not be open to public inspection. (See clause 41.)
 - (2.) The opening of the Land Tax Register to inspection is a compliance with clause 40 of the Taxation Act.
 - (3.) This is a matter of opinion, and opinions differ on this point.
- (10.) Salaries of Country School-teachers:—Mr. Rose asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board have reduced the salaries of numbers of school-teachers in the country purely on the ground that the attendance at their schools has decreased?
 - (2.) If yes, is no consideration to be shown for length of service and qualifications to preside over a higher-class school?
 - (3.) Why is the element of attendance only to regulate the salaries of school-teachers in scattered country districts?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) No. The schools were reduced in classification under Departmental Regulation No. 106. No reductions were made except where the attendance at the schools had been for some time below that required.
 - (2.) Answered by No. 1.
 - (3.) The Regulations made in 1893 so provide.
- (11.) Office of Government Pathologist:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Now that the position of Government Pathologist is abandoned, what is the practice in the case of sudden deaths when medical men are called in?
 - (2.) Do they make the *post-mortem* examination when necessary?
 - (3.) Are they paid fees for same?
 - (4.) If so, what amount?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—Dr. G. H. Taylor has been appointed Pathologist, Assistant Government Medical Officer and Vaccinator, Sydney.
- (12.) Rates for Carriage of Mail Matter on the Railways:—Mr. Cann asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) What are the rates per mile paid to the Railway Commissioners for the carriage of mail matter?
 - (2.) Are the rates on branch lines the same as on the main lines?
 - (3.) What is the total amount allowed to the Railway Commissioners for the carriage of mail matter per year?
- Mr. Cook answered,—
- (1.) £36 per mile per annum on main lines where travelling post offices run; £20 per mile per annum on main lines where travelling post offices do not run; £12 per mile per annum on branch lines; £11 10s. per mile per annum on tram lines; £2,500 per annum special extra rate for newspapers, and £3,500 per annum for parcels.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) £67,453 per annum.
- (13.) Schools at Girilambone and United Hill:—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has an application been received recently for the establishment of a school at Girilambone Railway Station; and, if so, is it proposed to grant such?
 - (2.) Has an application been made recently for a school at United Hill, near Cobar, and will it be granted?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) An application has recently been received. It was declined, as there were not sufficient children of school age to warrant the establishment of a Public School.
 - (2.) Yes; the question is now under consideration.
- (14.) Rookwood Asylum:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to complaints from inmates of the Rookwood Asylum as to absence of proper bedding and clothing in winter-time, and the generally cold and cheerless condition of the establishment referred to at this period of the year?
 - (2.) If not, will he cause an inquiry to be instituted as to the correctness or otherwise of these complaints?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—My attention has not been directed to any such complaints, nor do I think there could be any foundation for them; but I will cause inquiry to be made.
- (15.) Endowments in Proposed Municipalities Bill:—Mr. Rigg asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it intended to make provision for endowment in the proposed Bill to extend the provisions of the law relating to Municipalities?
 - (2.) If so, will it be equal in amount to the proposal contained in the Local Government Bill as submitted to the House last Parliament?
 - (3.) Will he arrange for special endowment pending the passing of the proposed Bill?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I must ask my honorable friend to wait until the Financial Statement is delivered.

2nd June, 1896.

4. **CLAIMS OF CAPTAIN ROSSI**:—Mr. Neild presented a Petition from Francis Robert Lewis Rossi Captain Volunteer Force, of Rossville, Goulburn, giving particulars of his claims urged in and inquired into by a former Parliament; and praying the House to appoint another Select Committee to inquire into and report upon his claims.
Petition received.
5. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC**:—Mr. Harvey presented a Petition from certain Officers of St. John's Darlinghurst Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society, referring to the manifold evils through the use of intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passing of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.
Petition received.
6. **PAPERS**:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bringelly, county of Cumberland, for deviation in road, Carne's Hill to Bringelly, at Pearce's.
(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Arakoon, county of Macquarie, for construction of a channel for new entrance to the Macleay River.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. **MUNICIPAL BATHS BILL (Formal Motion)**:—
(1.) Mr. Dugald Thomson moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867; to enable municipalities to lease and acquire lands, and to erect baths thereon or thereover, and to lease and acquire baths already erected; to validate the acts of Municipal Councils which have already erected, leased, or acquired baths beyond the bounds of their municipalities; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Thomson then presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to amend the 'Municipalities Act of 1867'; to enable municipalities to lease and acquire lands, and to erect baths thereon or thereover, and to lease and acquire baths already erected; to validate the acts of Municipal Councils which have already erected, leased, or acquired baths beyond the bounds of their municipalities; and for other purposes,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
8. **COST OF ROYAL COMMISSIONS (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the cost of each Royal Commission held from 28th May, 1886, up to the present date.
Question put and passed.
9. **RAILWAY BRIDGE ACROSS PARRAMATTA RIVER AT ROSEHILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Copeland, for Mr. O'Sullivan, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all reports by Departmental officers on railway bridge across Parramatta River at Rosehill, on the private railway.
Question put and passed.
10. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Balmain North, Mr. Wilks, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.,—"The action of the Magistrate at the Water Police Court, on Friday, 29th May, in dismissing the case "Andrew Berde v. Captain Hall, of the steam-tug Goole No. 9, re bad provisions supplied to the crew."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members.
Mr. Wilks moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
11. **DISMISSAL OF JAMES FREDERICK COOK FROM THE TRAMWAY SERVICE**:—Mr. Watson moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the dismissal of James Frederick Cook from the tramway service.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Reid, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Lee, Mr. Collins, Mr. Hayes, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Newman, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.
12. **RAILWAY PASSES ISSUED TO DISCHARGED PRISONERS**:—Mr. O'Reilly, for Mr. Millen, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The number of discharged prisoners to whom railway passes were issued in each of the years 1891 to 1895 inclusive.
(2.) The number of discharged prisoners receiving passes to Bourke during the same years.
Question put and passed.
13. **THE ABATTOIRS**:—Mr. Hawthorne moved, pursuant to Notice, That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon,—
(1.) The past and present management of the abattoirs at Glebe Island.
(2.) The advisability or otherwise of the removal of the present abattoirs to another locality.
" (3.) The probable cost and route of a branch railway line from the main trunk line to Glebe Island, for the carrying of cattle and sheep, with the object of abolishing the present cattle-driving nuisance through the western suburbs."
(4.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Reid, Mr. Russell Jones, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Frank Farnell, Mr. Law, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Harris, Mr. Parkes, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd June, 1896.

Mr. Macdonald moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out paragraph (3).
 Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
 Debate continued.
 Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 10.

Mr. Fegan,
 Mr. McLaughlin,
 Mr. McLean,
 Mr. Wilks,
 Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
 Mr. Harvey,
 Mr. Harris,
 Mr. Millard.

Tellers,

Mr. Law,
 Mr. Hawthorne.

Mr. Ferguson,
 Mr. Copeland,
 Dr. Ross,
 Mr. Schey,
 Mr. O'Sullivan,
 Mr. See,
 Mr. Willis,
 Mr. Dacey,
 Mr. Watkins,
 Mr. Hughes,
 Mr. Brunner,
 Mr. Chapman,
 Mr. FitzGerald,
 Mr. Waddell,
 Mr. Carroll,
 Mr. Pyers,
 Mr. Hurley,

Noes, 47.

Mr. Travers Jones,
 Mr. Macdonald,
 Mr. Cotton,
 Mr. Howarth,
 Mr. Mahony,
 Mr. Sydney Smith,
 Mr. Cann,
 Mr. McGowen,
 Mr. Archibald Campbell,
 Mr. Hogue,
 Mr. Thomas,
 Mr. Anderson,
 Mr. Thomas Brown,
 Mr. Collins,
 Mr. Affleck,
 Mr. Reid,
 Mr. Whiddon,
 Mr. Ball,
 Mr. Lonsdale,
 Mr. Jessop,
 Mr. Garrard,
 Mr. Black,
 Mr. Dick,
 Mr. Morgan,
 Mr. O'Reilly,
 Mr. Newman,
 Mr. Young.

Tellers,

Mr. Watson,
 Mr. Moore.

And so it passed in the negative.

And Mr. Hogue requiring that the Committee be appointed by Ballot,—
 Question, as amended, then put,—That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon,—

- (1.) The past and present management of the abattoirs at Glebe Island.
- (2.) The advisability or otherwise of the removal of the present abattoirs to another locality.
- (3.) That such Committee consist of * * * * *

The House divided.

Ayes, 51.

Mr. Brunner,
 Mr. Fegan,
 Mr. Young,
 Mr. Garrard,
 Mr. McLaughlin,
 Mr. Reid,
 Mr. See,
 Mr. Sydney Smith,
 Mr. McGowen,
 Mr. Smailes,
 Mr. Thomas,
 Mr. Wilks,
 Mr. Hogue,
 Mr. Macdonald,
 Mr. Cotton,
 Mr. Hughes,
 Mr. McLean,
 Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
 Mr. Newman,

Mr. Watkins,
 Mr. Thomas Brown,
 Mr. Harvey,
 Mr. O'Sullivan,
 Mr. Bavister,
 Mr. Ball,
 Mr. Pyers,
 Mr. Millard,
 Mr. Jessop,
 Mr. Harris,
 Mr. Dacey,
 Mr. Hurley,
 Mr. Mahony,
 Mr. O'Reilly,
 Mr. Dick,
 Mr. Willis,
 Mr. Cook,

Mr. Schey,
 Mr. Morgan,
 Mr. Collins,
 Mr. Howarth,
 Mr. Chapman,
 Mr. Travers Jones,
 Mr. Cann,
 Mr. Waddell,
 Mr. Watson,
 Mr. Anderson,
 Dr. Ross,
 Mr. Copeland,
 Mr. FitzGerald.

Tellers,

Mr. Hawthorne,
 Mr. Law.

Noes, 9.

Mr. Carroll,
 Mr. Edden,
 Mr. Whiddon,
 Mr. Lonsdale,
 Mr. Black,
 Mr. Affleck,
 Mr. Archibald Campbell.

Tellers,

Mr. Ferguson,
 Mr. Moore.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon the House proceeded to Ballot; and Mr. Speaker declared the following to be the Committee duly appointed:—Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Brunner, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Law, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Mahony, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Willis, and Mr. McElhone.

14. COAL-MINING LEASES:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the disastrous results of the competition now existing in the coal trade, no more coal-mining leases should be issued for a period of twenty-five years.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Edden moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Question put and passed.

Ordered that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 21st July.

The House adjourned, at fourteen minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
 Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
 Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 11.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 3 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Flood Embankment on river near Tocumwal:—Mr. Hayes asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that an arrangement was come to with the Victorian Government that the flood-embankment on the opposite side of the river from Tocumwal should not come within $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile of the bridge?

(2.) Did Mr. Hickson and Mr. McKinney agree and report if this embankment was constructed serious flooding of the town of Tocumwal and a large area of land on the New South Wales side of the river would result?

(3.) Is it also a fact that an embankment has been constructed averaging about 6 feet in height, in contravention of this agreement?

(4.) Will he explain why this was allowed to be done, and what steps he proposes to take to mitigate the evil which must arise on the New South Wales side of the river owing to the flood-waters being forced over to that side in consequence of this embankment being made?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1 and 2.) It was so reported to me.

(3.) I am informed such an embankment has been constructed, but am not prepared to state its height.

(4.) The matter is under consideration.

(2.) Bore on Euroka, Coonamble and Walgett Road:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Willis, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What were the original reasons for putting down the bore on Euroka, Coonamble and Walgett Road?

(2.) Now that the work has attained such successful results, what is the intention in regard to the proper utilisation of the splendid flow of water?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) In reply to the Honorable Member, who advocated the putting down of this bore, I desire to say that the work was primarily undertaken to provide water for travelling stock upon a dry stage of 29 miles between Walgett and Combogolong, and for the secondary purpose of testing this tract of country geologically and for artesian water.

(2.) No definite arrangements have been made, as the works for the completion of the bore are still in the hands of the contractor, but steps will shortly be taken to provide for the utilisation of the water.

(3.) Contracts for Bores held by Mr. Granger Barton:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. McElhone, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Granger Barton holds, to the detriment of other contractors, contracts for fifteen bores in the electorate represented by Mr. Willis?

(2.) What is the aggregate amount of the contract money?

(3.) When does the time expire for completing the bores?

(4.) How many bores have been finished?

(5.) How many are being put down at the present time?

(6.) When will the balance be finished?

Mr.

3rd June, 1896.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The Petrolia Boring Co., of which Mr. Grainger Barton is Managing Director, obtained a contract by public competition for thirteen bores, some of which are located in the electorate represented by Mr. Willis, M.P.

(2.) If each bore is carried to the maximum depth specified, viz., 2,000 feet, the total amount payable under such conditions would be £27,950. Estimating, however, from the average depths of bores already completed, the total amount of the contract would be £22,914.

(3.) In July next.

(4, 5, and 6.) Three have been finished and two are in progress. It is pointed out that in contracts of this nature it is impossible to provide for or foresee the delays which will arise from accidents; but the contractor has been urged to use all possible expedition to complete the contract.

- (4.) Supply of Vines by the Government of Cape Colony:—Mr. Hogue asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has any offer been made by the Government of Cape Colony to supply the Agricultural Department of this country with cuttings of vines alleged to be phylloxera-resisting; if so, has he any intention of accepting such offer without full inquiry as to whether such cuttings are likely to spread the phylloxera pest among our own vineyards?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Cape Colony, on being asked, offered to supply the Agricultural Department with cuttings of the kind named, but it was decided in January last not to accept the same.

- (5.) The Codlin Moth:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Mines,—When will he, in accordance with his promise last Session, introduce a Bill for the destruction of the codlin moth and other insect pests?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is the intention of the Government to introduce a measure if possible this Session dealing with these pests.

- (6.) Binding for the Public Library:—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is the Government aware of the large number of books and serials accumulating at the Government Printing Office for many months, to be bound, the property of the Public Library, and very much to the inconvenience of the public who frequent this institution, for which large sums are annually voted?

(2.) Is it not a fact that there are large numbers of bookbinders out of work?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes; but the work is being proceeded with as rapidly as possible. 2,056 volumes have been bound since 1st July, 1895, at a cost of £627 13s. The sum of £200 only is voted annually for this work.

(2.) I am not aware.

- (7.) Sheep Depastured by Bank on Nanimi Run, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it a fact that since the late inquiry by the Local Land Board, and the forfeiture of the selections (six) on Nanimi Run, Molong district, and county of Ashburnham, that the Bank has been continually using and grazing sheep on the land without the payment of any rent; if so, what steps does he intend to take in the matter or to recover the rent?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I am not aware that such is the case, but inquiry shall be made and such action taken in the public interest as the necessities of the case require.

- (8.) Bridge across the Murray between Barooga and Cobran:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that as far back as 1887 the Government of Victoria promised to pay a moiety of the cost of the construction of the bridge across the Murray between Barooga and Cobran, and that in 1893 the Minister for Works of New South Wales promised that the bridge should be constructed?

(2.) As illustrating the trade between these two places, is it a fact that a punt there, owned by a private company, is now paying a dividend of 48 per cent. to its proprietors?

(3.) Is it also a fact that there has been a large increase of settlement about Barooga since the agitation for the bridge was started?

(4.) Under these circumstances, why is the construction of the Barooga-Cobran bridge delayed?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) The records of the Department show that Mr. James Munro, when Premier of Victoria, stated his Government was willing to provide half the cost of a timber bridge at Cobram if the Government of New South Wales would contribute the other moiety, and in 1893 Mr. Lyne, then Minister for Works, informed a deputation that waited upon him at Corowa that he had very little doubt that a bridge would be built at Cobram, although at the present time (3rd August, 1893) he was not prepared to give a definite promise, for financial reasons.

(2.) I understand a private punt is established, but I am not aware what dividend it pays its proprietors.

(3.) I am not aware.

(4.) The question of placing a sum of money on the next Estimates will receive the fullest consideration.

- (9.) Application for Summons against Messrs. Tooth & Co., Brewers:—Mr. Ashton asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Was an application made recently to a city Magistrate for the issue of a criminal summons against Messrs. Tooth & Co., brewers?

(2.) If so, what were the grounds of the application?

(3.) What reason does the Magistrate assign for refusing to issue the summons?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd June, 1896.

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes; for a summons for obtaining money by false pretences.
- (2.) On the ground that the said company obtained a refund of £53 11s., paid by them for duty on beer on their fraudulent representation that the beer had become bad and had been destroyed at the company's brewery.
- (3.) As the alleged fraud concerned the Consolidated Revenue, the Collector of Customs was consulted upon the matter, and that officer explained that full inquiry had been made by his Department, with the result that he had come to the conclusion that no fraud had been perpetrated, but that, in fact, a sum slightly in excess of the duty required had been paid, and that if there had been any suspicion of fraud the Customs Department would have taken action. In this refusal I fully concurred.

(10.) Fees in connection with the Dean Case :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Were the Commissioners, secretaries, and shorthand writers on the Dean Commission paid by fees?
- (2.) Is it a fact that sometimes two sittings were held on one day, and that fees were paid to the persons named as for two sittings, or was each day considered one sitting, and paid for accordingly?

Mr. Reid answered,—The honorable gentleman should address this Question to the Colonial Secretary, who no doubt will give him full information.

(11.) Assessors under the Land and Income Tax :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact, for land tax purposes, all the land between the Tweed River and Port Macquarie was put under one district surveyor to call for tenders from assessors for taxation purposes?
- (2.) Is it a fact that tenders were called for in six divisions, numbered respectively A, B, C, D, E, and F?
- (3.) Is it a fact that in these divisions the counties of Rous and Richmond were exempted?
- (4.) Is it a fact that assessors for Rous and Richmond have been appointed without tenders being called for?
- (5.) Who are the assessors appointed for Rous and Richmond?
- (6.) Are any of the appointed assessors under the Land and Income Tax relatives of Members of this House; if so, what are their names and what districts are they appointed to?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes, with the exception of the counties of Rous and Richmond.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) Yes; arrangements were made before the Commissioners of Taxation took office.
- (5.) Mr. E. W. Mackay and Mr. R. C. Ewing.
- (6.) The Commissioners are not aware whether or not any of the appointed assessors are related to Members of Parliament.

(12.) Printing of the Business Papers :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the Printing Committee considered the waste of public money in printing copies for all the Members and other spare copies of the business papers—first as proof, second as revise, and lastly as correct copies?
- (2.) Will the Committee see that for the future only the correct copies be printed, so as to save the public money?

Mr. Reid answered,—I doubt whether I can answer this Question officially as Colonial Treasurer; but, being a member of the Printing Committee, I intend to make inquiries, and I will see if I can answer the honorable gentleman's Question if he will put it off until next Tuesday.

(13.) Mr. F. W. Curnow, Secretary and Shorthand Writer to Royal Commissions :—Mr. Edden asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has a Mr. F. W. Curnow been employed as secretary and shorthand writer to any Royal Commissions during the past two years; if so, what Royal Commissions were they, and what fees or remuneration (total amount) did he receive for each Commission?
- (2.) Is this Mr. Curnow related, by marriage or otherwise, to any Member of the present Ministry; if so, to whom?
- (3.) Has any other relative of a Minister of the Crown been employed in any capacity in connection with Royal Commissions during the past two years; if so, whom, and to whom is such person related?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Mr. F. W. Curnow was employed as secretary and shorthand writer to the Royal Commissions at the instance of the Presidents of the Commissions, namely, the Dean Inquiry and the Coal-mining Regulation Bill, and was paid the usual rate of fees. I believe statements of the cost of both Commissions have already been laid upon the Table.
- (2.) Mr. Curnow is a connection of mine by marriage.
- (3.) I am not aware.

(14.) Coroner at Molong :—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it compatible for the Coroner at Molong to hold the office of Coroner and at the same time act as agent for the Imperial Fire Insurance Company in case of fires?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that a complaint was made against him by one Harris, and that on the 2nd October, 1895, he was cautioned by the Minister not to do so, and that within the last two weeks he has disobeyed, and treated the Minister's instructions with contempt by officially acting as Coroner in the case of a fire at Molong, in which he acted as agent?
- (3.) In the interest of the public, will he see that steps are taken to have him removed from office?

Mr.

3rd June, 1896.

- Mr. Gould answered,—
 (1 and 2.) The Honorable Member was informed, in answer to a Question put by him in the Legislative Assembly on 2nd October last, that the Coroner at Molong had been notified that the office of Coroner would appear to be incompatible with that of a fire insurance agent, and that he should not hold inquiries in connection with any fires in respect of which any insurance company for which he may be agent is interested. No representation has been made to the Department that the Coroner still continues to hold the office of a fire insurance agent, or that he has held any inquiry in the case of a fire of the nature referred to.
 (3.) Inquiry will, however, be made into the matter.
- (15.) Conditional Purchases and Conditional Leases :—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) What is the average cost to the Department to investigate cases in which payment of interest, instalments, and rent on conditional purchases and conditional leases have accrued, but in consideration of the circumstances of such cases forfeiture is waived?
 (2.) Is it his intention to enforce the 10 per cent. fine hitherto inflicted on all such overdue payments?
 Mr. Carruthers answered,—
 (1.) It is impossible without troublesome computation to say what is the average cost of dealing with such cases, inasmuch as extra labour is entailed not only on this Department but on the Treasury and Crown Land Agent. In some cases it is more than is covered by the fine paid.
 (2.) I would refer the Honorable Member to the Answer given to a similar Question asked by the Honorable Member for Deniliquin on the 3rd December last. I would again emphasise the fact that the fine is not 10 per cent., but at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, and is enforced only in cases where there is wilful neglect or absolute indifference to the obligations due to the Crown.
- (16.) Book-stalls on Wharfs at Circular Quay :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 Have the ferry companies leasing wharfs at the Circular Quay the right under the conditions of lease to let any portion of these wharfs for book-stalls or other structures for business purposes; and, if so, will he instruct the Marine Board to take steps to prevent any public inconvenience where such an innovation has taken place, particularly at the North Shore Ferry Company's wharf where at times there is considerable overcrowding?
 Mr. Reid answered,—There is a clause in the lease granted to the North Shore Ferry Company providing for the company having the right to let a space for a refreshment-room, and for the sale of newspapers and tickets, but no permission has been given for the erection of structures. No report has been received respecting the public being inconvenienced at the North Shore Ferry Company's wharf by reason of the innovations referred to, but the matter will be inquired into.
- (17.) School at Bridgewater, near Molong :—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that the school at Bridgewater, near Molong, has been closed, and that the children in that locality are now deprived of education, and for what reason?
 (2.) What action does he intend to take to have the school reopened, and to protect the public or to deal with the person who is now in possession of the building which was originally erected by public subscriptions for a Union Church, and subsequently leased to the Department for school purposes?
 (3.) How long has the Department been in possession of the building occupied as a school?
 Mr. Young answered,—
 (1.) Yes; a reputed trustee resumed possession of the building without due notice.
 (2.) The matter is in the hands of the police, who are taking the necessary action.
 (3.) The school was reopened in this building on the 1st January, 1891.
- (18.) Retirements from the Civil Service :—Mr. Chapman asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) The number of dismissals or retirements from the Civil Service by the Public Service Commissioners; names, length of service, and salary of each?
 (2.) Is it a fact that numbers of recently-appointed officers have been promoted to the places made vacant by the retirement of their seniors?
 Mr. Reid answered,—
 (1.) This information will be given as soon as the Public Service Board has completed the grading and classification of the Service.
 (2.) It is possible in changes of so important a character as those being carried out by the Public Service Board that something of the kind indicated may have occurred, but the Honorable Member may rest assured that no senior officer has been retired unless such retirement was absolutely necessary in order that the Board might be in a position to carry out their scheme of reorganisation.
- (19.) Special Grants to Municipalities :—Mr. Chapman asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) The total amount of money granted as special grants to municipalities since 1st January, 1895?
 (2.) The name of each municipality that has received a special grant or subsidy, and amount of same?
 (3.) For what purpose granted, and whether expended in day-work or by contract labour?
 Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared in the form of a return, and laid upon the Table of the House.
- (20.) Pictures sold by Mr. Ashton to the Art Gallery :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 How many pictures has Mr. Ashton sold to the Art Gallery during his trusteeship, and the amount he has received for them?
 Mr. Young answered,—Four; £550.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd June, 1896.

- (21.) Oyster Leases:—*Mr. Willis*, for *Mr. Wood*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that numbers of applications for oyster leases are now and have been lying unconsidered in the Fisheries Department for twelve months?
 - (2.) Have instructions been recently issued to suspend the issue of any oyster leases until the proposed new Fisheries Bill becomes law?
 - (3.) If so, will those instructions be countermanded, and fresh instructions given to issue leases in all cases where no objections to applicants are known?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) Yes.

(3.) Each application is dealt with upon its merits. I may explain to the Honorable Member that the meaning of that reply is that I found that several applications have been made for leases for fifteen years, although the existing leases have still three years to run. I do not understand why a lease should be granted before the existing term has expired; therefore I have deferred granting new leases pending legislation.

- (22.) Vacancies in the Lands Department:—*Mr. Copeland* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table a return with respect to the Lands Department, showing the number of vacancies which occurred in said Department between the 23rd October, 1891, and the 2nd August, 1894, and the like information for the period between the 3rd August, 1894, and the 3rd June, 1896, giving the names and salaries, also the cause of such vacancy, whether by death, resignation, dismissal, or other cause, in each case respectively?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I shall be glad to supply this information if the Honorable Member will ask a Question in about a week's time.

- (23.) Wynyard Square Reserve:—*Mr. Frank Furnell*, for *Mr. Morgan*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the caretaker of Wynyard Square reserve is in the habit of burning the rubbish on the said reserve, and that it is a nuisance to the people in the neighbourhood?
 - (2.) Will he take steps to prevent it?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) I am not aware.

(2.) The trustees of the park will be communicated with in regard to the matter.

- (24.) Sheep District of Inverell:—*Mr. Chapman*, for *Mr. Cruickshank*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has the Government under consideration the advisability of having Inverell district gazetted as a distinct sheep district?

(2.) If so, what action is being taken?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—A report will be obtained on this matter, and a decision on the subject arrived at as soon as possible.

- (25.) Children eligible for School at Lord Howe Island:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) How long is it since any school-teacher was paid by or taught under the Department at Lord Howe Island?

(2.) Is he aware that a considerable number of children of school age at Lord Howe Island are entirely without opportunities of education?

(3.) What action does he propose to take in the matter, and when?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) 31st December, 1894.

(2.) No. The school was closed, as the highest enrolment for the year 1894 was eight pupils.

(3.) None. Petty local jealousies and quarrels have caused the closing of this school on three several occasions.

- (26.) Appointment of Valuers under the Land Tax:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In how many districts have valuers under the Land Tax been appointed without tenders being called?

(2.) What are the names of those districts?

(3.) Why was the general arrangement departed from in these cases?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Seven.

(2.) Districts—A, B, C, county of Cumberland; Counties—Rous, Richmond, Auckland, and Dampier.

(3.) These arrangements were entered into prior to the Commissioners of Taxation taking office, up to which time no general arrangement was in existence.

2. NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by *Mr. Gould*, and read by *Mr. Speaker*:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 18.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such Districts as the Governor may direct, and within the Districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those Districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Government House,

Sydney, 3rd June, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

3rd June, 1896.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return respecting the tendering for the Assessment of the Armidale District, for Land Tax purposes.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Moama.

(2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Waratah.

(3.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Peak Hill, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.

(4.) Regulations of the Narrandera Fire Brigades Board, under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.

(5.) Report of the Fire Brigades Board, Sydney, for the year 1895.

(6.) Report of the Royal Commission, appointed 16th March, 1896, to inquire into the case of Mr. Charles Herbert Battye, Inspector of Conditional Purchases, charged with having accepted a bribe.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Annual Returns under the 103rd section of the District Courts Act of 1858.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Municipal Baths Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 1st September.

(2.) Usury Limitation Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to limit the charges for interest, bonus, or reward by persons lending money, and to regulate the rights and obligations of parties to bills of sale, assignments, or other securities over personal property, and the applicability thereto of the Acts relating to the distress for rent and bankruptcy, and for the protection of persons making or giving securities for loans;—until Tuesday, 7th July.

5. PUBLIC OFFICERS FEES BILL:—Mr. Gould moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide that all fees received by Public Officers shall be paid and accounted for as money received by them on account of the revenue within the meaning of the Audit Act of 1870.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

6. NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL:—Mr. Gould moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such Districts as the Governor may direct, and within the Districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those Districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Question put and passed.

7. SUPREME COURT FEES BILL:—Mr. Gould moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to repeal section 14 of the Act, 10th Victoria No. 10, to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

8. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make better provision for the regulation of coal-mines and collieries, and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to make better provision for the regulation of coal-mines and collieries; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Smith then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to make better provision for the Regulation of Coal Mines and Collieries; and for other purposes connected therewith*,”—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

9. LANDS FOR CLOSER SETTLEMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Molesworth moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question—That this Debate be now adjourned—put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.

Whereupon

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd June, 1896.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only four Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Miller, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Wright, and Mr. Waddell.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

10. METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 4 JUNE, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

11. PUBLIC OFFICERS FEES BILL:—Mr. Gould, pursuant to leave granted on 3rd June, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide that all Fees received by Public Officers shall be paid and accounted for as money received by them on account of the revenue within the meaning of the Audit Act of 1870,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at sixteen minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 12.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 4 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Compensation in connection with the Mulguthrie Outrage:—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Thomas Brown, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has the sum of £20 been placed at the disposal of Mr. E. A. L. Sharpe, Police Magistrate at Forbes, to enable him to replace the two horses maliciously shot at Mulguthrie?

(2.) Is it intended to extend the same consideration to mail-contractor Patrick Power, who had seven valuable horses destroyed in the neighbourhood of the Mulguthrie outrage?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) Mr. Sharpe was informed that he would be allowed to purchase two horses at an expense not exceeding £20, but that it was expected that if he could purchase suitable horses for a less sum he should do so.

(2.) This is a matter for the consideration of my honorable colleague the Postmaster-General.

(2.) Postal Requirements of Lindfield, Gordon, &c.:—*Mr. Howarth* asked the Postmaster-General,— Will he cause inquiries to be made concerning the postal requirements of Lindfield, Gordon, Pymble, Turramurra, and Wahroonga, with a view to granting them similar postal facilities to those enjoyed by other suburbs?

Mr. Brunker answered,—As the Honorable Member is aware, my honorable colleague promised the deputation which waited on him on the 14th ultimo that he would have full inquiries made, which is being done, and he hopes to have a report in the course of a day or two.

(3.) Consolidated Revenue Fund:—*Mr. See* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The actual revenue received for the eleven months ending 31st May, 1896, from all sources?

(2.) The expenditure from Consolidated Revenue for the like period for the services of the current year?

(3.) The expenditure from Consolidated Revenue for a like period for the services of 1894 and 1895?

(4.) The amount of liabilities outstanding and incurred for the eleven months of the financial year ending 31st May, 1896?

(5.) Will he afford full information relating to the transfer of £65,776, interest on conditional purchases transferred to Consolidated Revenue in excess of the amount paid for the same month of 1895?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) £8,496,856 10s. 5d. revenue; £14,989 13s. accrued interest on Loan repaid to go in reduction of interest. Total, £8,511,846 3s. 5d.

(2.) £8,030,750 0s. 11d. paid from Votes for 1895-6; £10,430 13s. 1d. paid from Treasurer's Advance Account (exclusive of advances and other payments to be repaid or transferred), showing that the revenue for the past eleven months exceeded the payments by a sum of £470,665. Total, £8,041,180 14s.

(3.) £7,920,893 1s. 11d. paid from Votes from 1st January to 30th November, 1894, for services of 1894; £106,764 10s. 8d. paid from Treasurer's Advance Account for same period on account of services of 1894. Total, £8,027,657 12s. 7d. £4,059,535 2s. 6d. paid from Votes for services of 1895, from January to June, 1895; £13,560 19s. 2d. paid from Treasurer's Advance Account for same period on account of services of 1895; £3,499,011 5s. 9d. paid from Votes for 1895-6 services

4th June, 1896.

services from July to November, 1895; £26,643 4s. 9d. paid from Treasurer's Advance Account for same period, on account of services of 1895-6, or £7,598,750 12s. 2d. in all for the eleven months of 1895. The payments from July to November, 1895, are included in the sum shown to have been paid for the current year. (No. 2.)

(4.) The Treasury is not in possession of the information.

(5.) A very large proportion of the instalments due by conditional purchasers are payable on the 31st March. Pending receipt of vouchers from the collecting officers, the moneys are placed in Suspense Account at the Treasury. In previous years the adjustments have not been completed until 30th June. It is desirable that they should be brought to account at the earliest possible date, and during the present year a special effort has been made with that object in view. The amount in suspense on the above account (with the exception of £17,000, which will be credited this week) has been credited to Revenue at an earlier date in this than in previous years, as was explained in a foot-note to the Treasury Statements of Revenue.

(4.) Holidays in the Civil Service:—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Public Service Board to allow the general division of the Civil Service the same privileges in reference to holidays as those now enjoyed by the clerical division?

Mr. Reid answered,—This matter will be dealt with by the Public Service Board when preparing their regulations with regard to the general division.

(5.) Fees in Connection with the Dean Case:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Were the Commissioners, secretaries, and shorthand writers on the Dean Commission paid by fees?

(2.) Is it a fact that sometimes two sittings were held on one day, and that fees were paid to the persons named as for two sittings, or was each day considered one sitting, and paid for accordingly?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The information asked for is contained in the reports of the Commissions and in other documents already laid upon the Table of the House.

(6.) Railway from Byrock to Brewarrina:—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is the Government prepared to build a railway from Byrock to Brewarrina?

(2.) If not, will they agree to allow a company of the district residents to build it as a private line?

Mr. Reid answered,—I must ask the Honourable Member to await the further unfolding of the railway policy of the Government. I do think that private individuals should be allowed to construct the line if the Government will not.

(7.) Fires in Public Schools at Merewether:—Mr. Edden asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Has he yet decided to grant the request of the Merewether Council (made through Mr. Edden), viz., that fires be allowed in the Public Schools at Merewether at the expense of the Department?

Mr. Garrard answered,—A report upon this matter has been called for.

(8.) Refusal of License to Mr. M. J. Arnsein, of Casino:—Mr. Pyers asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Board of Pharmacy refused to grant a license, under the Sale of Poisons Act, to Mr. M. J. Arnsein, of Casino?

(2.) What reasons were given for such refusal?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Board of Pharmacy granted a license, under the Sale of Poisons Act, to a storekeeper in Casino?

(4.) Have the Board of Pharmacy given any reason for refusing it in one case and granting it in the other?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Mr. Arnsein has no qualification entitling him to registration.

(3.) Yes; a storekeeper's license for twelve months.

(4.) Yes. The Board have no power to register Mr. Arnsein, and in the other case it was an annual license to a storekeeper; whereas Mr. Arnsein requested to be registered as a chemist and druggist, which business he is carrying on, but he has no qualification which the Board can register.

(9.) Assessor under the Land and Income Tax:—Mr. Nicholson asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Were tenders called for in the usual way for the position of assessor for Block 5, county of Camden?

(2.) If so, how many tenders were received?

(3.) Who was the successful tenderer?

(4.) What was the amount of his tender?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Eighteen.

(3.) W. Wiley.

(4.) Ninety-nine pounds (£99).

(10.) Bathurst Burr in the Cassilis Land District:—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Mines.—In view of the circumstance that nearly the whole of the travelling stock routes and reserves in the Cassilis Land District are overrun with Bathurst burr, and that squatters and selectors alike have expended capital and labour in removing same from their holdings, will he cause some steps to be taken in the direction of eradicating this noxious growth?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is the intention of the Government to introduce a measure this Session dealing with the eradication of noxious growths, if the state of the public business will permit.

4th June, 1896.

- (11.) Assessors under the Land and Income Tax:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it intended that Land Tax Assessors shall visit the districts for which they are appointed, and make personal valuations of land subject to taxation?
 - (2.) When will assessment notices in connection with the Income Tax be furnished to those liable to pay such tax?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) The Income Tax assessment notices will issue in the course of a few days.
- (12.) Breaches of the Railway Regulations:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that posted at each railway station in the Colony is a list of names of persons convicted and fined during the year for breaches of railway regulations, with particulars regarding nature of offence, locality where convicted, and penalty inflicted?
 - (2.) Will he see that such placards are immediately removed?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1.) I am so informed, and the Railway authorities think the publication wise in view of frequent frauds on the Railway revenue.
 - (2.) I have no such power.
- (13.) Land at corner of Liverpool and Bourke Streets, Darlinghurst:—*Mr. Harvey* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Does the piece of land at the corner of Liverpool and Bourke Streets, Darlinghurst, belong to the Government?
 - (2.) How was it acquired, and at what cost?
 - (3.) Is it vested in trustees for any particular purpose; if so, for what purpose, and who are the gentlemen occupying the position of trustees?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) By purchase, for the sum of £4,000.
 - (3.) One portion, containing 1 rood 5½ perches, was granted as a site for a building for the Boys' Brigade to the following trustees:—*Sir Frederick M. Darley*, *Sir W. P. Manning*, and *Messrs. J. R. Fairfax* and *G. Lewis*; the remaining 31½ perches were measured last year as a site for Police quarters.
- (14.) Noxious Weeds Bill:—*Mr. Ball* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it his intention to bring in a Noxious Weeds Bill this Session dealing with the weed known as stinkwort and other weeds?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—Yes.
- (15.) Tenders for Buildings at Kenmore:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Have tenders been recently called for erecting cow-bails and pig-styes at Kenmore?
 - (2.) What is the amount proposed to be expended for erecting the same?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) Tenders were received on the 22nd of April for the construction of cow-byres and piggeries at the Kenmore Hospital.
 - (2.) £1,730.
- (16.) Medical Advice in Country Hospitals:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he see that in country hospitals the same rule is adopted as now exists in metropolitan hospitals of setting apart one or two days in each week to afford necessary medical advice or relief to dispensary or out-patients who are unable to pay for advice?
- Mr. Brunner* answered,—This is a matter which is entirely under the control of the hospital authorities.
- (17.) Bridge over Railway Line at Nyngan:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners to have an overhead bridge constructed across the railway line at Nyngan; if so, when is it proposed to start the work?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—No decision has yet been arrived at by the Commissioners on the subject.
- (18.) Treatment of Auriferous and other Ores at Clyde:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it true that he is having buildings, &c., erected at Clyde for the treatment of auriferous and other ores in bulk?
 - (2.) If so, will such works be available for the public to have bulk samples treated?
 - (3.) Is it proposed to erect works suitable to treat refractory ores, and does he intend to secure the services of an expert to manage them?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes, samples will be treated.
 - (3.) Yes, and the works are being erected under the supervision of the expert who is to manage them.
- (19.) Appointments to the Civil Service:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return of all appointments to the Civil Service (not being promotions) since the accession to power of the present Government?
- Mr. Brunner* answered,—As this matter is associated with other Departments, and the information will take some time to prepare, I would ask the Honorable Member to be kind enough to move for a return in the usual way.

4th June, 1896.

- (20.) Hours of Labour in Shops:—Mr. Smailes asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) Does he intend to introduce a Bill to deal with the hours of labour in shops?
 (2.) If so, will he, recognising the necessity for such a measure, proceed with it at an early date?
 Mr. Garrard answered,—This matter is now under consideration.
- (21.) Pavilion at Centennial Park:—Mr. Chapman asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Has he authorised the erection of a pavilion at Centennial Park?
 (2.) At whose request was this work proceeded with?
 (3.) Will he lay all the papers in connection with the same upon the Table of this House?
 Mr. Young answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) With the approval of my honorable colleague, the Chief Secretary, in whose Department the administration of this park lies.
 (3.) Yes, if moved for in the usual way.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through the use of intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
 (1.) By Mr. Smailes—From residents of the City and Suburbs of Sydney.
 (2.) By Mr. Schey—From members of the Church of England Temperance Society, Eveleigh-street, Redfern.
 (3.) By Mr. Carruthers—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 Petitions received.
3. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Third Report from the Printing Committee.
4. PAPER:—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Brookong Leasehold Area.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. RANDWICK CEMETERY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Storey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to repeal so much of the "Camperdown and Randwick Cemeteries Act of 1867" as relates to the Randwick Cemetery, and to the interment of bodies therein; and to prohibit burials in the said cemetery.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Storey then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to repeal so much of the 'Camperdown and Randwick Cemeteries Act of 1867' as relates to the Randwick Cemetery, and to the interment of bodies therein; and to prohibit burials in the said cemetery,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 1st September.
6. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Young, Mr. Watson, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—
 "Sweating on Government Contracts."
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Watson moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived.
7. LANDS FOR CLOSER SETTLEMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill 'be' now read a "second time."
 And the Question being again proposed,—
 The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
 Mr. Rose moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be" and inserting the words "referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report."
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Millen, Mr. Watson, Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, and the Mover,—instead thereof.
 Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
 Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 5 JUNE, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Gillies moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Motion for the adjournment of the Debate, by leave, withdrawn.
 Debate on main Question continued.
 Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.

NOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th June, 1896.

8. **PARKES' FAMILY GRANT BILL:**—Mr. Reid, pursuant to leave granted on the 29th May, 1896, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to give effect to a resolution of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes by grants out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a trustee for the above purposes,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

9. **METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read, Mr. Young moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Dacey moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 12, 13, and 16,"—instead thereof.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The House divided.

Ayes, 28.

Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Kelly.
Mr. Thomas Brown,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Young,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Sydney Smith,	
Mr. Morgau,	
Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Fegan,	
Mr. Jessop,	
Mr. Bruncker,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. Wheeler,	

Noes, 33.

Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Idden,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Scatb,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. Mackay,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. McLenn,	Mr. Watkins.
Mr. Waddell,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 12, 13, and 16,—put and passed.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with further amendments.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at eight minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 13.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 9 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) The Business Paper:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has the Printing Committee considered the waste of public money in printing copies for all the Members and other spare copies of the business papers—first as proof, second as revise, and lastly as correct copies?

(2.) Will the Committee see that for the future only the correct copies be printed, so as to save the public money?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed by the Chairman of the Printing Committee that the matter has already engaged the attention of the Committee, and action is being taken with a view to the printing of correct copies only.

- (2.) Arrest of Boys at Newcastle:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that on Saturday evening, 25th April last, at Newcastle, four little boys were arrested on a charge of robbing a Chinaman's garden?

(2.) Is it a fact that several respectable citizens waited at the Police Office till 11 o'clock at night with the object of bailing out these boys?

(3.) Is it a fact that, though the Magistrate, Mr. Ludlow, was willing to grant bail, the necessary forms could not be obtained?

(4.) Is it a fact that, though a policeman was sent to the residence of the local C.P.S. to obtain the forms, he would not supply them?

(5.) Is it a fact that, in consequence of the refusal of this C.P.S. to supply the forms, these boys were kept in gaol till the Monday; and, if so, is it the intention of the Minister to ask this gentleman to explain the circumstances?

Mr. Gould answered,—I have asked the Police Magistrate for a report on this matter, and have obtained the following information:—

(1.) On the date in question, five boys, varying in age from 10 to 12 years, were arrested on a charge, not of robbing a Chinaman's garden, but of having stolen certain articles the property of one William Harrison.

(2.) Two or three men and one or two women waited at the lock-up, not the Police Office, from 9:45 to 10:35 p.m. for the purpose of having the boys bailed out.

(3 and 4.) Mr. Ludlow, J.P., attended at the lock-up for the purpose of taking bail. A constable was sent to the residence of the Clerk of Petty Sessions, with Mr. Ludlow's card, for the requisite forms. The Clerk of Petty Sessions seems to have been led to believe that the offence charged was an indictable one—stealing from a dwelling. In view of the fact that the police deemed the offence serious enough to justify arrest, and considering the lateness of the hour, and the fact that the Police Magistrate had not been interviewed upon the matter, he wrote on Mr. Ludlow's card the question, "Does the Police Magistrate approve?" and sent the constable to the Police Magistrate's residence with it. The constable returned to the lock-up, as he did not think the Police Magistrate would be at home. Mr. Ludlow took the view that he had been insulted, and went away.

(5.) The boys were detained in the lock-up until Monday, when they were convicted and sentenced to be imprisoned until 6 p.m. the same day. The Inspector-General of Police states he is making inquiry why bail-bonds are not kept at the lock-up.

(3.)

9th June, 1896.

(3.) Bethungra Dam :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What was the total cost of the Bethungra dam for the Junee water supply?
- (2.) What is the name or names of the contractor or contractors who constructed the dam?
- (3.) Is it true that the Works Department had to complete it?
- (4.) When was the water first run through the pipes from the reservoir to Junee?
- (5.) What was the total depth of water in the reservoir then, and at the present time?
- (6.) Has Junee been continuously supplied with water since it was first run through the pipes?
- (7.) What was the quality of the water then supplied?
- (8.) Is it a fact that there is soakage underneath the dam, which is perceptible at the back of it?
- (9.) How many inches of rainfall have fallen over the watershed of the reservoir since last September?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) £6,874 9s. 4d.
- (2.) Love, M'Cormick, and Dwyer.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) 9th September, 1895; but this was merely to test the main.
- (5.) Twelve inches over outlet pipe; 3 inches over outlet pipe.
- (6.) No; there not having been sufficient rainfall since the dam was completed to provide a supply.
- (7.) Dirty, as might naturally be expected under the circumstances. When the dam is full the water will be of good quality.
- (8.) There is a soakage of about one gallon per hour from a rock below the dam, which was there before the dam was constructed. There is no appearance of this soakage increasing.
- (9.) 11.95 inches, in small quantities, which was absorbed or evaporated during the dry weather.

(4.) Inmates of Government Asylums :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Referring to Answer to Mr. Schey's Question, No. 11, on 21st May last, in reference to inmates of Government Asylums, will he, pending the introduction of legislation then spoken of, lay upon the Table a return such as Mr. Schey then asked for?
- (2.) If not, for what reason does he refuse?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I regret that I cannot lay upon the Table a return such as that asked for by the Honorable Member, for the reason that it would be manifestly unfair to various poor people, whose relatives may have been by misfortune placed in any Government Asylum, to publish the names of such inmates throughout the Colony. But if the Honorable Member will submit to me any special case which, in his opinion, is one requiring investigation, and one in which the name should be published in order to compel the relatives of that inmate to provide for his maintenance, I will have no objection to give the name and have a full inquiry made into the case.

(5.) The N.S.S. "Sobraon":—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What number of boys can be accommodated on board the N.S.S. "Sobraon" without overcrowding?
- (2.) What is the present number of boys on board the ship?
- (3.) How many have been sent on board at the instigation of their parents?
- (4.) Is it the custom now to refuse applications for the release of these boys to their parents, who are respectable members of society?
- (5.) How many applications have been made for the release of boys during the past year, and how many have been granted or refused?
- (6.) Does he consider the sending of boys on board this ship for small acts of indiscretion, or unruly conduct, should compel their detention for lengthened periods, until they arrive at the age of 18 years, as a burden and expense to the State?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) About 400.
- (2.) 407.
- (3.) No means of ascertaining.
- (4.) No; all applications are dealt with on their merits.
- (5.) 65 applications received; 20 granted; 45 refused.
- (6.) The Act so provides.

(6.) Assessors for the Land and Income Tax :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What are the names of the seven assessors under the Land and Income Tax who were appointed before the Commissioners took office?
- (2.) What are their names?
- (3.) Why were they appointed before the Commissioners took office, and who were they appointed by?
- (4.) What is the amount they are to receive for the duties performed?
- (5.) Will the Government yet take steps to cancel these appointments and call for tenders, as in all other cases?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1 and 2.) Messrs. Whittell, Robey, Tunks, Peden, Harrison, Ewing, and Mackay.
- (3.) To expedite the work; by the Colonial Treasurer, on the recommendation of the Provisional Board.
- (4.) £250, £65 2s., £130, £249 18s., £50, £150, £500.
- (5.) These gentlemen have been engaged on the work for some months, and it is almost completed.

(7.) Mount Rennie Prisoners :—Mr. Anderson asked the Minister of Justice,—Has the case of the Mount Rennie prisoners been considered with reference to the representations made in support of the remission of sentence; if not, will he have the matter considered by the Cabinet at as early a date as possible?

Mr. Gould answered,—This case is now under reference to the Cabinet, in order to consider whether the time has not now arrived when a recommendation might be made to His Excellency fixing a terminal date for the expiration of the sentences.

(8.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th June, 1896.

- (8.) Rosehill-Dural Railway :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Upon whose authority was the statement made that the cost of the Rosehill-Dural railway proposed to be sold to the Government for £28,000, was £113,000?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the tender of Mr. Shand, the contractor who constructed the railway and bridge, was for £26,000?
 - (3.) How is the balance of the £113,000 made up?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the bridge has been condemned?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that some of the grades on the line are 1 in 30, and that it will be very expensive to alter them?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) The property under offer for £25,000 includes the Roschill Race-course line and extension to the Parramatta River with wharf, which cost about £78,000, as well as the Rosehill-Dural Line, so far as construction, which cost about £35,000.
 - (2.) Messrs. R. Shand, & Coy's tender for the extension beyond Rosehill was accepted, and amounted to about £22,000, which did not, however, cover all the requirements on that extension, such as permanent way materials, station buildings, engineering expenses, &c.
 - (3.) By the costs of the Rosehill line, wharf, sidings, &c., and the cost of the extension in addition to Messrs. R. Shand & Company's contract.
 - (4.) No. The bridge is well suited for the purpose of the traffic, and so designed as to be capable of being adapted at small cost at any time, even if required to carry the heaviest locomotives.
 - (5.) No. The steepest grade is 1 in 35, and the traffic upon the line will not call for any alteration thereof.
- (9.) Mail-boys at the General Post Office :—Mr. McGowen asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that several mail-boys employed at the General Post Office have had their hours of duty lengthened recently?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that some of these so-called boys commence duty at 6 a.m. and finish about 6 p.m.?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that this extra duty does not materially benefit the Department?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the hours of clearance on these special runs are not on the pillar-box indicators?
- Mr. Cook answered,—It is a fact that seven boys were temporarily working for more than eight hours, but arrangements are being made by which their hours will be reduced to the number named.
- (10.) Chatswood Police Station :—Mr. Howarth asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he have inquiries made with a view to increasing the accommodation at the Chatswood Police Station?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that no additional accommodation appears to be requisite. There has been only one prisoner confined in the Chatswood lock-up during the last six months. More accommodation would be available by the transfer of the resident constable, who has a large family.
- (11.) Sewerage for the Borough of Willoughby :—Mr. Howarth asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it intended to extend the sewerage system to the borough of Willoughby; if so, will he cause the necessary surveys to be made without delay?
- Mr. Young answered,—It is proposed to ask Parliament to vote the necessary funds on the next Loan Estimates for the Sewerage of the Borough of Willoughby.
- (12.) Through Railway carriage from Sydney to Forbes :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has any definite decision yet been arrived at by the Railway Commissioners to run a through-carriage from Sydney to Forbes to avoid during the cold of winter the necessity of passengers changing carriages at Orange; and, if so, when is the change likely to come into operation?
 - (2.) Have the Commissioners received any complaints from the Municipal Councils of Forbes, Parkes, and Molong on the subject, and are their applications likely to receive favourable consideration in respect to the running of a through-carriage attached to western mail-train?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) The Commissioners have been unable to comply with the request, as it would entail extra engine power, and the traffic does not justify such an expense.
 - (2.) Yes; communications were received on Wednesday last. For the reasons given the request will not be complied with.
- (13.) Cottage Creek Drain :—Mr. Fegan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) When were tenders called for the construction of the Cottage Creek drain?
 - (2.) Whose tender (if any) was accepted?
 - (3.) What is the reason the work has not been pushed forward?
 - (4.) Will he do his best to have the work carried out?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) 9th October, 1895.
 - (2 and 3.) No tender has yet been accepted, as it was found necessary to resume certain land, and the formalities in connection with the resumption have only just been completed.
 - (4.) I will see that the matter is proceeded with as quickly as possible.
- (14.) Consolidated Revenue Fund :—Mr. See asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What amount has been paid from the Consolidated Revenue during the eleven months ending 31st May, 1896, for the services of previous years?
- Mr. Reid answered,—Services of 1893 and previous years, £156,587 11s. 2d.; services of 1894, £151,150 10s. 9d.; services of 1895, £636,160 10s. 10d.; total, £943,898 12s. 9d.

9th June, 1896.

(15.) Customs Duties :—Mr. See asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What amount was collected under the lapsed Customs duties from the 1st of July up to 31st December, 1895?
- (2.) What amount has been collected for the eleven months ending 31st May, 1896, from Customs duties that will lapse on the 30th June next?

Mr. Reid answered,—I shall have this information prepared in time for the Financial Statement.

2. PAPERS :—Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Return showing cost of the Unemployed since 1891.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Report on Prisons for the year 1895.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for White's Creek Reclamation Works, Rozelle Bay.
- (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Goulburn, county of Argyle, for the construction of a Bridge over Gundry Creek.
- (3.) Report of completion of the Homebush Storm-water Sewer, upper portion; Iron Cove Creek Storm-water channel, Croydon Branch, lower section; and Iron Cove Creek Storm-water channel, upper section.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of May, 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Molong, Dr. Ross, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.,—"The necessity for "an alteration of the 'Use and Sale of Poisons Act.'"

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members.

Dr. Ross moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

4. STANDARD TIME ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Cann moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Cann, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Cann, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

5. POSTPONEMENT :—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Native Flora Protection Bill postponed until Tuesday, 1st September.

6. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT ABOLITION BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Haynes moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Haynes, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday, 7th July.

7. BANK HOLIDAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Point of Order :—Mr. Gould requested Mr. Speaker to decide whether this Bill should not have been introduced in a Committee of the Whole as relating to Trade.

Mr. Speaker ruled against the objection taken.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

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9th June, 1896.

8. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

- (1.) Eight Hours Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 1st September.
- (2.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
- (3.) Boot and Clothing Factory for Government Supplies; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Copeland, "That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider an Address to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause provision to be made on the Estimates for 1896-7 to cover the cost of establishing a boot and clothing factory in which to make all boots and uniforms supplied by the Government";—until Tuesday, 18th August.

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunner moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at three minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 14.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 10 JUNE, 1896.

The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Vacancies in the Department of Lands:—Mr. Copeland asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table a return with respect to the Lands Department, showing the number of vacancies which occurred in said Department between the 23rd October, 1891, and the 2nd August, 1894, and the like information for the period between the 3rd August, 1894, and the 3rd June, 1896, giving the names and salaries, also the cause of such vacancy, whether by death, resignation, dismissal, or other cause, in each case, respectively?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I shall be prepared to do that to-day.

- (2.) Lord Howe Island:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What is the date of the first complaint received by him from Captain Garth, regarding the administration of Lord Howe Island?
 - (2.) On what date was Captain Garth's complaint, *re* land purchased by him at Lord Howe Island, settled?
 - (3.) What were the terms of settlement?
 - (4.) Were such terms agreed to in his office between Mr. Icely, the Visiting Magistrate to Lord Howe Island, and Captain Garth?
 - (5.) Did Mr. Icely subsequently visit Lord Howe Island?
 - (6.) Did he during such visit instruct any person on Lord Howe Island that the settlement made and the document conveying the same were null and void, and that any person was at liberty to go upon the holding of the late Charles Nodie?
 - (7.) What steps does he intend to take to secure the proper administration of the affairs of Lord Howe Island; and when?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) 5th February, 1895.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) On the 19th November, 1895, a certificate, signed by the Visiting Magistrate to Lord Howe Island, was handed to Captain Garth at the Chief Secretary's Office, setting forth the nature and extent of the holding in question.
 - (5.) Yes.
 - (6.) No.
 - (7.) The services of the Visiting Magistrate having been dispensed with by the Public Service Board, the form of administration will be remodelled as early as practicable.
- (3.) Texan or Tick Fever in New South Wales:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Are the Government in a position to compel any person to divulge the existence of Texan or tick fever in New South Wales?
 - (2.) Are parties in possession of such knowledge liable to any prosecution if they withhold the information?
 - (3.) Is the Department aware of any deadly disease traceable to Queensland hides; if so, what, and how long have such hides been imported into the Colony?
 - (4.) In the event of any outbreak, are the Government in possession of any remedy?
 - (5.) If not, are they prepared to offer any sum of money for such a remedy?
 - (6.) What beneficial results (if any) have arisen out of Queensland action in this matter?
 - (7.) Have they made any cures, or have they in any case arrested the progress of the disease known as Texan or tick fever?
 - (8.) Will the Government, as early as possible, cause to be issued a brief pamphlet of symptoms and autopsy of the disease for the information of the general public?

Mr.

10th June, 1896.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Government are fully alive to the danger of allowing hides to be imported with live ticks upon them, and legislative action is now being taken to effectually deal with the several matters referred to in these Questions. So far, however, it is not believed that any such hides have come into the Colony. I am not aware whether the Queensland Government have made any cures of the disease, but its progress has been arrested by proclaiming a quarantine boundary over which cattle are not permitted to cross towards or into this Colony. Every precaution is being taken by both Governments to stay the spread of the disease, and the Chief Inspector of Stock of this Colony is now in Queensland gathering all possible information on the subject. The Honorable Member may rest assured that the best remedial measures will be adopted to prevent the introduction of the disease. If the necessity arise the Government will be prepared to offer a sum of money for a cure for the disease, and issue a pamphlet of the nature referred to.

- (4.) Dr. H. S. Fordyce, Medical Officer, Coast Hospital:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Dick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers referring to the application of Dr. H. S. Fordyce, late junior resident medical officer at the Coast Hospital, for the position of senior resident medical officer?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The papers are with the Public Service Board, and, pending any decision they may arrive at, I do not think it advisable that they should be laid upon the Table of the House.

- (5.) Lease on Monmungyer Run:—*Mr. Oann*, for Mr. Cruickshank, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the delay in granting a settlement of lease of 2,560 acres of land on the Monmungyer Run?
 (2.) Is it a fact that the consideration of the granting of the lease was adjourned on the ground that F. Long owned 4 acres of land near Inverell?
 (3.) If so, what action does he intend taking?
 (4.) In view of the fact that Long has been put to the expense and inconvenience, will he take some action so as to expedite the granting of Long's lease; and, if so, what action will he take?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3 and 4.) The Board has been requested to deal with the application as early as possible, and the Crown will waive any objections.

- (6.) Salaries paid from Loan Votes:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Have any salaries been paid to any officers of the various Departments from Loan Votes since the present Government took office; if so, from what Vote was it paid, for what service performed, and who were such officers?
 (2.) Will the Government take steps, by bill or otherwise, to prevent such taking place in the future?

Mr. Reid answered,—The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return. I would add, however, that salaries payable to officers employed in carrying out public works provided for by Loan Votes are a perfectly legitimate charge to Loan Votes. This is recognized in every country carrying out such works by Loan Votes.

- (7.) Case tried *in camera* in Divorce Court:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) What are the names of the persons whose case was tried *in camera* in the Divorce Court on Friday last?
 (2.) Why was this case treated differently from any other case by hearing it privately?
 (3.) Will he see for the future that all persons are treated alike, and cases tried either openly or in private?

Mr. Gould answered,—As this is a case in which private interests are concerned, and the action, if taken, was taken clearly in the discretion of the Court, I am unable to afford the honorable gentleman the information desired.

- (8.) Establishment of Land Court at Goodooga:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he take into consideration the immediate establishment of a Land Court at Goodooga for the convenience of the Crown tenants from the Queensland border to below Williwillingbah, nearly all of whom have to apply for reappraisements of their holdings, and who are now forced at much personal inconvenience to come to Brewarrina, 100 miles distant?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I have already approved of a meeting of the Brewarrina Land Board being held at Goodooga, and the Acting Chairman will be directed to carry out such approval.

- (9.) Sitting of Land Board at Brewarrina:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the Land Board sit at Brewarrina for the reappraisement of pastoral and other holdings?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The Chairman has reported that the date has not yet been fixed.

- (10.) Artesian Bores in the Goodooga District:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Mines,—When will the work in connection with the already authorised artesian bores in the Goodooga district be commenced?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is the intention of the Department to proceed with the bore at Goodooga so soon as the works are completed at the Euroka bore. The plant will probably be moved in the course of the next fourteen days.

- (11.) Running of Coogee Trams *via* the Railway Station:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is there any serious reason why the trams from Coogee and Randwick could not run to the Railway Station, *via* Cleveland-street, to meet the outgoing Northern, Southern, and Western mails?
 (2.) If there is no reason against the course proposed, will he suggest the advisability of trams so running to meet the abovenamed mails?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that this matter has had consideration, but the traffic between the Railway and Randwick is not sufficient to warrant the running of trams as suggested.

(12.)

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- (12.) Nurses at Gladsville and Rydalmero Asylums:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the nurses of the Gladsville Asylum, who work thirteen hours per day, and receive £1 per week for their arduous services, have had their pay reduced £7 or £8 per annum?
 - (2.) Have the salaries of the nurses at Rydalmero Asylum also been reduced?
 - (3.) Does the Government propose to acquiesce in these proposals?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—Appeals have been received in these cases which are now being considered by the Public Service Board. The matter is therefore *sub judice*.
- (13.) Mining on Private Lands Act:—Mr. Hurley asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) How many leases have been issued by the Department under the Mining on Private Lands Act?
 - (2.) On what date was the first lease issued, and to whom?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—A return will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House in the course of a few days.
- (14.) Reserves available for Settlement:—Mr. Hurley asked the Secretary for Lands,—How many acres of reserves were cancelled and made available for settlement during each of the years 1890 to 1895 inclusive?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—The Honorable Member should move for a return in the ordinary manner.
- (15.) Salaries in Public Instruction Department:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact, as stated in letters to the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Daily Telegraph* on Saturday last, that the salaries of officials in the Education Department of over £200 have only been reduced from 5 to 6 per cent., while those who receive less than £200 per annum have been reduced 12½ to 20 per cent.?
 - (2.) Is it the intention of the Government to acquiesce in such a distinction?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—I should be glad if the Honorable Member would address his Question to the head of the Government, under whom the Public Service Board has been placed.
- (16.) Sittings of the Royal Commission on the Dean Case:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Members of the Dean Commission charged for a morning sitting as well as an afternoon sitting on the same day?
 - (2.) Were they paid for two sittings upon any day?
 - (3.) Has any other Royal Commission ever charged for two sittings upon one day?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes.
- (17.) Survey of West Wyalong:—Mr. Carroll asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a departmental survey has been made of West Wyalong?
 - (2.) If so, will he at once see that plans of same are issued, so as business people and others can define their boundaries with a view to purchase allotments?
 - (3.) Is he aware that a survey fee of £1 has already been paid to Department?
 - (4.) Will he see that this amount is refunded in the event of the Department not completing survey?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) The whole matter is surrounded by difficulties, the land having been taken possession of in an irregular manner, but every effort is being made to clear away all complications in order that titles may be made to the land.
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4.) Yes.
- (18.) Post Office at West Wyalong:—Mr. Carroll asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the post-office at West Wyalong is most unsuitable for the amount of business transacted there?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to place a sum of money on the Estimates with a view to erect a more suitable structure to meet the requirements of miners and business people?
 - (3.) If so, will he at once have additional land resumed alongside of present site?
- Mr. Cook answered,—It is represented to me that the premises are adequate to present requirements, but I will have further inquiry made.
- (19.) Sons of Judges practising as Barristers:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the fact that the Bar Committee in Great Britain has passed a regulation definitely prohibiting the sons of judges from practising as barristers before their fathers?
 - (2.) If so, will he take steps to have the matter brought under the notice of the proper authorities in New South Wales, in order that a similar prohibition may be issued here?
- Mr. Gould answered,—My honorable colleague the Attorney-General informs me (1) that he has no knowledge of the regulation referred to, and (2) that there is no similar Committee in New South Wales.
- (20.) Salaries in Public Instruction Department:—Mr. Rose asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board have effected an annual saving in the Educational Department of £37,000 per annum without reducing salaries under £200 per year, as notified in the Sydney Press?

(2.)

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- (2.) If yes, at whose instigation were the following reductions recently made, viz., from £125 to £103; from £148 to £125; from £171 to £148; from £205 to £171?
- (3.) Do the Public Service Board, in their annual saving, include the reductions accruing from the abovementioned lower salaries?
- (4.) If yes, how can the gross saving of £37,000 per annum be accounted for, exclusive of the retrenchment in salaries less than £200 per annum?
- (5.) What is the total amount of saving effected per annum by reducing the abovementioned salaries?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—I should be glad if the Honorable Member would address his Questions to the head of the Government, under whom the Public Service Board has been placed.
- (21.) Civil Servants paying Income Tax:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will Civil Servants whose salaries have been reduced this year be compelled to pay the income tax based on the larger amount received last year?
- Mr. Reid answered,—In reply to the Honorable Member, I should like to say that the Colonial Treasurer does not give legal opinions to Members of the House.
- (22.) Cow-byres and Piggeries at Kenmore Asylum:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) On what grounds is it necessary to incur the expenditure of £1,730 in cow-byres and piggeries at Kenmore Asylum?
- (2.) Who recommended this expenditure?
- (3.) Are the prospective occupants of the abovementioned adjuncts to be of some rare class to warrant the proposed outlay?
- (4.) Are the dairies and appurtenances to be of the same costly character?
- (5.) If not, is he aware that the necessary number of cow-byres and piggeries of a most substantial kind can be erected for £100?
- (6.) If practical, will he reconsider the advisability of going on with the contract?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) In order to provide complete farm buildings to deal with the farm produce and dairying necessary for the 700 inmates the following accommodation is required:—Cow-byres for thirty-eight cows, extensive piggeries, forage stores, root stores, boiling rooms, milk rooms, lofts, enclosed yards, &c., which cover an area of about 17,000 feet, and are mostly erected in brick.
- (2.) The erection was recommended by the Inspector-General of Insane; and the acceptance of the lowest tender—after public competition—was recommended by the Government Architect.
- (3.) The outlay is in due proportion to the importance and extent of the hospital.
- (4.) The “dairies and appurtenances” are included in the milk rooms referred to in Answer No. 1.
- (5.) It is impossible to provide the above accommodation for the sum of £100.
- (6.) It is not practicable nor advisable to cancel the contract, the amount being fair and reasonable for the work required, which is of the plainest, although substantial, character.
- (23.) Government Dairy on the North Coast:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What expenditure is proposed to be incurred in starting the Government dairy in the North Coast?
- (2.) What will be the annual cost of working the same?
- (3.) Is the cost of construction to be debited against the Consolidated Revenue, or is the dairy to be built by borrowed money?
- (4.) Does he contemplate reviving the travelling-dairy system?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) It has not yet been decided as to the extent of the dairy operations to be carried out, and an estimate of probable expenditure has not been arrived at.
- (2.) This will depend upon the size of dairy, which has not yet been fixed upon.
- (3.) The cost of construction will be defrayed from the Loan Vote, and the cost of working the dairy from the Consolidated Revenue.
- (4.) This will depend upon circumstances.
- (24.) Royal Commissions:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will the return, ordered by this House, showing the cost of Royal Commissions during the past ten years, be laid upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Reid answered,—Probably next week.
- (25.) Appointment of Colonel Home as an Irrigation Expert:—Mr. Willis, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Colonel Home has been appointed by the Government as a water conservation and irrigation expert?
- (2.) If so, will he, in view of the large area of rich swamp lands throughout the coastal districts, and the certain enrichment of the Colony by having such drained, stipulate in Colonel Home's engagement that a comprehensive system of swamp-drainage is one of the subjects upon which he shall report and advise?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Certainly—this is intended.
- (26.) Sittings of the Dean Commission:—Mr. Cann, for Mr. Smailes, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) How many days did the Dean Commission sit?
- (2.) For how many sittings were the members of that Commission paid?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—
- (1.) This information is contained in the Report of the Commission already laid upon the Table of the House.
- (2.) Thirty-nine.

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- (27.) Export Trade:—*Mr. Wilks*, for *Mr. Whiddon*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it the intention of the Government at an early date to appoint some experienced and responsible man in London to represent our export trade?
 (2.) If not, in view of the great importance of this subject to our Colony, is it not desirable that some one should be appointed with the requisite knowledge and experience as soon as possible?

Mr. Reid answered,—This question will shortly be decided.

- (28.) Tram-guards:—*Mr. Wilks*, for *Mr. Whiddon*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is he aware that, under a new rule of the Railway Commissioners, tram-guards are required to pay their fares on trams when not on duty?
 (2.) Will he, in view of the fact that it does not cost the Department any outlay for these men to travel free, see if this concession cannot be granted to them?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am not aware; and would suggest if the conductors feel they have a grievance they should approach the Railway Commissioners.

- (29.) Granville Police-station:—*Mr. Griffith*, for *Mr. Smailes*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the deficient accommodation at Granville lock-up?

(2.) If not, will he make inquiries into the matter, and have the defects remedied?

Mr. Gould answered,—This Question should be addressed to the Colonial Secretary. If the Honorable Member will give fresh notice of it to that honorable gentleman for to-morrow I have no doubt he will reply to it.

- (30.) North Sydney Bridge Schemes:—*Mr. Dugald Thomson* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he, as an assistance to the House in its consideration of the schemes for bridge in connection with North Sydney, obtain from the Marine Board, and place in possession of Members, the conditions as to height, span, and piers, which, in its opinion, are necessary to obviate danger to or injurious interference with the water traffic?

Mr. Reid answered,—If a bridge is erected the Marine Board advocate a headway of not less than 200 feet. Impediments in the way of piers would be objectionable and interfere with the traffic of the harbour. It is therefore desirable that the structure should be on the single-span principle.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—*Mr. Copeland* presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of Sydney, and Members of St. Paul's, Sydney, Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society, referring to the manifold evils through the use of intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passing of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.
 Petition received.

3. STANDARD TIME ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of *Mr. Cann*, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Cann then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Standard Time Act of 1894.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council, with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Standard Time Act of 1894,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 10th June, 1896.

4. BANK HOLIDAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of *Mr. Griffith*, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Griffith then moved, that the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Bank Holidays Act, 1875.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Bank Holidays Act, 1875,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 10th June, 1896.

5. NORFOLK ISLAND (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Copeland* moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all correspondence with the Imperial Government and otherwise relative to this Colony administering the affairs of Norfolk Island; also a copy of the report of the recent Commission that visited the Island.
 Question put and passed.

6. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 15th September.

(2.) Homes Protection Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 29th September.

10th June, 1896.

7. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Lang Division, Mr. Hughes, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“ A miscarriage of justice in connection with the evasion by Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Ltd.) of the pro-“ visions of the Beer Duties Act.”

And the Motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Hughes moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 24.

Mr. Schey,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Dacey.

Tellers,

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Perry.

Noes, 61.

Dr. Graham,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Brunner,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Knox,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. McCourt,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,

Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Collins,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Storey,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dick.

Tellers.

Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. E. M. Clark.

And so it passed in the negative.

8. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council :—

- (1.) Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having passed a Bill, intituled “ *An Act to amend the ‘ Bankruptcy Act, 1887, and the ‘ Bankruptcy Act Amendment Act, 1888, and to amend the Law relating to Bankruptcy and Bills of Sale, ’*—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 10th June, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

- (2.) Imported Stock Act Further Amendment Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “ *An Act to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes, ’*—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 10th June, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

IMPORTED STOCK ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 10th June, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 6. After “ Colonics ” insert “ or ”
Page 1, clause 1, line 7. After “ infected ” insert “ as regards any stock within the meaning of “ the Imported Stock Act of 1871, the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, or “ this Act ”

Page 1, clause 1, line 9. Omit “ year ” insert “ twelve months ”

Page 1, clause 1, lines 12 to 15. Omit “ or (b) that the laws and regulations in force in the said “ Colony or any part or parts thereof are not effective to prevent disease in stock ”

Page

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th June, 1896.

Page 2, clause 2, lines 3 and 4. *Omit* "carcases, hides, skins, wool, horns, hoofs, and bones"
 Page 2, clause 2, lines 6 to 15. *Omit* "Infected Stock," in addition to the meaning given to that
 "expression in section one of the Imported Stock Act of 1871, includes stock—
 "(a) which within the three months immediately preceding has been carried in or on a
 "vessel trading to or from a port outside the Australian Colonies; or,
 "(b) which is in or on a vessel which at any time during three months immediately
 "preceding has traded to or from any port in a Colony in respect of which a
 "declaration under section one of this Act was then in force."

Page 2, clause 4, lines 21 to 25. *Omit* "for carrying out the provisions of this Act, and in
 "particular for the notification on arrival in New South Wales of any imported stock
 "and the inspection and disinfection of such stock, or for the seizure, disposal, or
 "destruction of such imported stock" *insert* "for providing for the inspection, dis-
 "infection, treatment in quarantine, seizure, destruction, and disposal of imported stock,
 "and of carcases, hides, skins, wool, horns, hoofs, and bones arriving by land or sea from
 "a Colony in respect of which a declaration under section one of this Act is in force."

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
 Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, by Mr. Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at half-past Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
 Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
 Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 15.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 11 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Clerk informed the House of the unavoidable absence of Mr. Speaker, who would attend at a later hour of the evening.

Whereupon the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, pursuant to the 22nd Standing Order of the House.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Post-office at Mount Victoria:—Mr. Price asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a private architect has been engaged to prepare plans, &c., for building the post-office at Mount Victoria?

(2.) Is it a fact that an excessive quantity of stone has been used in the building and foundations?

(3.) Is he aware that the stone used was brought from Katoomba, while stone of a superior quality could be obtained near the site of the building?

(4.) Is he aware that the stone used is softer and inferior in quality to local stone?

(5.) Is it a fact that the stone used has been obtained from a quarry, the property of the father of the gentleman entrusted with the preparation of the plans and the carrying out of the work?

(6.) If so, will he explain what were the reasons for this work being carried out by a private architect instead of the Government officers?

(7.) If so, what extra cost has been entailed by the carriage of the inferior stone from Katoomba?

(8.) The same information, as desired in Questions 1 to 6, in reference to the preparation of plans and supervision for the carrying out of the police-court buildings at Katoomba?

(9.) Were tenders called for the preparation of the plans and supervision of the structures mentioned above; and, if not, on whose recommendation was the work given to a private architect?

(10.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table copies of all letters, reports of interviews, &c., in connection with the above?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) It is not a fact; plans, &c., were prepared by the Government Architect.

(2.) No; owing to change of site the quantity of foundations shown on drawings, and included in the contract, was only partially required, and saving has therefore been effected.

(3 and 4.) Stone is being supplied from one of the best Katoomba quarries, as the Clerk of Works reported the Mount Victoria stone not good enough to use; and this opinion was subsequently confirmed by the Principal Assistant Architect, who condemned the Mount Victoria samples submitted by the contractor.

(5.) I did not inquire, nor is it within my knowledge, who the quarry belongs to, as the Department is only interested in the good quality of the stone, and this is ensured by frequent examination.

(6.) The work is being carried out in the usual way by the Government officers, and not by a private architect; a competent Clerk of Works is employed to supervise.

(7.) No extra cost has been incurred, the contractor being bound to supply stone from "approved quarries" without reference to locality; and, as already explained, the stone is not of inferior quality.

(8.) Plans of Katoomba Police Court buildings were prepared by the Government Architect, and the supervision has been arranged for in the same way as at Mount Victoria.

(9.) See Answer to No. 1. As plans were prepared by the Government Architect's Branch tenders were, of course, not invited. The arrangement of the supervision has been explained in the Answer to Question No. 6.

(10.) No; if moved for in the usual way, or I shall be glad to allow the Honorable Member to see the original papers.

(2.)

11th June, 1896.

- (2.) Homestead Settlements near Brewarrina:—Mr. Willis asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he state what objections (if any) there are to the throwing open for settlement, under the homestead settlement clauses of the Crown Lands Act of 1895, a sufficiently large area of country near the township of Brewarrina, to satisfy the demand for homes by *bonâ fide* settlers?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—An area of 13,442 acres 20 perches in fourteen blocks, $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile to 7 miles from Brewarrina, was made available for homestead selection on the 19th March last, and has all been taken up. It is intended on an early date to set apart for homestead selection a further area of 1,166 acres $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 7 miles from Brewarrina. I have no objection to throwing open as much land as can be made available for *bonâ fide* settlement around Brewarrina.

- (3.) Treatment of Ores by the "Cyanide Process":—Mr. Willis asked the Secretary for Mines,—
(1.) Is he aware that certain persons in New South Wales claim to hold a patent right for working what is known in mining as the "Cyanide Process" of recovering gold from ores (McArthur and Forrest, alleged patentees)?

(2.) Does he know that the said persons are demanding a heavy royalty for treating ores or tailings by this process?

(3.) Will he state, for the information of the mining community, whether it is a fact that these persons hold such patent rights?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) I understand that such a demand has been made.

(3.) Yes; but the question as to whether they can enforce royalty under these patent rights has not been tested in this Colony.

- (4.) Administration of the Leprosy Act:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that certain alleged actions of the Health authorities in connection with the administration of the Leprosy Act have recently been subjected to public attention in the Press?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Medical Superintendent of the Leper Lazarette has on one or more occasions during the past twelve months reported to the President of the Board of Health "that two of the persons confined in the Lazarette should be at once discharged, as one of them was certainly not a leper, and the other had such equivocal or slight symptoms that a definite diagnosis was not possible, but that the symptoms possessed by him being less marked than those of one or more other persons, notified under the Leprosy Act, who, having been examined, were not diagnosed as lepers, and accordingly not certified, and not sent into the Lazarette"?

(3.) What action did the Board of Health take on this report?

(4.) Was the report of the Medical Superintendent ever acknowledged?

(5.) Was he ever asked to give his reasons (if any) for making the statements referred to above?

(6.) Were the persons referred to in his report both re-examined; and, if so, by whom?

(7.) Upon what date or dates, and how long after the matter was first reported, did these re-examinations, if any, take place?

(8.) If these re-examinations took place, were the examiners experienced and independent men, or were they the same persons who originally signed the certificates committing these patients to the Lazarette?

(9.) Was the diagnosis of the examiners questioned in the first instance by the Medical Superintendent?

(10.) Did any persons certify that both patients were suffering from leprosy in a contagious form?

(11.) If so, what are the names of these gentlemen?

(12.) Did they give any grounds for their statements?

(13.) Has the Medical Superintendent of the Lazarette ever requested that the papers in question be forwarded to the Minister who is official head of the Board of Health?

(14.) Will he place upon the Table of this House all the papers connected with the case of these two men, together with all the reports made by the Medical Superintendent or any other medical practitioners who officially re-examined the cases, and other papers and correspondence, so that the matter may be thoroughly investigated?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Board of Health has frequently and carefully considered this matter, and it drew up a memorandum which was, with all the papers, forwarded to the Public Service Board on the 5th instant for inquiry.

- (5.) Dredge Invented by Mr. Smiles:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has his attention been officially called to a new appliance for dredging rivers and sandy-bar harbours, said to be invented by a Mr. Smiles, of Sydney?

(2.) If yes, has he considered the advisableness of testing the same, with a view to its permanent adoption by his Department if found suitable?

(3.) If no, will he, in view of the importance and possibilities of such a discovery, afford Mr. Smiles an opportunity of explaining its principles, and of otherwise exhibiting his invention in actual operation?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) I have been in communication with Mr. Smiles about his patent bar-dredging appliance, and he was asked if he would be willing to arrange to carry out a test of the appliance at his own expense. Mr. Smiles, however, intimated that no experiment was required, but he submitted to me drawings and a description of his patent, which I have referred to the Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works to report upon.

- (6.) Case of Hock Toy, sent to Coast Hospital:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that a person named Hock Toy was recently forcibly arrested by the police and conveyed to the Coast Hospital?

(2.) By whose authority and instructions was he thus arrested and conveyed to the Coast Hospital?

(3.) Was this person charged with any breach of the law; and, if so, was he put on legal trial for the same?

(4.)

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- (4.) Was he sent to the Coast Hospital as a case of suspicious leprosy, so that the opinion of Dr. Taylor might be obtained on his case ?
- (5.) If not, what medical man was deputed, other than Dr. Taylor, to examine his case ?
- (6.) By what authority does the Board of Health or its President order the arrest and imprisonment of any man at the Coast or other general Hospital (a) on suspicion of having leprosy ; (b) on account of his having, or being suspected of having, psoriasis ; (c) or on account of his suffering from ichthyosis or a congenital affection of the skin ?
- (7.) Does the Board of Health regard psoriasis as a contagious disease, and consider it necessary for persons suffering from it to be arrested and imprisoned for a definite or indefinite period ?
- (8.) What disease was this man Hock Toy retained as suffering from in the returns of the Coast Hospital ?
- (9.) Is it a fact that the President or other authority at the Board of Health stated, on 16th April or thereabouts, as reported in the *Daily Telegraph* of 17th April, "that it had been definitely ascertained that Hock Toy was suffering from psoriasis," the man being then and for some days after in confinement at the Coast Hospital ?
- (10.) If he did state this, as quoted, who and what was his authority, and what was the date on which this definite diagnosis was arrived at ?
- (11.) Was any compensation offered to Hock Toy for the treatment suffered by him ?
- (12.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House all the papers, correspondence, and reports referring to this case, both previous to and after Hock Toy's entrance to the Coast Hospital ?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2 and 3.) See No. 1.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) On a communication from the police that a case of leprosy was reported by the neighbours, a medical man saw Hock Toy gathering vegetables in a market garden at Enfield, and as the man was in a disgusting condition he recommended that it would be well if he were removed to the hospital for treatment and observation. No one was deputed to see the man, who was admitted to the Coast Hospital as an ordinary patient in the ordinary way.
- (6.) This has never been done.
- (7.) This question has never arisen.
- (8.) This man (called Ah Tow in the return) was returned as suffering from ichthyosis.
- (9.) The man was not in confinement, and his affection was never stated to be more than psoriatic, *i.e.*, having the appearance of psoriasis.
- (10.) See No. 9.
- (11.) No.
- (12.) None whatever, if moved for in the usual way.
- (7.) North Sydney Cable Tramway:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that during the busy hours of the day the accommodation afforded on the cable tram-cars at North Sydney is not sufficient to meet the traffic ?
- (2.) Is he aware that on nearly every trip on the return to their homes after business hours passengers can obtain barely standing room on the car platforms, with the result that many elect to walk home in disgust, whilst others have to wait the next tram ?
- (3.) Is he aware of the delay and irritation caused to passengers at Ridge-street owing to the North Sydney Road tram having to wait the shunting of the first tram ?
- (4.) Is he aware that in consequence of such delay many passengers prefer to finish their journey home on foot, thus decreasing the tramway returns, as Ridge-street is the end of a section ?
- (5.) Is he aware that owing to the tediousness of the block-ticket system, adopted on this line, that it is a practical impossibility for ticket collectors to gather fares on crowded trams with any degree of certainty, having in most instances to give change to each passenger as well as distribute the tickets ?
- (6.) Is he aware that, before the ticket collector can possibly get round to collect the fares, some of the passengers drop off the end car platform whilst the tram is in motion, and evade paying altogether ?
- (7.) Is he aware that some of the more honest passengers, from the same cause, hand up their fares after alighting from the cars, having in some instances to stand in the rain whilst receiving change, &c., and causing delay and annoyance to the remaining passengers ?
- (8.) Is he aware also that some of the passengers who pay after leaving the tram do not bother waiting for their ticket ?
- (9.) Is it a fact that ticket collectors, after comparing takings with butts, are called upon to make good any deficiency out of their wages ?
- (10.) Are ticket collectors, on the other hand, allowed any consideration when their returns show a surplus on their corresponding butts ?
- (11.) Will he cause the whole system to be revised and improved, and the traffic accommodation amplified and better arranged ?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am not aware of the matters referred to, which are purely details of working coming within the control of the Railway Commissioners, and will refer the matters to them.

- (8.) Charges debited against the Consolidated Revenue Fund:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have the Railway Commissioners taken credit to the extent of £50,000 for carrying the unemployed to the country ?
- (2.) If yes, has this amount been debited against the Consolidated Revenue ?
- (3.) If no, how is this particular account adjusted ?
- (4.) Is the expenditure now being incurred at Shea's Creek charged against the Consolidated Revenue ?
- (5.) If no, to what account is it debited ?

Mr.

11th June, 1896.

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) The Railway Commissioners are allowed credit for the service performed in connection with the transit of the unemployed by rail. The value of the service has averaged about £15,000 annually. It is understood each person gives an undertaking to repay the value of the fare.

(4.) No.

(5.) General Loan Account.

(9.) Toronto Estate, Lake Macquarie:—Mr. Watkins asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the extent of the water frontage held by the Excelsior Land, Investment, and Building Company, on what is known as the Toronto Estate, Lake Macquarie?

(2.) Does the right of purchase extend to the water's edge?

(3.) Have the company any control over any portion of the waters of Lake Macquarie along the foreshores of the above estate; if so, to what extent, and what are their powers?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) About $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles, following the contour of the land, being the greater part of the frontage to both sides of the promontory comprised in Robey's 1,280 acres grant.

(2.) The land sold extends to the high-water mark, except in places where parts of the 100-foot reservation have been retained in the public interest.

(3.) The sale of the land conferred upon the company no rights over the waters of the lake other than the usual rights enjoyed by owners of water frontages. Two special leases of land below high-water mark on the frontage of the estate have been granted for the erection of jetties.

(10.) Coal purchased by the Government:—Mr. Watkins asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What amount of coal was purchased by the Government for the year 1895?

(2.) Will he give the amounts used by the various Departments, including the Railway Department, for the above year?

Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be given if moved for in the usual way.

(11.) Private Registry Offices:—Mr. Griffith, for Mr. Black, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that it is the custom of most of the private registry offices to sell their recommendations to the applicant who offers the highest fee, whether competent or not?

(2.) Is he aware that employers are not charged fees by these offices?

(3.) Is it a fact that in New Zealand and Queensland legislation controls the operations of all such establishments?

(4.) Will he consider the advisability of so reconstructing the Labour Bureau that women may come within its operations?

(5.) Will he also consider the advisability of passing a law which will specially deal with registry offices?

Mr. Reid answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will address his Question to the Minister for Public Instruction, Labour and Industry, under whose control the Labour Bureau has been placed. Personally, I think his suggestions worthy of consideration.

(12.) Amounts debited to the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act:—Mr. See asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has the £156,587 expended during the current year for the services of 1893 been debited to the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act, passed last Session, to cover an alleged deficit of £1,174,700?

(2.) The like information relating to the £151,150 expended for the services of 1894?

(3.) The like information relating to the £636,150 expended for the services of 1895?

Mr. Reid answered,—No one knows better than my honorable friend that what he asks has been done, and could only legally be done in the way suggested.

(13.) Appointment of Police Magistrate for Inverell:—Mr. Cruickshank asked the Secretary for Mines,—Referring to Mr. Cruickshank's Question of 28th May, concerning the appointment of a Police Magistrate for Inverell, and the Minister's reply that the final appointment of Police Magistrate rests with the Department of Mines, have arrangements yet been made for the appointing of such Police Magistrate for Inverell; and, if so, when will he enter upon his duties?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The delay in Mr. Clarke taking up his duties at Inverell is occasioned by the difficulty experienced in obtaining an officer to succeed him at Wyalong who would be acceptable alike to the Department of Justice and to my Department. Arrangements are now pending, however, by which it is hoped that this difficulty will very shortly be overcome.

(14.) Salaries in Public Instruction Department:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board have effected an annual saving in the Educational Department of £37,000 per annum without reducing salaries under £200 per year, as notified in the Sydney Press?

(2.) If yes, at whose instigation were the following reductions recently made, viz., from £125 to £108; from £148 to £125; from £171 to £148; from £205 to £171?

(3.) Do the Public Service Board, in their annual saving, include the reductions accruing from the abovementioned lower salaries?

(4.) If yes, how can the gross saving of £37,000 per annum be accounted for, exclusive of the retrenchment in salaries less than £200 per annum?

(5.) What is the total amount of saving effected per annum by reducing the abovementioned salaries?

Mr.

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Mr. Reid answered,—I do not think I am called upon to answer questions relating to correspondence in the public press. If any officer is dissatisfied with the salary or classification made by the Board, as affecting himself, there is a proper course open to him, viz., to appeal for reconsideration in the manner prescribed by law.

(15.) Salaries in Public Instruction Department :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact, as stated in letters to the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Daily Telegraph* on Saturday last, that the salaries of officials in the Education Department of over £200 have only been reduced from 5 to 6 per cent., while those who receive less than £200 per annum have been reduced 12½ to 20 per cent.?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to acquiesce in such a distinction?

Mr. Reid answered,—I must refer the Honorable Member to the Answer I have just given to the Honorable Member for Argyle on a somewhat similar subject. I am satisfied that the Public Service Board will give the most favourable consideration to any representations or appeals which the law gives officers the right to make.

(16.) Rates and Fares on the Government Railways :—Mr. See, for Mr. Lyne, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Are not the rates and fares charged on the public railways of this Colony approved of by the Governor in Council, in terms of the Railway Act?

(2.) Is the rebate allowed on livestock carried to chilling and freezing depôts, as published in the live stock rate sheet, confined to chilled and frozen meat, the produce of such live stock, carried for export beyond Australasia; if so, is this intended as a bonus on frozen meat exported from this Colony beyond Australasia?

(3.) Will the Government allow a corresponding bonus on frozen butter and other produce exported from the Colony beyond Australasia?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes, as submitted by the Railway Commissioners.

(2.) I am informed that the provision is to charge the proportion of the through-rate, plus 2s. 6d. per waggon, for live stock consigned to refrigerating works at intermediate stations for the purpose of the meat being chilled or frozen, and subsequently forwarded to port for export.

(3.) No bonus is allowed.

(17.) Election of Delegates to the Federal Convention :—Mr. Griffith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that he has recently been consulted by a member of the Queensland Ministry as to whether his Government would raise any objection to the Queensland delegates to the Federal Convention being selected by Parliament or nominated by the Executive Council instead of being elected directly by the people?

(2.) Is it a fact that he has promised that his Government will raise no objection to this course being followed?

(3.) Would not such an assent be a flagrant violation of the understanding under which this Parliament passed the Federal Enabling Bill?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have had several conversations with members of the Queensland Ministry, who have expressed to me a doubt whether the Bill would pass through their Parliament in the shape adopted by the Conference in Hobart so far as the method of choosing delegates to the Convention is concerned. I have expressed to them the earnest hope that the Bill will be carried in the form passed by the other Colonies. I have given no promise of any kind upon this matter, but I have expressed the opinion that I would rather see Queensland represented by Parliamentary delegates than not represented at all. As I have more than once stated publicly, the Queensland Premier, when at the Hobart Conference, reserved to his Colony the right to determine for itself its method of representation in the Conference, agreeing, however, to the principle of submitting the Constitution as drafted for the decision of the electors themselves.

(18.) Bridge to connect Sydney with North Sydney :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Referring to the Answer given to the Question of the Honorable Member for Warringah on 10th June, giving the opinions of the Marine Board on the height of a bridge to North Sydney, is it a fact that a Royal Commission, appointed in 1891 to inquire into this subject, reported that a height of 160 feet was ample?

(2.) What is the height of the Brooklyn Bridge?

(3.) What is the height of the Forth Bridge?

(4.) Does the Marine Board know of any other bridge making a similar connection to this higher than that proposed by Mr. Kenwood, viz., 165 feet?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes; but the Marine Board would prefer the communication to North Sydney by tunnel rather than that there be any destruction whatever to the main trade artery of the Colony.

(2.) One hundred and thirty feet.

(3.) One hundred and fifty feet.

(4.) The Marine Board do not know of any bridge higher than that proposed by Mr. Kenwood; but they think larger vessels pass up and down Sydney Harbour than at either of the places indicated. Sydney is now the fourth most important shipping port in the British Empire.

(19.) Flood Prevention on the Clarence :—Mr. McFarlane asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

In view of the various schemes submitted to him—notably Mr. Archibald's—for flood prevention on the Clarence, will he take similar steps as that proposed to be carried out on the Hunter, and have a complete survey by the most efficient officers available?

Mr.

11th June, 1896.

Mr. Young answered,—Without making a definite promise, I can assure the Honorable Member that the matter will receive the most careful consideration, but at present my surveying staff is fully engaged on equally important works elsewhere.

(20.) Deep Creek Road, Parish of Ulmarra:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will the Deep Creek Road, parish of Ulmarra, be opened for traffic?

Mr. Young answered,—Upon inquiry at the Lands Department I find this road was declared a road for traffic on the 6th April, 1894.

Mr. Speaker entered the House and took the Chair.

3. NARANDERA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Gormly presented a Petition from William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick McIntyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, trustees of the land at Narandera for Roman Catholic Church purposes, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to enable William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick McIntyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, or other the trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Twynam Streets, Narandera, to sell the said lands, and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof.

And Mr. Gormly having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Narandera Ensign*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 496th Standing Order,—Petition received.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fourth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. WATER RIGHTS BILL:—Mr. Sydney Smith, pursuant to leave granted on 22nd May, 1896, a.m. presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water, and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

6. PAPERS:—Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Substituted amended Regulation No. 15, under the Crown Lands Acts.

(2.) Return showing number of vacancies which have occurred in the Lands Department between the 23rd October, 1891, and 2nd August, 1894, also between 3rd August, 1894, and 3rd June, 1896. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Carruthers, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

By Deputation from the Governor.

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 19.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads, and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.

*Government House,
Sydney, 11th June, 1896.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

8. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Inverell, Mr. Cruickshank, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The necessity for the immediate introduction of legislation for the eradication of noxious weeds."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Cruickshank moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

9. PARKES' FAMILY GRANT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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The House divided.

Ayes, 59.		Noes, 26.
Mr. Cook,	Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. See,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. H. H. Brown,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Black,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Affleck,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Reid,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. James Thomson.
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. McMillan,	Mr. Bavister.	
Mr. Mackay,		<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cotton,		Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Perry.
Mr. Knox,	Mr. Newman.	
Mr. Anderson,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 12 JUNE, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

10. CROWN LANDS (HOMESTEAD SELECTIONS AND SETTLEMENT LEASES) BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain Homestead Selections and Settlement Leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th June, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

CROWN LANDS (HOMESTEAD SELECTIONS AND SETTLEMENT LEASES) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 11th June, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1. At end of clause *add* "and shall be read with the Crown Lands Act of 1895
"and the Acts specified in the first section thereof."

Page 1, clause 2, line 15. *After* "held" *insert* "Provided that the land agent shall, within one
"week of the receipt of any such application, notify the same through the post to the
"holder of any annual lease or occupation license within which the land applied for, or
"any part thereof, may be situated."

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the Legislative Council's Message be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the report was adopted.

Ordered,

11th June, 1896.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain Homestead Selections and Settlement Leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 12th June, 1896, a.m.

11. METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Gillies moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Question put and negatived.

Original Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 36.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Jossep,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Young,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Thomas,	Tellers,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Dacey.
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Wheeler,	

Noes, 7.

Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Sleath.

Tellers,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Miller.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 12th June, 1896, a.m.

12. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments in the Imported Stock Act Further Amendment Bill postponed until Wednesday next.
13. MINING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
- Debate ensued.
- Question put and passed.
- Bill read a second time.
- On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
- Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.
- On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.
- Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
14. NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such Districts as the Governor may direct, and within the Districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those Districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
- Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
- Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
- The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows :—
- Resolved*,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such districts as the Governor may direct, and within the districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
- On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th June, 1896.

15. SUPREME COURT FEES BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to repeal section 14 of the Act 10th Victoria No. 10, to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows :—

Resolved.—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to repeal section 14 of the Act 10th Victoria No. 10, to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

The House adjourned, at five minutes after Three o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

Arto South Wales.

No. 16.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 16 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

PAPER:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—A copy of a Minute of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council, authorising the transfer of a further amount from one item to supplement the Vote for another item of expenditure in connection with the Treasury Department. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Angledool Public School:—Mr. Willis asked the Minister of Public Instruction.—When will the alterations in the new Angledool Public School, rendered necessary by the insufficient accommodation, be made?

Mr. Garrard answered,—The works are now nearly completed, and, with the exception of the painting, should be finished this week.

(2.) Timber Regulations:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that during the present Session he contemplates an amendment of the Timber Regulations, with a view to the reduction of timber-cutters' license fees and royalties?

(2.) If so, will he consider the advisability of giving a distinct preference to those who procure timber on Crown lands for the purposes of effecting or maintaining improvements on their homesteads, as against those who cut timber for actual sale?

(3.) Will he also consider the equity of fixing all licenses on a *pro rata* basis—that is to say, instead of charging a fixed quarterly fee, irrespective of the amount of timber cut, substitute a scale of charges at so much per thousand feet for mill timber; so much each for girders, sleepers, or piles: so much per hundred for rails, posts, palings, laths, shingles, &c.—the charge to be determined by the ruling price of such timber?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The whole question of timber licenses and royalties is one surrounded by much difficulty, but it is now under the consideration of the Department, and the suggestions contained in the Honorable Member's Questions will be looked into. I may say that the revised regulations will be issued on an early date.

(3.) Attendants at Callan Park Asylum:—Mr. Carroll asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the rate per head charged for rations supplied to the attendants at Callan Park Asylum prior to the Public Service Commissioners accepting office?

(2.) What is the rate charged now?

(3.) What was the amount of contract price per head before and since the Commissioners took office?

(4.) What weekly diet scale is allowed?

(5.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the report furnished to the Commissioners by the Callan Park Asylum authorities?

Mr. Bruñker answered,—It has been represented to me—

(1.) No charge was made for rations prior to the Public Service Board taking office.

(2.) The value fixed by the Board is £15 a year.

(3.) The contract price for provisions is about the same now as it was before the Board took office, and the cost for rations, including cooking, &c., is estimated at about £15 a head.

(4.) I will presently lay upon the Table particulars of the weekly diet scale.

(5.) The Government are not aware of the existence of the report to which the Honorable Member refers.

(4.)

16th June, 1896.

(4.) Counsel retained by Crown in case of *Cooper v. Young*:—Mr. Perry asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that in the case now pending in the Supreme Court, *Cooper v. Young*, the Crown have retained Sir Julian Salomons, Mr. E. Barton, Mr. C. B. Stephen, and Mr. Innes?
- (2.) What is the amount of retaining fees paid or to be paid these gentlemen, and what refreshers per day will be paid?
- (3.) What necessity was there to retain so expensive a bar?
- (4.) Will he at once take steps to get rid of three-fourths of the barristers engaged by the Crown in this case?

Mr. Brunker answered.—The following Answers have been supplied by my honorable colleague the Attorney-General:—

- (1.) Yes; but in consequence of being also engaged in a case for the Commissioners for Railways, Mr. Barton and Mr. Stephen returned their briefs.
- (2.) Retaining fees: Sir Julian Salomons, £5 15s. 6d. and £1 3s. 6d.; Mr. Barton, £1 3s. 6d.; Mr. Stephen, £5 15s. 6d., and £1 3s. 6d. Sir Julian Salomons' and Mr. Innes' refreshers are 25 guineas and 10 guineas respectively.
- (3.) The necessities of the case.
- (4.) No.

(5.) Inspector of Slaughter-houses at Riverstone:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that an inspector has lately been sent to the slaughter-houses at Riverstone?
- (2.) Has that gentleman condemned sixteen bullocks in five days?
- (3.) What number of bullocks were condemned the month previous to the inspector going to Riverstone?
- (4.) Was the previous inspector a policeman?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) A veterinary inspector was lately on duty for one week at Riverstone.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Eleven.
- (4.) Yes.

(6.) Trial Survey from Southern Line to Mulgoa:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will the trial survey of railway from Southern line to Mulgoa be completed?

Mr. Young answered,—The surveyors of the Department are at present so busy that I regret it is impossible to say when the survey will be commenced.

(7.) Roads on Church and School Lands between Randwick and Botany:—*Mr. Willis*, for *Mr. Miller*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) How many roads have been commenced on the Church and School Lands between Randwick and Botany?
- (2.) How many of said roads are completed?
- (3.) Is it intended to finish the whole of them?
- (4.) What has been the total expenditure up to date, and what will be the total cost when completed?
- (5.) Is it not a fact that most of these roads will remain unused for a number of years after completion?
- (6.) Could this money have been expended on the roads in the country districts, and thus enable farmers, selectors, and others to fetch their produce to the markets?
- (7.) Is it intended to undertake similar work in the country districts, so as to provide employment and at the same time afford facilities to farmers and others to reach their markets?

Mr. Young answered,—I would suggest that the Honorable Member address his Questions to the Minister for Public Instruction, as all matters in connection with Church and School Lands are dealt with by the Public Instruction Department.

(8.) Revenue received from Post and Telegraph Offices:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) The approximate annual revenue derived from post-offices in the city and suburbs?
- (2.) The approximate annual revenue derived from telegraph-offices in the city and suburbs?
- (3.) The same information in regard to revenue derived from the post and telegraph offices in the country?
- (4.) Number of letters that annually pass through city and suburban post-offices?
- (5.) Also, number of telegrams?
- (6.) Same information in regard to post and telegraph offices in the country, respectively?

Mr. Cook answered,—There will be no objection to this information, the preparation of which will occupy several days, being supplied if moved for in the usual way.

(9.) Case of *Cooper v. Young*:—Mr. Perry asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that three of the barristers briefed to appear on behalf of the Railway Commissioners were also briefed to appear in another Court for the Minister for Works in the case *Cooper v. Young*?
- (2.) Is it a fact that two of the four barristers briefed in the case *Cooper v. Young* gave their attention to the case on behalf of the Railway Commissioners, leaving the other two to go on with *Cooper v. Young*?
- (3.) Is it a fact that favouritism is shown to one or two junior members of the Bar (sons of Judges) by exclusively employing them to the injustice of the remainder?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th June, 1896.

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by my Honorable Colleague the Attorney-General:—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes, but returned their briefs in the case of Cooper v. Young.
- (3.) Certainly not.

(10.) Pavilion in the Centennial Park :—Mr. McElhone asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Are the Government building a pavilion, club-room, &c., on the Centennial Park, for the use of any club, or are they allowing any private club to erect them; if so, for what purpose are they being built, and will the general public have free access to and the use of pavilion, &c.?
- (2.) Is not the Centennial Park a public park, and have not the public the right of free access to any part of and the whole of the Centennial Park at all times?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I would refer the Honorable Member to my reply to Mr. Willis in connection with this matter on the 3rd June last, as follows:—

MR. WILLIS: In reference to the pavilion in the Centennial Park, which I understand is to be erected for a certain clique, I should like to have the matter cleared up; therefore I ask the Colonial Secretary whether it is a fact that a tender for the erection of a pavilion, to cost £400, has been accepted, and, if so, for what purpose it is to be used, and whether it will be open to the general public or only to a certain clique?

MR. BRUNKER: The Honorable Member need not rest under any misapprehension for any length of time in regard to this subject. I can explain the whole matter to him at once. Feeling it my duty to make some provision for the visitors to the Centennial Park, I gave instructions three or four months ago to the Government Architect to have a pavilion erected there. I was certainly approached by some persons who asked that it might be rented to private parties for their special use. I at once declined, and I said that any convenience erected in the public parks in and around Sydney would be open to the public; that I had no power to rent them, and even if I had my knowledge and experience with regard to disturbances which took place in connection with Victoria Park during the time I occupied the position of Secretary for Lands was sufficient to enable me to determine what course I should adopt. Any improvements erected in the park will be for the use of the general public.

(11.) Government Inspector of Coal-mines :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it his intention to retire any of the present Government Inspectors of Coal-mines; if so, has he any objection to intimate which officer or officers he proposes to retire?
- (2.) Have any negotiations taken place in regard to successors to the officer or officers about to be retired?
- (3.) If so, has he any objection to lay upon the Table the whole of the correspondence and reports and interviews, &c.?
- (4.) Is it his intention, or contemplated by the Public Service Board, to appoint Mr. James Curley, the Miners General Secretary, to the vacancy about to be created; and, if so, has he any objection to state the reasons for such appointment?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Government have not had such a question under consideration. Public applications will be invited for any appointments to be made under the Coal Mines Regulation Bill, and all persons appointed will have to undergo an examination to show that they are capable of carrying out the duties of the position to which they are appointed. I am not aware that Mr. Curley is an applicant for the position.

(12.) Royal Commissions :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What Royal Commissions have sat during the last five years?
- (2.) What rate of fees have been allowed to the members of each of such Commissions, and what was the scale of remuneration allowed in each case to the shorthand-writers and secretaries?
- (3.) On which of such Commissions did the members of the Commission, the shorthand-writers, or the secretary charge for two sittings per day, and in how many instances did this occur?
- (4.) What was the total amount paid to each member of such Commission, and the total number of days of sitting, and the like information with respect to the shorthand-writers and the secretaries?
- (5.) Were any instructions given in any of such cases that the *Hansard* staff should supply the officers required, and on what terms?

Mr. Brunker answered,—There will be no objection whatever to furnish the information asked for by the Honorable Member, but as it will take some time to prepare I shall be glad if he will postpone his Questions for a week, or move for a return in the usual way. Some of the papers are at the Treasury and others with the Auditor-General, and as I wish to give the honorable gentleman the fullest information it will be necessary to do so in the form of a return.

(13.) Report on Railway Bridge over Parramatta River :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Was a report prepared by an officer in his Department upon the bridge over the Parramatta River carrying the Dural Railway?
- (2.) If so, has he any objection to lay the report upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Young answered,—All the papers in regard to this bridge, which were moved for by Mr. O'Sullivan, will presently be laid upon the Table.

(14.) Identification of Criminals :—Mr. Price asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the system for the identification of criminals proposed by Dr. Hodgson, and have any reports been obtained by him on such system?
- (2.) If not, will he cause an inquiry to be made into the subject, and a report obtained?

Mr.

16th June, 1896.

Mr. Bruncker answered,—My honorable colleague has no official knowledge of any system of identifying criminals proposed by Dr. Hodgson, but, from perusal of a newspaper extract placed before him since notice of this Question was given, he infers that the system referred to is mainly identical with that known as the Bertillon system. The question of adopting a system in this Colony similar to that of Mons. Bertillon has been under the consideration of the Department for some time, as will be seen from a perusal of the papers laid upon the Table of this House on 11th December last.

3. CROWN LANDS (HOMESTEAD SELECTIONS AND SETTLEMENT LEASES) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 20.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to fix the time of commencement of the title of certain Homestead Selections and Settlement Leases, in order that the applicants may take immediate possession of the land.*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 15th June, 1896.

4. FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Garrard, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 21.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to make provision for the supervision and regulation of factories, bakehouses, laundries, dye-works, and shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein; and for the stamping of furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th May, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

5. CITY MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY'S (LIMITED) ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Frank Farnell, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 26th May, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Farnell then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 4th August.

Question put and passed.

6. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order made on 2nd June, 1896,—“Railway Bridge across Parramatta River at Rosehill.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return to an Order made on 28th May, 1896,—“Insanitary State of Town of Parkes.”

(2.) Return respecting Weekly Diet Scale for Attendants and Nurses at Hospitals for the Insane.

(3.) By-laws of the Borough of Junee, under the Municipalities Act of 1867, and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.

(4.) By-laws of the Borough of Rookwood, under the Municipalities Act of 1867, and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. OLD AGE PENSIONS:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) “That,” in the opinion of this House, old age pensions or outdoor relief should, as far as possible, be substituted for the existing asylum system.

(2.) That the Government should take the necessary steps to bring about the change in question without delay.

Debate ensued.

Mr. O’Sullivan moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word “That,” and inserting the words “a Select Committee be appointed to consider and report upon the subject of State Insurance or Old age and Invalidity Pensions.

“(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Neild, Mr. O’Sullivan, Mr. Chapman, Mr. O’Reilly, Mr. Bull, Mr. Haynes, Dr. Graham, Mr. Cook, Mr. McGowen, and Mr. McLean,” instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th June, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 10.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. James Thomson.

Tellers.

Mr. Neild,
Mr. Thomas.

Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. See,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Lyne,

Noes, 54.

Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Wheeler,

Mr. Reid,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Morgan.

Tellers,

Mr. Moore,
Mr. McLean.

And so it passed in the negative.

And Mr. Anderson requiring that the Committee be appointed by Ballot,—

Question put,—That the words proposed to be inserted in the place of the words left out be so inserted,—and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only two Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Hogue and Mr. Affleck.

Question, as amended,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to consider and report upon the subject of State Insurance or Old Age and Invalidity Pensions.

(2.) That such Committee consist of * * * * *

Whereupon the House proceeded to the Ballot, and Mr. Speaker declared the following to be the Committee duly appointed:—Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Cook, Mr. Neild, Dr. Graham, Mr. Chapman, Mr. McLean, Mr. Wilks, Mr. McGowen, Mr. O'Reilly, and Mr. Schey.

The House adjourned, at twenty-seven minutes before Twelve o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 17.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 17 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Ex-student Teachers in Metropolitan and Suburban Schools:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that most of the staff of our metropolitan and suburban schools is composed of teachers designated ex-students?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that these teachers often do the most important work in those schools, as evidenced by the fact that the Model School has the whole of its senior classes under the management of these teachers?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that many of these ex-students possess University degrees and I.I.A. certificates, and yet receive the same salary as those who have no such degrees, and have lower certificates?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that these men have seen from six to ten years service, and yet those who have been only six years in the service receive the same as those of ten years standing?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) No.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) Some do. All are paid as ex-students waiting permanent appointment.
 - (4.) Answered by No. 3. It may be added, however, that, included in this six to ten years' service are from four to five years as pupil-teacher, one year to three years as student of the Training School and University, where they were educated and supported at the cost of the State, and that the actual service as an ex-student extends from six months to four years and a half only.
- (2.) Betting at Kensington Race-course:—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that two men named Smith and Cook were each fined £10 and costs last week for betting outside of the Kensington race-course ground?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that inside of the Kensington race-grounds many men were also carrying on the same kind of betting, and the police did not interfere?
 - (3.) What is the reason the men outside of that ground are prosecuted and fined, and the men inside taken no notice of?
 - (4.) Seeing both portions of the land are Crown lands, but the Kensington portion is leased and the other not, has that anything to do with it?
 - (5.) Will he authorise the police to treat those inside of the ground in the same manner as those outside for the future?
 - (6.) Should the leasing of the land prevent this, will he take steps to have the lease cancelled if betting is allowed on the ground?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that the fines referred to were inflicted, and that the betting carried on inside the race-grounds was not under such circumstances as the law would reach, there being no erection used coming within the definition of the Act as a "place," &c.
- (3.) Retrenchment of Mr. H. Hardy, Railway Surveyor:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. H. Hardy, a railway surveyor of twenty-eight years service, was retrenched on 31st October, 1894, and was granted only six months leave of absence on full pay?
 - (2.) Did this officer claim a fortnight's pay for each year of service?
 - (3.) Was such claim approved by the head of the Department?
 - (4.) If yes, on what grounds did the Minister disapprove of the recommendation?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that if Mr. Hardy had been retrenched before 1893 he would have been entitled to a fortnight's pay for each year of service?

Mr.

17th June, 1896.

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3 and 4.) No, as Mr. Hardy received the compensation authorised by the Cabinet in 1893, which governed similar cases.
- (5.) It is not a fact, as prior to the decision referred to, each case was dealt with on its individual merits.

(4.) Collector of Harbour Dues at Wollongong :—Mr. Nicholson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a collector of harbour dues at Wollongong is being paid a salary of £250 per annum?
- (2.) If so, is the revenue from harbour dues sufficient to pay the collector's salary?
- (3.) In view of the all round retrenchment going on under the administration of the Public Service Board, could not the office of collector of harbour dues and that of the Sub-collector of Customs be merged into one, and thus save £200 or £250 per annum?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The wharfinger receives salary at the rate of £245 per annum.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) This matter will be dealt with by the Public Service Board.

(5.) Storage Reservoir for Flood-waters at Denman :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Price, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is he aware that a natural storage reservoir is stated to exist in the vicinity of Denman for the storage of the flood-waters of portions of the Hunter, Goulburn, and other rivers?
- (2.) Is it a fact that a large area of land will be required for the site of the reservoirs proposed to be constructed?
- (3.) Is he aware that his colleague the Secretary for Lands proposes to alienate a large area of Crown lands in the vicinity of the proposed reservoirs by means of homestead selections?
- (4.) If so, will he take steps to secure the reservation of all Crown lands coming within the area of the proposed reservoirs?
- (5.) Is it not a fact that if the lands are alienated as homestead selections or leases granted, as proposed, that the owners will be entitled to compensation for disturbance?
- (6.) If so, will he take steps to secure the reservation of all lands which may be deemed necessary for such scheme?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I cannot say until the report which I have called for has been received.
- (3 to 6.) I am not aware, but the necessary inquiries will be instituted.

(6.) Reports from Public Service Board :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that all reports of the Public Service Board dealing with the revised classifications and salaries of the various public Departments are submitted to him prior of being approved by the Executive Council?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member again betrays his want of knowledge of the provisions of the Public Service Act. The new classification of officers and salaries is vested by that Act entirely in the Public Service Board. The Board does not submit the same for the approval either of myself or any other Minister, or the Governor, or the Executive Council. This is clearly seen by clauses nine and ten of the Act.

(7.) Members of Marine Board interested in Ferry Companies :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are any members of the Marine Board shareholders, directors, or in any other way interested in the North Shore Ferry Company or other ferry or shipping service; if so, who, and in what capacity?
- (2.) Are any of the persons so interested nominees of the Government on the Board; if so, who?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Two members of the Marine Board are interested in the North Shore Ferry Company. Captain O'Sullivan is a director, and Mr. Wildridge is a shareholder.
- (2.) Both these gentlemen are nominees of the Government.

(8.) Bridge to connect North Sydney with Sydney :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the objections taken by the Marine Board to the height of a bridge to connect North Sydney with the City, will he cause that body to prepare a return of vessels entered at Sydney Harbour during the last twelve months having a height of 165 feet from the Plimsoll or loading mark to the truck?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Marine Board will be glad to furnish a return, so far as it is practicable to do so.

(9.) Shaftesbury Reformatory :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a custom to allow younger girls sent to the Shaftesbury Reformatory to mix with the older girls immediately upon being sent to the institution?
- (2.) Is it a fact that a young girl named Treloar, sent to the institution a few weeks ago, has escaped, in company with older girls, and, if so, what steps have been taken to recover her?
- (3.) Have any cases of a similar kind occurred in connection with the institution?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Director of Government Asylums:—

- (1.) Reformatory girls are kept separate from the other inmates.
- (2.) Treloar and two other Reformatory girls escaped on the 22nd instant by excavating the sand under the boundary fence. They were missed in five minutes, and were recovered within two hours.
- (3.) Two girls absconded last year, and were recovered within an hour. In all the cases the girls were endeavouring to reach their parents.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th June, 1896.

(10.) Contract for Berrigan Railway:—Mr. Hayes asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) When does the contract-time for construction of the Berrigan railway expire?
- (2.) Will it be finished or ready for traffic by that date?
- (3.) If not, what course does he propose to take, seeing that about 50,000 bags of wheat have been stacked at Berrigan by farmers, who kept it on the understanding implied by the contract that they would be able to use the railway for conveyance of the wheat to the Sydney market not later than the contract date, failing which they are likely to suffer serious loss?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) July 25th, 1896.
- (2 and 3.) I am fully aware of the inconvenience that would arise if the line is not completed within the specified time, and I have pointed this out to the contractors, and have warned them that the penalty provided for non-completion within contract time will be strictly enforced.

(11.) Desecration of the Sabbath in Country Districts:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware of the existence of hare-hunting, football, tennis, and other amusements being carried on in country districts during Sabbath, and will he see that steps are taken to instruct the police to put down Sabbath desecrations and such objectionable practices?
- (2.) Will he see that a circular is sent to every police station in the Colony compelling them to take action in such cases, and to prevent young men from assembling at such amusements or from congregating in the streets in inland towns on Sundays, to the annoyance of peaceable citizens?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—There is no law that I am aware of to render it illegal to play any such games on Sunday.

(12.) Dunne's claim of the Ironclad at Cargo:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has any final decision yet been arrived at with regard to Dunne's claim of the Ironclad at Cargo—if the claim is being worked, or if the suspension of the labour conditions are still in existence, and how long they are likely to continue?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The leases, so far as is known in the Department, are not being worked. The final time allowed Mr. Dunn for removal of his machinery expires on the 23rd instant.

(13.) The Unemployed:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the great number of unemployed men arriving from the other colonies, will he take steps that will secure our own unemployed being first provided with work?

Mr. Reid answered,—This Question should be addressed to the Minister for Public Instruction, Labour, and Industry, under whose control the Government Labour Bureau has been placed.

(14.) Case of Conditional Purchase Inspector Battye:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has any action been taken on the finding of the Royal Commission appointed to investigate charges preferred against Conditional Purchase Inspector Battye of having accepted a bribe in connection with certain selections on the Nanimi Run?
- (2.) Has his attention been directed to a paragraph of the Commissioners' Report on this case, which reads as follows:—"The evidence given by some of the witnesses was very conflicting, and "gross perjury was committed on one side or the other"; and is it intended to take any further action with respect to same?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The report of the Commission has received consideration at the hands of the Governor and the Executive Council with the result that Mr. Battye has been dismissed from the Public Service.
- (2.) I have read the paragraph referred to, which is merely a comment on the case and the evidence. The whole case is still under consideration, and action has in several directions been already taken in the public interest.

(15.) Sewer from Arncliffe to Sewerage Farm, Botany:—Mr. Rigg asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What are the names of the contractors for the western outfall sewer from Arncliffe to sewerage farm, Botany?
- (2.) What is the date specified for completion of the work?
- (3.) Is it likely to be finished then?
- (4.) If not, will he take steps to expedite the work, so that the reticulation pipes may be connected as soon as possible?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Justin McSweney.
- (2.) 8th December, 1896.
- (3. and 4.) The contract should be completed by the specified time, and the contractor has been urged to proceed with the work so that the allotted time will not be exceeded.

(16.) Local Registration of the Unemployed:—Mr. O'Reilly asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—What steps have been taken to enable the unemployed of suburban and country districts to register locally?

Mr. Garrard answered,—At present the Labour Bureau in Sydney meets the requirements of the city and suburbs. Country agencies have been established in thirty-five districts, and advertisements have been inserted in the local newspapers notifying the fact. Each agent has been supplied with the required material for registering unemployed persons, and full instructions have been issued to him regarding the carrying out of his duty.

2. PAPERS:—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (2.)

17th June, 1896.

(2.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 101st section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(3.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(4.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from pastoral lease of the Genanagic Leaschold Area.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. CROWN LANDS EXCHANGED UNDER THE LAND ACTS (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the areas of Crown Lands that have been exchanged under the Land Acts, where situated, with whom exchanged, and the value of the same.

Question put and passed.

4. CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to authorise John Lang, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, merchant, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, or any company duly registered for that purpose by agreement with the said John Lang, his executors, administrators, or assigns, to construct and maintain a Tramway from a point near the north-east corner of lease number twenty, in the parish of Gindantherie, county of Cook, to the Mudgee Railway; and to use steam or other motive power upon the said Tramway, and to carry passengers, goods, live stock, ore, and other things over the said Tramway, for hire, for the public generally.*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 17th June, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 17th June, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, Preamble, line 5. *Omit "at present"*
 Page 2, clause 1, line 34. *Omit "two" insert "one and a half"*
 Page 2, clause 2, line 41. *After "laid" insert "and maintained"*
 Page 2, clause 2, lines 45 and 46. *Omit "and the pavements of the same between the rails of the said tramway and for the space of one foot six inches on each side of the said rails"*
 Page 2, clause 2, line 54. *Omit "and" insert "with the advice of the"*
 Page 2, clause 2. At end of clause *add "per day for each and every day the line is so worked."*
 Page 3, clause 6, line 58. *After "goods" insert "and"*
 Page 3, clause 6, lines 58 and 59. *Omit "chattels and things other than live stock (in quantities not less than one ton)"*
 Page 4, clause 6, line 1. *After "mile" insert "with such minimum rate for parcels as may be fixed by the by-laws"*
 Page 4, clause 6, line 4. *Omit "(in quantities not less than one truck load)"*
 Page 4, clause 6. At end of subsection (iii) *add "with a minimum charge of fifteen shillings in other case."*
 Page 4, clause 6. At end of clause *add "(iv) For ores, kerosene shale, and other minerals, not exceeding sixpence per ton per mile."*
 Page 4. *After clause 6 insert the following new clause:—*
 The tramway shall be for the use of the public and for the conveyance for hire of passengers, goods, minerals, and live stock: Provided that all tolls be at all times charged equally to all persons, and after the same rate, whether per ton per mile, or otherwise, in respect of all passengers and of all goods, minerals, live stock, or carriages of the same description and conveyed or propelled by a like carriage or engine, passing only over the same portion of line of tramway under the same circumstances, and no reduction or advance in any such tolls shall be made directly or indirectly in favour of or against any particular company or person travelling upon or using the tramway.
 Page 4, clause 11, line 55. *After "Minister" insert "for Lands"*
 Page 4, clause 11, line 56. *Omit "in" insert "with the advice of the Executive"*
 Page 5, clause 12, line 4. *Omit "railway" insert "tramway"*
 Page 5, clause 12, line 7. *Omit "railway" insert "tramway"*
 Page 5, clause 14, line 36. *Omit "passing" insert "commencement"*
 Page 10, clause 37, line 5. *Omit "passing" insert "commencement"*
 Page 10, clause 39, lines 29 and 30. *Omit "after the tramway has been duly constructed"*
 Page 11, clause 43, line 4. *Omit "Company's"*
 Page 13, clause 47, line 2. *Omit "passing" insert "commencement"*
 Page 13, clause 47, line 4. *Omit "railway" insert "tramway"*
 Page 13, clause 47, line 6. *Omit "passing" insert "commencement"*
 Page 13, clause 48, line 7. *Omit "two years" insert "one year"*
 Page 13, Schedule, line 26. *After "miles" insert "or"*
 Page 13, Schedule, line 33. *After "miles" insert "or"*
 Page 13, Schedule, line 42. *Omit "two" insert "one and a half"*

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,

Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th June, 1896.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Mudgee, Mr. Robert Jones, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The bad material being used in the alterations and additions to the Mudgee Gaol.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Jones moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
6. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That Frank Farnell, Esquire, be appointed a Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, in the room of Angus Cameron, Esquire, deceased.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
7. **FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL**:—Mr. Garrard moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Thursday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make provision for the supervision and regulation of factories, bakehouses, laundries, dye-works, and shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein, and for the stamping of furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
8. **PUBLIC ROADS BILL**:—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.
Question put and passed.
9. **PARKES' FAMILY GRANT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 61.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Morgan,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Copeland,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. See,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Crick.
Mr. Waddell,	

Noes, 22.

Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Gornly,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Nicholson.

*Tellers,*Mr. Black,
Mr. Affleck.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to give effect to a resolution of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes by grants out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a trustee for the above purposes.*”

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to give effect to a resolution of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes by grants out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a trustee for the above purposes,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 17th June, 1896.

17th June, 1896.

10. **MINING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the consideration of a new clause," instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted.
Mr. Copeland moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by adding the words "and amending clause 3."
Debate ensued.
Question,—That the words proposed to be added to the proposed amendment be so added,—put and negatived.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the consideration of a new clause,—put and passed.
On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with a further amendment.
On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.
Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
11. **COAL MINES REGULATION BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Edden moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.
12. **MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 18 JUNE, 1896, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at nine minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

RICHD. A. ARNOLD,
For Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 18.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 18 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Trustees of Rushcutters Bay Reserve:—*Mr. F. Clarke*, for *Mr. McElhone*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Have the Trustees of the Rushcutters Bay Reserve or the caretaker of the cricket-ground any authority to prevent women and children from going on to the cricket-ground, or of removing them from the ground?

(2.) Have they any authority to remove young men off the ground who are running for training purposes?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The trustees are empowered under the Public Parks Act to make by-laws for the management and use of the park. By-laws have been published, and I have directed that a copy be sent to the Honorable Member for his information.

(2.) Appointment of Sheep Directors in Coastal Districts:—*Mr. F. Clarke* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) How are Sheep Directors appointed in coastal districts where no sheep are either owned or travelled?

(2.) What is the object of appointing Sheep Directors in such districts?

(3.) Is it a fact that five Sheep Directors annually nominated by the Department have co-ordinate powers in taxing stock-owners against three locally-elected Stock Directors?

(4.) How and under what system are Stock Inspectors appointed?

(5.) What salaries do they receive, and what emoluments and allowances beyond the salary?

(6.) Are they allowed offices at the public expense?

(7.) Are their duties as Stock Inspectors sufficient to occupy the whole of their time?

(8.) Are Stock Inspectors permitted to engage in veterinary practice for fees, deal or truck in stock directly or indirectly, or act as studmasters?

(9.) Is it with his approval that any Stock Inspector is appointed Secretary to the Local Stock Board?

(10.) What salaries and allowances are paid to such secretaries by the Local Stock Board?

(11.) What proportion of the Stock Inspector's time is usually occupied in attending to the duties connected with the position of Secretary to the Stock Board?

(12.) Adverting to Question No. 4, asked on the 21st May last, will he state definitely when he intends to introduce a Bill to amend the Stock and Pastures Protection Act?

(13.) Will he in such Bill provide for the abolition of nominee Directors, and substitute elective members of the Board?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) By the Minister on the nomination of the Chief Inspector of Stock.

(2.) To carry out the requirements of the Diseases in Sheep Acts in protecting the Coast districts from the introduction of diseases.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) By the Governor and Executive Council on the nomination of the Local Board of Sheep Directors.

(5.) The salaries, which are paid from the funds locally raised from the stock-owners, range from £182 10s. to £366 10s. per annum. They also, in some cases, receive allowances for stationery, office rent, office-cleaning, and fuel.

(6.) At the joint expense of the Pastures and Stock Protection Boards and the "Sheep Account" Trust Fund.

(7.)

18th June, 1896.

- (7.) Yes, so far as is known in the Department; in some cases their duties absorb considerably more time than the regulation office hours.
- (8.) They are not permitted to engage in veterinary practice for fees. The Diseases in Sheep Act prohibits their dealing or owning sheep, not other stock.
- (9.) Yes, it is of advantage to do so in many cases.
- (10.) Salaries varying from £25 to £150 per annum.
- (11.) Only a small portion, excepting at the time of collection of assessments.
- (12.) I am unable to do so at present, in view of other pressing matters which must first engage the attention of Parliament.
- (13.) This will be considered.
- (3.) Issue of Mineral Licenses by Wardens:—*Mr. Watkins*, for Mr. Thomas Brown, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Have instructions been given to Wardens not to issue authorities to search for minerals, as provided for in section 8 of the Mining on Private Lands Act?
- (2.) Is he aware that a number of such applications have been made, but not granted?
- (3.) Is he aware that because of the non-issue of such authorities the owners of such lands are enabled to exact exorbitant terms under section 33 of the aforesaid Act?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) No.
- (2 and 3.) I am not aware. No complaint has been made to the Department, and if particulars are furnished the matter will be inquired into.
- (4.) Divorce Court Cases:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Does the law, as now existing, allow any of the Judges to try cases *in camera* at their discretion?
- (2.) If so, does this privilege only apply to the Divorce Court or to all?
- (3.) Is it in his power, or in the power of the Attorney-General, to prevent cases being tried privately?
- (4.) If it is discretionary with the Judges to decide which cases will be tried privately, will he introduce a Bill without delay to put all persons on the same footing?
- (5.) Or will he introduce a Bill without delay to exclude the press, or prevent the press from publishing any further particulars than the names of the parties to the suit and the Judge's decision in all future divorce proceedings?
- (6.) How many cases have been tried in the Supreme Court privately during the past two years; what were their nature, and what were the names of the plaintiff and defendant in each case?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1 and 2.) Only suits for nullity of marriage on the ground of impotence, or in cases where it becomes desirable, from respect to public decency or morality, such as cases where an unnatural offence is charged.
- (3.) It is not within the power of the Minister or the Attorney-General to interfere with the discretion of the Judges in trying cases *in camera*.
- (4.) All persons are on the same footing, and there does not appear to be any necessity for such a Bill.
- (5.) I do not think this desirable.
- (6.) I am unable to say the number, but only cases falling within the above category have been so tried. In suits for the nullity of marriages on the ground of impotency the names of the parties are never given, on the ground that public interest is not involved, the matter being one for the parties only. In all other cases the names of the parties are given as of course.
- (5.) Pitfall at Merewether, Newcastle:—*Mr. Edden* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has he received any report concerning a pitfall that occurred on or about the 18th February last at Merewether, Newcastle, whereby certain properties were damaged?
- (2.) If not, will he call for a report showing—(a) the date of pitfall; (b) in what coal company's boundary the pitfall occurred; (c) the cause of pitfall; (d) who was responsible for such fall; (e) who is responsible for property damaged in this way?
- (3.) Will he lay such report upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; a report has been received, and a copy of it will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House in the course of a few days.
- (6.) The Unemployed:—*Mr. McLean*, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- In view of the great number of unemployed men arriving from the other Colonies, will he take steps that will secure our own unemployed being first provided with work?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—As far as possible this is now being done.
- (7.) Mining Survey Staff:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the present Mining Survey Staff is insufficient for the requirements of the Department?
- (2.) If so, will he take steps to so increase the staff as to prevent the employment of outside surveyors, and to facilitate the issue of leases in his Department?
- (3.) Will he take steps to obtain the services of surveyors connected with the Lands Department of the various mining districts, instead of employing private surveyors?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Owing to the large increase in the number of applications for leases, and the present limited staff, there is a great pressure of work in the office, but all arrears are being rapidly overtaken.
- (2.) Steps are being taken to have the Salaried Staff temporarily increased. Outside surveyors are rarely employed, though the Mining Acts allow of applicants employing their own surveyors.
- (3.) The surveyors connected with the Lands Department are already employed as far as practicable in mining surveys. (S.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th June, 1896.

- (8.) Members of the Marine Board :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What annual allowances are paid to members of the Marine Board, officers, and others, as salaries?
 - (2.) What is the cost of management other than salaries?
 - (3.) Is it the custom of the Board members to make visits of inspection to lighthouses and other places under their control?
 - (4.) What is the annual cost of these inspections, and how is it defrayed?
 - (5.) Are persons, friends of the members of the Board, allowed to join in these trips; and, if so, at whose expense?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The members of the Marine Board are paid a fee of £2 2s. per week each. The entire cost of the Marine Board Department in the matter of salaries is £38,817.
- (2.) For maintaining lighthouses, pilot stations, steamers, buoys, beacons, &c., the cost is about £7,000.
- (3.) Yes, annually.
- (4.) About £430 per year, out of the Miscellaneous Vote of the Department.
- (5.) A limited number of friends usually join in these trips. No additional cost to the Government is incurred thereby.

- (9.) Deficiency in Accounts of Marine Board :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Did a Treasury Inspector, last year, discover a large deficiency in the accounts of the Marine Board, and, if so, what was the amount?
 - (2.) Was the report of such inspector to the effect that the defalcations of an accountant named Llewellyn were due to neglect on the part of the President, and in the management of the Board?
 - (3.) Were any steps taken to censure the President and other members of the Board for their conduct in regard to this matter?

Mr. Reid answered,—In compliance with an Order of the Legislative Assembly, dated 3rd September, 1895, a copy of the Inspector's report and other papers, together with an explanation from the President of the Marine Board, were laid upon the Table of this House on 23rd October 1895. I may add that the explanation by the President of the Marine Board was regarded by the Government as sufficient.

- (10.) Cope's Creek Preferential Occupation License :—Mr. Moore asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- When will the Return to Order in M'Cosker's case ("Cope's Creek Preferential License") be laid upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Next week.

- (11.) Exemption under the Income Tax Act :—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Commissioners for Taxation do not allow the exemption of £200 in the case of firms liable to pay income tax?
- (2.) If so, will he cause fresh assessment notices to be sent to all business firms (not trading as a company) in the Colony?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes. Under the Taxation Act neither companies nor partnerships are entitled to the exemption.

- (12.) Assigned Estate of Messrs. McBurney, Wallis, & Co. :—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the firm of Messrs. McBurney, Wallis, & Co., assigned their estate in January last, and subsequently were adjudged bankrupt?
- (2.) Will he cause inquiry to be made as to whether, immediately prior to their assignment, the firm paid a sum, being proceeds of wool sold, exceeding £3,000, to an account opened in the name of a partner and employee?
- (3.) Was this said sum afterwards transferred to Messrs. McNamara and Smith?
- (4.) If so, will he see that this amount of £3,000 is paid to the various wool-growers who sent their wool to McBurney, Wallis, & Co. in trust, for sale?
- (5.) Have the firm sent account sales to their customers, charging freight, commission, &c., and, if so, will he prohibit the Official Assignee in the estate from dealing with these trust moneys as with the other assets?

Mr. Gould answered,—As this is a matter in which private interests alone are concerned, I am unable to afford the Honorable gentleman the information desired.

- (13.) Gratuities to Retrenched Civil Servants :—Mr. Wright asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have any of the retrenched Civil Servants who have been removed by the Public Service Board yet been paid the gratuities they are legally entitled to?
- (2.) If not, what is the cause of the delay, and when is it proposed to pay them?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes, in some urgent cases.
- (2.) The unpaid gratuities will be paid as soon as provision has been made, and the amounts thereof ascertained. I may add that in cases of actual need I am prepared to pay the amounts in anticipation of the Vote of Parliament out of my Advance Account.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—Mr. Jessop presented a Petition from certain residents in the District of Liverpool, praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full Local Option without compensation.

Petition received.

18th June, 1896.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

Return to an Order made on 26th May, 1896,—“Fatal accident at the Wallsend Colliery.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return respecting leases issued under the Mining on Private Lands Act.

(2.) Regulations under the Mining Act, 1874, relating to Mineral Licenses.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws for the Water Supply of the Municipal District of Bourke.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Kelso, county of Roxburgh, for the protection of the Macquarie River bank at Denison Bridge, Bathurst.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fifth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. CONDITIONAL PURCHASERS RELIEF BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “*An Act to further promote settlement on lands conditionally purchased from the Crown by providing for the reduction of the annual payments in respect thereof, and for the reduction of the rate of interest now payable upon certain conditional purchases; to make further provision for the conversion of conditional purchases and conditional leases into homestead selections; and to effect such amendments in such statutes as may be necessary for the aforesaid purposes.*”—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 18th June, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

CONDITIONAL PURCHASERS RELIEF BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 18th June, 1896.

ADOLPHUS P. CLAPIN,

For the Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 2, clause 3, line 38. *After “Division” omit remainder of clause.*
 Page 2, clause 4, line 50. *Omit “wilfully”*
 Page 3, clause 5, line 8. *Omit “sums accrued due” insert “interest which may have accrued”*
 Page 3, clause 6, line 12. *Omit “passing” insert “commencement”*
 Page 3, clause 6, line 15. *Omit “of one series forming one block and” insert “(whether of the
 “same or different series and although including more than one block)”*
 Page 3, clause 6, line 24. *Omit “approved” insert “valid”*
 Page 3, clause 6, line 49. *Omit “the full area of one series” insert “one thousand two hundred
 “and eighty acres in the Eastern or two thousand five hundred and sixty acres in any
 “other Division unless the Minister (who may refer to the Local Land Board for report)
 “shall be satisfied that a larger area is necessary for the maintenance of a family.”*

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

6. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at nine minutes before Six o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 19.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 23 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

RAILWAY FROM BROKEN HILL TO MENINDIE:—Mr. Cann presented a Petition from the Mayor, Aldermen, and Inhabitants of Broken Hill and Menindie, submitting reasons for the construction of a railway from Broken Hill to Menindie in connection with the proposed Sydney to Condobolin line of railway; and praying that the House will acquiesce in the promotion, and facilitate the passing into law, of any Bill introduced by the Government having for its object the construction of the said railway.
Petition received.

2. **PAPER:**—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return respecting appointment of Mr. Fred. Wm. Curnow as Secretary and Shorthand writer to the Royal Commissions in connection with the Dean case and the Coal Mines Regulation Bill, together with particulars of vouchers.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. **POSTPONEMENTS:**—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Capertee Tramway Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments;—until Tuesday, 1st September.

(2.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the law relating to preferable liens on wool and mortgages on stock and stations;—until To-morrow.

(3.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.

(4.) Law of Libel Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.

(5.) Law Practitioners Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.

4. **VOTE OF CENSURE—PAYMENT OF FEES, DEAN INQUIRY COMMISSION:**—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That this "House" desires to record its strongest disapproval of the action of the Government in paying fees or other remuneration for morning sittings and again for afternoon sittings to members of the Royal Commission on the Dean Inquiry, and the same with respect to fees to counsel representing the Crown and to the Secretary and Shorthand Reporter.

(2.) That inasmuch as the morning and afternoon sittings combined did not exceed the ordinary sittings of the Law Courts or the office hours of the Civil Service, such practice, in the opinion of this House, amounts to double payment for each day's services, and is therefore a misappropriation of the public funds.

(3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
Debate ensued.

Mr. Neild moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "House" in the first line, and inserting the words "deprecates the lavish expenditure which characterised the proceedings of the Royal Commission in the Dean case" instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE, 1896, A.M.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The

23rd June, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 32.

Mr. See,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rose,	
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. McLaughlin.
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. FitzGerald,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Willis,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Crick,	
Mr. Raymond,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Hayes,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Ewing,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Carroll,	

Noes, 63.

Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Young,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Knox,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Morton,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Mabony,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Harvey,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Wheeler,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted. Mr. Lonsdale moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by the addition of the words "and approves the action of the Government in making such changes in the direction of strict economy as will prevent such expenditure in the future."

Point of Order :—Mr. Crick submitted that the amendment was not relevant.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the objection taken was correct.

Question then put,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted. The House divided.

Ayes, 34.

Mr. See,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rose,	
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Perry.
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. FitzGerald,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Willis,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Crick,	
Mr. Raymond,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Hayes,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Ewing,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Neild,	

Noes, 61.

Mr. Frank Farnell,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Young,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Knox,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Morton,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Mabony,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Newman.
Mr. Wheeler,	

And so it passed in the negative.

5. NOTICES OF MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that the Standing Order No. 49 provided that "no motion for the adjournment of the House shall be entertained until the formal business shall have been disposed of," that is, after the Business Paper is called for formal business, and for the purpose of placing business. The Standing Order states that the subject matter "shall be first stated to the Speaker in writing." In future he would receive those notices up to the time when he called over the Business Paper for Members to place their business, and after that was done, he would draw one of the notices from a box, and that one he would submit for the consideration of the House.

The House adjourned, at four minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 20.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Proposed Railway to Burrowa:—Mr. Mackay asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When does he propose to redeem his promise made to the Burrowa Railway deputations, namely, to send a surveyor to inspect the routes already surveyed connecting Burrowa with the main Southern line, and to make fresh surveys should he consider the lines at present marked out capable of improvement?

Mr. Young answered,—So soon as a surveyor is disengaged.

- (2.) Electoral Reform Bill:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Secretary,—When is it his intention to introduce the Electoral Reform Bill?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The Electoral Reform Bill will be introduced before the end of this month; perhaps next week.

- (3.) Fisheries Bill:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Secretary,—When is it his intention to introduce the Fisheries Bill?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The Fisheries Bill will be introduced as soon as the state of public business will permit.

- (4.) Intercolonial Telegrams:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Will he take into consideration the advisability of entering into negotiations with the Governments of the other Australian Colonies with a view to bringing about a reduction in the cost of transmitting intercolonial telegrams?

(2.) Has any effort been made by the Government of this Colony to induce the Government of any of the other Colonies to agree to the intercolonial rates being reduced to those charged within this Colony; and, if so, will he please state what has been done?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Frequent efforts have been made by this Colony (which has always been favourable to the proposal), but without success, owing to the attitude of some of the other Colonies.

- (5.) Royal Commissions:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What Royal Commissions have sat during the last five years?

(2.) What rate of fees has been allowed to the members of each of such Commissions, and what was the scale of remuneration allowed in each case to the shorthand-writers and secretaries?

(3.) On which of such Commissions did the members of the Commission, the shorthand-writers, or the secretary charge for two sittings per day, and in how many instances did this occur?

(4.) What was the total amount paid to each member of such Commission, and the total number of days of sitting, and the like information with respect to the shorthand-writers and the secretaries?

(5.) Were any instructions given in any of such cases that the *Hansard* staff should supply the officers required, and on what terms?

Mr. Brunner answered.—I will presently lay upon the Table a return giving the particulars asked for.

- (6.) Forest-thinning at Narrandera:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it a fact that the following seven charges, made in the *Australian Field* of the 1st June, in reference to forest-thinning, are correct; if not, is any one or more of them correct, and which; and does he intend to inquire into any of them:—

“ 1. That the contract to thin to 9 feet apart has not been carried out, and that men have been paid after leaving nearly twice as many trees on the ground as they should have done under the contract.

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" 2. That the contract to ring-bark has been scandalously broken, very little real ring-barking having been done, and the men paid for ring-barking when they have generally only sap-ringed in such a way that the suckers now growing will take more nourishment from the soil and make a thicker growth than the original trees, while in many other cases the ringed trees are not dead, and will not die.

" 3. That, on account of these suckers, and insufficient thinning, allowing seedlings to choke growth, the land has been injured, and not benefited by the forest-thinning operations, unless an expenditure of from 6d. to 1s. per acre per annum for five years is incurred.

" 4. That at the distance apart the pines have been left near Narrandera there will be no material growth of timber to recoup the expenditure within any reasonable period.

" 5. That the distance left between the pines does not permit of any material increase in the growth of grass to warrant the grazing rents being raised, the public having been misled on both these points.

" 6. That 4s. 6d. per acre has been paid for slumming the thinning, whereas work of the same character can be well done for 1s. 6d. per acre; hundreds of good axemen would do infinitely better work for 2s. 6d. per acre; and the price usually paid in the district for much better work is 2s. per acre.

" 7. That the local inspection must have been grossly negligent to have passed such inefficient work for payment, the gangs in reality being paid for work they had not done?"

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Inquiry has already been made, and the charges are not correct. The work is of a valuable nature, and the officer in charge, who has had eighteen years experience, estimates that when completed from 12s. 6d. to 15s. per acre will be taken from the land every year for the timber which will mature. The Crown will also obtain a higher rental for the grazing rights in consequence of the improvement in the growth of the grass. It is not a fact that 4s. 6d. per acre has been paid for slumming the work, nor can similar work be done for 1s. 6d. or 2s. 6d. per acre. The thinning in the district where the work was undertaken by the pastoralists, and where the workers had to make no selection of the timber to be saved, has to a considerable extent been carried out by Mongolian labour, and could probably be done for the prices named, but this could not be taken by the Government as a criterion of the rates to be paid for European labour, where care had to be exercised in selecting the trees to be left, instead of levelling the scrub and ring-barking indiscriminately as in the former case. Under two such systems the latter must of necessity be more costly, but the Government will be compensated for the better work by the preservation of the selected timbers for future use.

(7.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co. :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he, since the debate on the Tooth & Co. question, made inquiries as to the assertion made that Tooth & Co. demanded a refund of about £50 as drawback they were entitled to, and has such been found to be true?

(2.) Did Tooth & Co. get the refund as demanded?

(3.) Was the refund paid on that class of beer which was increased in quantity by the addition of the preservative?

(4.) If Tooth & Co. were not entitled to the refund, does the Government intend to prosecute that firm for obtaining money under false pretences?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have not yet completed my inquiries into this matter.

(8.) William Cresswell, inmate of Lunatic Asylum :—Mr. Wheeler, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that in December last, in reply to Mr. McGowen, M.P., he stated that " William Cresswell, an inmate of the Lunatic Asylum at Parramatta, had been clearly identified as William Cresswell, and that the Medical Superintendent at that institution had been for years past in communication with his relatives in England, one of whom visited the patient some years ago " ?

(2.) If so, was the relative referred to named Thomas Cresswell; and, if so, is the Colonial Secretary aware that this person utterly failed to identify William Cresswell as a relative in the Equity Court in 1884?

(3.) Is he aware that the Judge in Equity on that occasion severely reprimanded Thomas Cresswell in Court for his attempt to claim William Cresswell as his brother?

(4.) Is he in possession of the knowledge that the only other so-called relative possessed by William Cresswell is a Mrs. West, a married sister of the beforementioned Thomas Cresswell, and that she never saw William Cresswell in this Colony, nor ever saw his photograph, and therefore cannot have identified him as a relative?

(5.) Will he say why, if William Cresswell was identified as his brother by Thomas Cresswell, he was not handed over to the custody of the latter, seeing that Thomas Cresswell came out to this Colony specially for the purpose of removing him?

(6.) Is he aware that though strong and conclusive proof is possessed by a Sydney gentleman, charged with a power of attorney, to the effect that William Cresswell is identical with Roger Charles Doughty Tichborne, that gentleman has been refused access to Cresswell, and has been compelled to take steps to bring the matter before the New South Wales Court again?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2, 3, and 4.) I have no knowledge of what is said to have happened in the Equity Court. Thomas Cresswell saw his brother William frequently at Parramatta, recognised him, and was recognised by him, and on his return to England kept up a correspondence with the Medical Superintendent of the Hospital at Parramatta with regard to his brother William's health and welfare up to the time of his death. This correspondence has since been continued by Mrs. West, a sister of Thomas and William Cresswell.

(5.)

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- (5.) Thomas Cresswell expressed no wish to remove his brother, and made no application to the hospital authorities or to the Government to that effect. He stated that he came out to see his brother, and had no wish to remove him to England.
- (6.) I have no knowledge of what proof—that William Cresswell is identical with Roger Tichbourne—may be possessed by a Sydney gentleman, but under the whole circumstances of the case I consider it advisable that any action taken should be through the Supreme Court, which has already dealt once with this matter.
- (9.) Betting at Kensington Racecourse :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Having reference to the reply given on Wednesday last *re* Smith and Cook, what kind of erection did they use to bring them within the definition of the Act?
 - (2.) Can betting be allowed in the open anywhere, and on any occasion?
 - (3.) Is there no authority by which betting can be put a stop to?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following replies have been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police :—
- (1.) A tripod stand with notice-board attached offering to bet odds on horses about to run in a race.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) The law is defective, but there have been many convictions for betting in the open.
- (10.) Woolloomooloo Bay Resumptions :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What is the cost of resumptions in regard to the wharf extensions at the eastern side of Woolloomooloo Bay?
 - (2.) What is the probable cost of making reclamations and for other purposes in connection with these wharves?
 - (3.) What probable shipping traffic is expected for so large an expenditure of public money?
 - (4.) In view of their objections to a North Shore Bridge, will he bring under the notice of the Marine Board the advantages these wharves would have for the berthing of the few exceptionally high-masted ships entering the harbour?
- Mr. Young answered,—The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.
- (11.) Lot 2, Parish of Boree-Nyrang, County of Ashburnham :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) In whose name is Lot 2, parish of Boree-Nyrang, county of Ashburnham, marked on the parish map, Molong district?
 - (2.) If in the name of James Keenan, to whom did Keenan transfer the land; and in whose name is the land now registered or entered?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) On the parish map the portion is shown in the name of James Keenan, to whom it was sold in 1858, and in whose name the grant issued.
 - (2.) Subsequent to the issue of the grant, all dealings with land are recorded in the Registrar-General's Department, where any further information should be sought.
- (12.) Bayview Asylum Inquiry :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a sum of about £300 was paid to one individual, whose sole duty was to strike out names given in the Bayview Asylum inquiry?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the above work could not possibly take more than two weeks to perform?
 - (3.) Will he give the name of the fortunate individual who did the work?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—No; but Mr. Blackwell received £198 9s. for revising the whole of the evidence, &c.
- (13.) Registration of Bicycles :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) In order to protect the public against accidents arising from bicycles in our crowded thoroughfares, will he see that some steps are taken to lay the matter before the City Corporation or Transit Commissioners, with the view to having bicycles numbered and registered, at a reasonable fee, on the same principle that is adopted in licensing cabs, 'buses, delivery vans, &c.?
 - (2.) Will he see that some steps are taken or provision is made to have this anomalous state of affairs altered, but especially cyclists travelling at night without a light?
 - (3.) Or, in lieu of which, will he consider the necessity of substituting a wheel-tax and registration in order to protect the public against accidents occurring in our crowded thoroughfares, especially at night?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed that neither the City Corporation nor the Transit Commissioners have any power under existing by-laws to compel numbering and registering.
- (14.) Bridge on Waratah-Georgetown Road :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he yet ascertained the opinion of the Crown Law Officers as to who is responsible for the maintenance of the bridge at the Waratah Coal Company's line on the Waratah-Georgetown Road?
 - (2.) Is he aware that there have been some serious accidents on account of the bridge being broken?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Yes; that the Company is bound to keep the bridge in a proper state of repair.
 - (2.) I am not aware.

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- (15.) The Unemployed :—Mr. Whiddon asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) In view of the great number of unemployed arriving from the other Colonies, is there any system by which our own unemployed are first provided with work?
 (2.) If so, what is the system?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Special inquiries are made in every case, and men arriving from the other Colonies are only employed when the local list has been exhausted.

- (16.) Lusk's School History :—Mr. Hogue asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) Has Lusk's School History (for which a prize was awarded by the Public Instruction Department), or any portion of it, ever been used in the Public Schools?
 (2.) Is it a fact that this work is being revised and re-written by an officer of the Public Instruction Department?
 (3.) If so, what is the name of the officer to whom the work is entrusted?
 (4.) When will the revised work in question be ready for service in the Public Schools?
 (5.) What historical work or works are now being used in the Public Schools?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) No.
 (2.) Yes.
 (3.) Mr. Joseph Finney, B.A.
 (4.) I am unable to say, as the revision of the work is not yet completed.
 (5.) Sutherland and Thornton's works.

- (17.) Purchase of Pictures from Trustee of Art Gallery :—Mr. Haynes asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Relative to the purchase of pictures for the Art Gallery from a trustee of the Gallery, will he say whether he purposes to ask the trustee concerned to retire from the trust?

Mr. Garrard answered,—At present I can see no necessity for taking the step suggested by the Honorable Member.

2. MORUYA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENABLING BILL :—Mr. Millard presented a Petition from the Council of the Municipality of Moruya, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to enable the Council of the Municipality of Moruya to recover rates for the year 1895 to 1896 on the basis of the rate imposed for the year 1894 to 1895, and for other purposes in connection therewith.
 And Mr. Millard having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Moruya Examiner*, newspapers containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—Petition received.
3. DOG ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—Mr. Crick, pursuant to leave granted on 19th May, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Dog Act*,"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
4. PAPER :—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Return showing rate of fees allowed to Members of, and others in connection with, Royal Commissions of Inquiry.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. MINING ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, read a third time, and *passed*.
 Mr. Smith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to alter and amend Sections 14 and 63 of the 'Mining Act, 1874,' and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"
 Question put and passed.
 Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—
 MR. PRESIDENT,—
 The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to alter and amend Sections 14 and 63 of the 'Mining Act, 1874,' and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 24th June, 1896.
6. NARANDERA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—
 (1.) Mr. Gormly moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick M'Intyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, or other the trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Twynam Streets, Narandera, to sell the said lands and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Gormly having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable William Lanigan, of Goulburn, Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Thomas Joseph Carroll, of Narandera, priest, Peter Sullivan, of Narandera, stationer, George Jerrom, of Narandera, draper, and John Patrick M'Intyre, of Narandera, innkeeper, or other the trustees for the time being of certain lands situated in East and Twynam Streets, Narandera, to sell the said lands and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof,*"—read a first time.

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7. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Argyle, Mr. Rose, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The necessity for the Public Service Board to make a more searching inquiry into the various branches of the Civil Service before carrying their proposed retrenchment into effect.”
And the Motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Rose moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
8. **COAL MINES REGULATION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, “That this Bill be now read a second time.”
And the Question being again proposed,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 25 JUNE, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

9. **IMPORTED STOCK ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—
MR. PRESIDENT,
The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes.*”
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th June, 1896, a.m.*

10. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Three o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 21.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 25 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Case of William Barber :—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the Police and Police Magistrates report on the case of Wm. Barber, who was fined £10 and costs by the Obley Bench for killing two sheep without giving the usual notice ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Honorable Member had better move for a return in the usual way.

(2.) Railway Freight on Newspapers :—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Postmaster-General,—What is the estimated cost to the State per annum for trainage or carriage of newspapers ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—It is not possible to estimate what proportion of the amounts paid to the Railway Commissioners, mail contractors, and steam companies represents cost of newspaper carriage—or, in other words, it is not possible to estimate what saving would be effected if newspapers were not included in the payments under contract and otherwise.

(3.) North Shore Cable Trams :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he bring under the notice of the Railway Commissioners the fact that there is at times considerable overcrowding on the North Shore trams, with insufficient smoking accommodation, with a view to their providing additional cars, so that those using the service may ride in comfort, and without violation of the Regulations of the Department, which prohibits overcrowding or smoking on car platforms ?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will refer the matter to the Railway Commissioners, under whose control the line referred to is worked.

(4.) Railway Extension to Darling Island :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) When does he intend to proceed with the works in connection with the railway extension to Darling Island ?

(2.) Will he consider the advisability of carrying out the work by day labour ?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) So soon as the resumption of the land required, which is now being hastened, has been completed.

(2.) Yes ; due consideration will be given to the suggestion.

(5.) Royal Commissions :—Mr. Nicholson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—If, in view of the recent disclosures with regard to the charges of officials on Royal Commissions for years past, he will see that a fair scale of charges (for professional gentlemen and others who may in future be appointed to sit on Royal Commissions) be submitted for the approval of Parliament before any other "Royal Commission" is appointed ?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is impossible to fix a scale of charges that will apply to every possible case, but I will see when any further Royal Commissions are appointed that definite arrangements are made beforehand.

(6.) Fees in connection with Royal Commissions :—Mr. Nicholson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In view of the exorbitant amounts which he admits were charged for shorthand-writing, type-writing, and clerical work, &c., in connection with the Royal Commissions appointed to inquire into the following cases, viz., "The Dean Case," "The Coal Mines Regulation Bill," and "The Bayview Asylum," will he see that a refund of the excess fees charged is made to the Treasury ?

(2.) If so, will he adopt a similar course in regard to the Chairman and Commissioners who officiated upon the respective Commissions ?

Mr.

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Mr. Reid answered,—I do not think these charges could now be reviewed, as the moneys have been paid under vouchers duly certified. I am now asking for an explanation as to statements made to the effect that the shorthand-writer charged for sittings as secretary for some time after the Commission had finally closed its proceedings.

- (7.) Groceries made in the Colony :—Mr. Knox asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that groceries and other articles of food of inferior quality are being made in the Colony, and labelled as having been manufactured in England and foreign countries ?
 - (2.) Has the Government power to prevent the sale of such articles, and the consequent deception of the public ; and, if so, will he take steps to protect consumers ?
 - (3.) If the Government has not such power, will he consider the advisability of including it in a measure to prevent adulteration of food ?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will postpone this Question until next Tuesday.
- (8.) Adulteration of Food and Drink :—Mr. Knox asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to bring in a Bill for the purpose of preventing the adulteration of articles of food and drink ?
 - (2.) Will he consider the advisability, in the interests of the public health, of bringing forward such a measure at as early a date as possible.
- Mr. Reid answered,—This matter will be dealt with in the Bill to Promote the Public Health to be introduced shortly.
- (9.) Railway Officials contributing to Civil Service Superannuation Fund :—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that prior to the " Railway Act of 1888 " being brought into operation the salaried officers of the Railway Department were compelled to contribute to the Civil Service Superannuation Fund ?
 - (2.) Seeing that the Railway officials who are contributors to the Superannuation Fund do not come under the administration of the Public Service Board, will he take steps to give them the same privileges allowed to Public Service employees of withdrawing from the Fund under the same conditions, and with the same concessions (under clause 60, section 1, of the Public Service Act) allowed to Public Service employees ?
 - (3.) Is he aware that a number of Railway officials discontinued contributing to the Fund with the written consent of the Public Service Board, and months afterwards were called upon to rejoin the Fund ?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2. and 3.) I have already promised to see what can be done.
- (10.) Lands for Closer Settlement Bill :—*Mr. Lyne*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to proceed with the Lands for Closer Settlement Bill ?
 - (2.) If so, will he name the probable date when the same will be taken ?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I have already said that this Bill will not be proceeded with without full notice being previously given.
- (11.) Fees to Mr. C. G. Heydon in connection with the Mercadool Land Case :—*Mr. Chapman*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) What was the arrangement made with Mr. C. G. Heydon as to his payment in connection with the Mercadool land case ?
 - (2.) Has he sent on any claim for payment ; if so, how much, and what, if any, has been paid ?
- Mr. Gould answered,—My honorable colleague, the Attorney-General, informs me that no arrangements have been made, nor has there been any claim.
- (12.) Employment of Mr. Curnow :—*Mr. Barnes*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is Mr. Curnow now doing any work in connection with the Government ?
 - (2.) If so, what are the terms of the agreement ?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I have made inquiries in this matter, and find that Mr. Curnow is not employed in any work in connection with the Government at present.
- (13.) Appointment of Mr. Justice Windeyer to the Privy Council :—*Mr. Hurley*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table all correspondence in connection with the proposed appointment of Mr. Justice Windeyer to the Privy Council ?
- Mr. Reid answered,—There is no correspondence which it is in my power to lay upon the Table at present, the correspondence in existence up to the present time being between the Secretary of State and the Governors of the various Colonies, and marked " Confidential."
- (14.) Appointment of Supreme Court Judge :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does he propose to appoint anyone as Acting Supreme Court Judge to fill the vacancy now existing by reason of the absence of Judges Windeyer and Innes ?
- Mr. Reid answered,—Not as at present advised.
- (15.) Point Hut Road, Tharwa, near Queanbeyan :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has he taken any steps to have a report made upon the opening of the Point Hut Road, Tharwa, near Queanbeyan, according to a promise made to the Honorable Leopold Fane de Salis, M.L.C., and Mr. E. W. O'Sullivan, M.P. ?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—Yes ; and a surveyor's report was obtained, but, as such report did not fully explain and deal with some of the statements made in Mr. De Salis' letter, it has been referred back for further explanation and report.

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(16.) Lawyer representing Police in Betting Charges:—Mr. Chapman asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that in nearly every case brought by the police against persons for betting or running totes a lawyer named Lewis Levy appears for the police?
- (2.) Is he aware this person is always allowed costs against the defendant when the latter pleads guilty or is convicted?
- (3.) Have the police any authority to employ this man?
- (4.) As the police can obtain the assistance of a lawyer from the Criminal Investigation Department (paid by the country), what right have they to engage this lawyer?
- (5.) Has he been paid anything from the Treasury for appearing in cases where the defendant has succeeded?
- (6.) If not, do the police pay him personally, or does he take up cases on the chance of getting costs out of the defendant?
- (7.) Is he aware that it is currently rumoured he divides the costs so allowed with certain police officers?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—

- (1.) No; Mr. Levy has usually appeared to conduct cases prosecuted in the Central Police Division.
- (2.) He has frequently been allowed costs, but not in all cases.
- (3.) There is no regulation to prevent the police making the best arrangements practicable to conduct prosecutions for the offences referred to.
- (4.) It has not been the practice hitherto to obtain assistance from the Crown Law Department, except in very important cases.
- (5.) No.
- (6.) His only remuneration are the costs awarded by the Bench, if any.
- (7.) No; if such a rumour is current it is entirely without foundation.

(17.) Railway Freight on Produce grown in New South Wales:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that the charges made by the Railway Commissioners for the carriage of produce grown by New South Wales farmers are 25 per cent. below those levied for the carriage of imported produce, and that such a condition of things has existed since the 14th April of this year?

Mr. Reid answered,—The rate for flour, &c., on the down journey has been increased by 20 per cent., a similar rate prevailing in 1889, and it is considered a reasonable one.

(18.) Board for Protection of Aborigines:—*Mr. Wood* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the support from outside sources, by way of donations to the Board for the Protection of Aborigines, has greatly decreased?
- (2.) Is he aware that a large sum of the money voted by Parliament to the Board is absorbed in railway fares?
- (3.) Will he take steps to have a larger amount placed at the disposal of the Board for next year, 1896-7, than has hitherto been given?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I am informed by the Chairman of the Aborigines Protection Board that no donations have ever been made to the Board, and that a sum of £828 1s. 10d. has been expended during the first eleven months of the current financial year in railway fares.
- (3.) The matter will receive attention when the Estimates are under consideration.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (2.) Return to an Order, made on 4th June, 1895,—“Cope’s Creek Preferential Occupation License.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) By-laws of the Borough of Wallsend.
- (2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Hamilton.
- (3.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Bankstown.
- (4.) Report of the Wollongong Fire Brigades Board for the year ended 31st March, 1896, under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 2nd June, 1896,—“Railway Passes issued to discharged Prisoners.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. OLD AGE PENSIONS:—Ordered, on motion of *Mr. O’Sullivan*, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having appointed a Select Committee on “Old Age Pensions,” and the Committee being desirous to examine the Honorable Sir Arthur Renwick, Knight, a Member of the Legislative Council, in reference thereto, requests that the Legislative Council will give leave to its said Member to attend and be examined by the said Committee on such day and days as shall be arranged between him and the said Committee.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th June, 1896.

25th June, 1896.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Hayes brought up the Sixth Report from the Printing Committee.
5. TRUCK BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Garrard moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages; to prohibit such payment being made in goods or otherwise than in money; to regulate the service of legal process in certain cases; and for other purposes in connection with the aforesaid objects.
Question put and passed.
6. APPOINTMENTS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return of all appointments to the Civil Service (not being promotions) since the accession to power of the present Government.
Question put and passed.
7. MORUYA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
(1.) Mr. Millard moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable the Council of the Municipality of Moruya to recover rates for the year 1895 to 1896 on the basis of the rate imposed for the year 1894 to 1895, and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Millard having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Council of the Municipality of Moruya to recover rates for the year 1895 to 1896 on the basis of the rate imposed for the year 1894 to 1895, and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—read a first time.
8. SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Howarth, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Watson, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Price, Mr. Bull, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
9. MINISTERIAL ELECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
(1.) Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Constitution Act Amendment Act of 1884.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Hogue then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the 'Constitution Act Amendment Act of 1884,'*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
10. PITFALL AT MEREWETHER, NEWCASTLE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Cann, for Mr. Edden, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers and reports concerning the pitfall that took place at Merewether, Newcastle, in February last.
Question put and passed.
11. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in the Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill postponed until Tuesday, 15th September.
12. CONDITIONAL PURCHASERS RELIEF BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to the omission of the proviso in clause 3, but added words to that proviso, and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the report was adopted.
13. OLD AGE PENSIONS:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
In answer to the Message from the Legislative Assembly, dated the 25th June, 1896, requesting leave for the Honorable Sir Arthur Renwick, Knight, a Member of the Legislative Council, to attend and be examined before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on "Old Age Pensions," the Council acquaints the Assembly that leave has been granted to its said Member to attend and be examined by the said Committee if he think fit.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 25th June, 1896.
JOHN LACKEY,
President.
14. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
Mr. Garrard moved, "That" the report be now adopted.
Mr. Watkins moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 23 and a new rule in clause 52," instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 23 and a new rule in clause 52,—put and passed.
On

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25th June, 1896.

On motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with further amendments.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

15. **MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 26 JUNE, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

16. **FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL**:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make provision for the supervision and regulation of factories, bakehouses, laundries, dye-works, and shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein, and for the stamping of furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to make provision for the supervision and regulation of factories, bakehouses, laundries, dye-works, and shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein, and for the stamping of furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Garrard then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make provision for the supervision and regulation of factories, bakehouses, laundries, dye-works, and shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein, and for the stamping of furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time,

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

17. **PUBLIC ROADS BILL**:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

25th June, 1896.

18. **CONDITIONAL PURCHASERS RELIEF BILL**:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 18th June, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Conditional Purchasers Relief Bill,—

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 3; but proposes to amend such clause by adding at the end thereof the following words:—“And is not the holder under any tenure of a greater total area in this Colony than is necessary for the maintenance of a family, such total area not exceeding in any case 1,280 acres in the Eastern Division or 2,560 acres in the Central or Western Divisions: Provided further that the reduction under the last proviso shall not run with the land, but shall attach only as a concession to the applicant personally,”—because there are many settlers who have detached holdings no larger in the aggregate in any case than is absolutely necessary for their maintenance, and whilst using such detached holdings *bonâ fide* these settlers necessarily reside away from one of such holdings, and because in other cases men with small holdings have in many cases to pursue occupations away from their holdings in order to add to the small earnings derivable from the *bonâ fide* use of their land.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th June, 1896, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at four minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 22.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 30 JUNE, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Issue of Railway Passes by the Labour Bureau:—Mr. Waddell asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Has he taken any steps to prevent the Labour Bureau giving railway passes to persons from New Zealand and other neighbouring Colonies to proceed to the interior of the Colony to shear or engage in other employment?

(2.) If not, will he take steps at once to prevent as far as possible such passes being given to any but permanent residents of the Colony?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) The greatest care has always been taken to ascertain, by a strict system of questioning, whether each man who applies to be registered is or is not a new arrival. Those who are found to be new arrivals do not receive the same privileges as those who are permanent residents.

(2.) Answered by No. 1.

- (2.) Fees paid to Mr. W. H. Palmer, Official Assignee:—Mr. McGowen, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) What fees have been demanded by and paid to W. H. Palmer, Official Assignee, in John Davidson's estate, for the exhibition of any documents held by bankrupt?

(2.) Will he take steps to ensure that those documents against which there is no lien for costs incurred are handed over without any further demand?

Mr. Gould answered,—Under section 93 of the "Bankruptcy Act, 1887," complaints against Official Assignees should be inquired into by the Judge in Bankruptcy; but I may mention that from a report which has been obtained in reference to the matter, it appears that no fees have been charged for the exhibition of documents held in Davidson's estate, but in certain instances fees have been demanded and paid for searches for deeds and documents, which number more than 20,000 and weigh several hundred weight. If fees for searches be not charged, then the estate would be saddled with the additional cost, to the prejudice of creditors. The whole of the deeds and documents have, however, since been handed to the solicitor of the Official Assignee, who will deal with future applications.

- (3.) Penrith Court-house:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What moneys have been paid to the contractor on account of his contract for painting and other works at Penrith Court-house?

(2.) Has the work been completed according to specification?

(3.) Has the work been passed by the inspector?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) £44.

(2.) The work has not yet been reported as completed.

(3.) Not finally.

- (4.) Groceries made in the Colony:—Dr. Graham, for Mr. Knox, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that groceries and other articles of food of inferior quality are being made in the Colony, and labelled as having been manufactured in England and foreign countries?

(2.) Has the Government power to prevent the sale of such articles; and the consequent deception of the public; and, if so, will he take steps to protect consumers?

(3.) If the Government has not such power, will he consider the advisability of including it in a measure to prevent adulteration of food?

Mr.

30th June, 1896.

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) I have no knowledge as to the first Question, and I fear the Government have no power under the second Question.

(3.) In the Bill to Promote the Public Health which will shortly be introduced provision will be made to prevent the adulteration of food.

(5.) "The Mother Colony of Australasia":—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. O'Sullivan*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has a book called "The Mother Colony of Australasia" been published at the expense of the Government?

(2.) The name of the editor of the said book?

(3.) The names of the contributors to the book?

(4.) The remuneration paid to the editor?

(5.) The remuneration paid to each of the writers?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) *Mr. Frank Hutchinson*,—certainly no Press friend of the Government.

(4.) £100 as editor, including the contribution of a paper free of charge.

The information required under 3 and 5 should be moved for in the shape of a return. There were a large number of contributors.

(6.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Referring to his reply to *Mr. Affleck's* Question No. 7, of the 24th June, respecting the rebate paid to *Tooth & Co.*, is he aware that the charge embodied in *Mr. Affleck's* Question was one of the charges made by *Mr. Rose* twelve months ago, and was submitted subsequently by him (the Colonial Treasurer) to the Collector of Customs?

(2.) Was any reply received to this definite charge?

(3.) If no, what is the reason for not answering before now?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The charge as it then appeared to me was, evading the duty on the added preparation.

(2 and 3.) The matter of refund of duty is now under consideration.

(7.) Fees paid to Barristers, Members of the Legislative Council:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the total sum of fees paid by the Government to barristers, who are Members of the Legislative Council, for professional services since the present Government took office?

Mr. Reid answered,—The information required should be moved for in the form of a return. I would also suggest that my honorable friend should include in his motion a request for similar information respecting previous Governments.

(8.) The Technical College, Ultimo:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) What is the estimated value of the collection of exhibits that are at present in the Technical College at Ultimo?

(2.) How many hours do the two night-watchmen (*Moreman* and *Millar*) remain on duty each night?

(3.) Is he aware of the fact that these night-watchmen have lately had their salaries or wages reduced from 6s. 8d. to 5s. 8d. (or from £2 6s. 8d. to £2 per week)?

(4.) Is it a fact that these men are most steady, painstaking, and efficient servants; and can any valid reason be shown why their salaries are reduced, seeing that each night they are fifteen hours on duty?

(5.) Will he see that some steps are taken to protect the men against the reduction of their salaries?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) About £25,000.

(2.) Six and nine hours alternate weeks.

(3.) This is a matter for the consideration of the Public Service Board.

(4.) Answered by Nos. 2 and 3. It is not a fact that each man is on duty fifteen hours a night.

(5.) Answered by No. 3.

(9.) Special Railway Freights to Narrandera and Hay:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners have made a special agreement with one firm of merchants in Sydney that if they send 100 tons of goods at a time to Narrandera, Hay, and intermediate stations from Sydney, that the Commissioners will allow a 15 per cent. reduction on the differential rates at present allowed?

(2.) Is there only one firm in Sydney who have this agreement with the Commissioners?

(3.) Has it been made public that the Railway Commissioners are prepared to make this concession to all merchants?

(4.) If this concession is made, has the 100 tons of goods to be consigned to the one particular station or one particular purchaser, or can they be delivered at several stations and to several persons?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that such an arrangement has not been made.

(10.) Printing of School Books:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Goodwin*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In reference to a paragraph appearing in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of 25th June, in which he is represented to have stated that as soon as existing contracts are completed the printing of school books will be done in the Government Printing Office,—

(1.) Is it a fact that for the past sixteen months the Department of Public Instruction has had invitations out inviting tenders for printing the new series of reading books?

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th June, 1896.

- (2.) Is he aware that during that period publishers have been and are now incurring heavy expenses in preparing to tender as required?
 (3.) Has the Government decided not to accept any of these tenders when received?
 (4.) If so, will the publishers be recouped for the expenses incurred?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes.
 (3.) No.

(4.) Answered by No. 3. I may add, that when I expressed my personal approval of such work being done in the Government Printing Office, I was not aware of the facts referred to by the Honorable Member.

- (11.) Appointment of Examiner of Patents:—Mr. Wilks asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board has decided to appoint Mr. J. J. Spruson to the post of Examiner of Patents?
 (2.) Is it a fact that a son of the said Mr. J. J. Spruson is a partner in the firm of Hepburn and Spruson, carrying on business in Sydney as patent agents?
 (3.) If so, does he approve of the said appointment?

Mr. Gould answered,—Mr. Spruson has been recently graded by the Public Service Board as Registrar of Copyright only, and I am not aware of any intention to appoint him to the position of Examiner of Patents. I understand that a son of Mr. Spruson's is a partner in the firm of patent agents referred to.

- (12.) Appointments to the Police Magistracy:—Mr. Perry asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that several appointments have been made to the Police Magistracy?
 (2.) If so, have the gentlemen so appointed passed the necessary examination, as provided in section 31 of the Public Service Act?

Mr. Gould answered,—No appointments have yet been made, but several recommendations for appointment to the Police Magistracy have been submitted. Arrangements are being made by the Public Service Board with a view to the immediate examination of the gentlemen who have been recommended.

- (13.) Railway Extension to Coonamble:—Mr. Simeon Phillips asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the public meeting held at Dubbo, on 19th June, with respect to the extension of the railway to Coonamble?
 (2.) If not, will he, before definitely determining the route, consider the representations made at such meeting in favour of the proposed extension being started from Dubbo?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Not officially.
 (2.) The representations will receive every consideration.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Wilks—From Alex. Reeks, Chief Ruler "Crystal Spring Tent, No. 2," Independent Order of Rechabites, in the Balmain North Constituency.
 (2.) By Mr. Law—From Alex. Reeks, Chief Ruler "Crystal Spring Tent, No. 2," Independent Order of Rechabites, in the Balmain South Constituency.
 (3.) By Mr. Kelly—From certain inhabitants of Tumbulgum, Tweed River.
 Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of North Gundagai, county of Clarendon, for the construction of a bridge over the Murrumbidgee River at Gundagai.
 (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Coolac and Darbalara, counties of Harden and Buccleuch, for formation of approaches to bridge over the Murrumbidgee River at Gobarralong.
 (3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for stormwater channel and reclamation works at White's Creek, Rozelle Bay.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Smith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make better provision for the Regulation of Coal Mines and Collieries; and for other purposes connected therewith.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for the Regulation of Coal Mines and Collieries; and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 30th June, 1896.*

30th June, 1896.

5. **MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL** (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, read a third time, and passed.
Mr. Smith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend and extend the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, and to amend the Mining Act, 1874, and the Mining Act of 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and extend the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, and to amend the Mining Act, 1874, and the Mining Act of 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th June, 1896.*
6. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Dog Act Further Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 7th July.
(2.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
(3.) Law Practitioners Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 7th July.
7. **IMPORTED STOCK ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Brunker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
HAMPDEN, *Message No. 22.*
Governor.
A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Imported Stock Act of 1871, and the Imported Stock Act Amendment Act of 1884, and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.
*Government House,
Sydney, 27th June, 1896.*
8. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Newtown-St. Peters Division, Mr. Rigg, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The necessity for Special Endowment to Municipalities."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Rigg moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
9. **CASE OF MR. A. J. C. SINGLE**:—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Case of Mr. A. J. C. Single," brought up on 10th October, 1895, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
10. **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be considered in Committee on Tuesday, 29th September.
11. **LAND BOARDS ELECTION BILL**:—Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make the Land Boards elective to the extent of two of their number.
Question put and passed.
12. **CASE OF STAFF-SERGEANT W. JIFFKINS**:—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the case of Staff-Sergeant W. Jiffkins.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Millen, Mr. Moore, Mr. Watson, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Chanter, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Chapman, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Cotton moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question for the adjournment of the Debate put and negatived.
Original Question then put and passed.
13. **WOMEN'S FRANCHISE BILL**:—Mr. Willis moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Women's Franchise Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 29th September.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th June, 1896.

14. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the representatives to be elected by the people of New South Wales to the forthcoming Federal Convention can only meet on equal terms representatives from the other colonies who are also elected direct by the people, and should under no circumstances sit in convention with the mere nominees of any Government.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Watson moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.
15. MODEL OR EXPERIMENTAL FARM, GRAFTON:—Mr. See moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all letters, minutes, reports, petitions, and all other documents relating to the establishment of a model or experimental farm in the Electoral District of Grafton.
 Question put and passed.
16. RAILWAY FROM GRAFTON TO GLEN INNES:—Mr. See moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all petitions, reports, letters, minutes, and other documents relating to the construction of a line of railway from Grafton to Glen Innes.
 Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at five minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 23.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Charges on the Dean and Coal Mines Regulation Bill Commissions :—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will the Government, when inquiring into the charges on the Dean and Coal Mines Commissions, also obtain explanations how the folios were made up?

(2.) Did the unofficial sittings charged by *Mr. Curnow* represent the time occupied by that gentleman in dictating to typewriters; and, if not, what duties did he perform on those occasions?

Mr. Reid answered,—I must refer the Honorable Member to the Honorable the Chief Secretary, the matter referred to being in his Department.

(2.) Public Works Committee :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact, as stated by *Mr. Rose* at Bundanoon on Friday last, that the Public Works Committee cost 50 guineas per sitting of one hour; if not, what is the average cost per sitting since the appointment of the present Committee?

(2.) What is the average number of hours per sitting during the time they have held meetings in Sydney since their appointment?

(3.) How many sittings has this Committee held in Sydney since their appointment to date?

(4.) Have they held any forenoon sittings since their appointment; if so, how many, and how many hours at each sitting?

(5.) Do the Committee count a forenoon and an afternoon sitting two separate sittings, and charge accordingly?

(6.) What was the average number of hours at each sitting in Sydney by the Committees for the three years previous to the appointment of the present Committee?

Mr. Young answered,—As the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works is not under my control, I am unable to furnish the Answers to these Questions.

(3.) Visit of *Dr. Tidswell* to *Parkes* and *Forbes* :—*Mr. Reymond* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did *Dr. Tidswell*, when lately sent to *Parkes* to inquire into the prevalence of typhoid fever, extend his visit to *Forbes*?

(2.) If so, did he write a report on the insanitary state of the town of *Forbes*?

Mr. Brunner answered,—Yes.

(4.) Application of Public Service Act to late Temporary Officers :—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How does the present Public Service Act apply to officers whose salaries were voted yearly by Parliament, but who were not gazetted prior to the passing of the present Act?

(2.) In case of retirement, would the service of such officer be considered as permanent service?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member will find full information on this point in section 11 of the Public Service Act. The officers he refers to come under the head of temporary officers.

(5.) Explosion of Boilers near Seven Hills and Goulburn :—*Mr. Watkins*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that recently the boiler of engine No. 496 exploded at Seven Hills Railway Station; if so, what was the cause thereof?

(2.) Is it a fact that recently the boiler of engine No. 437 exploded near Goulburn; if so, what was the cause thereof?

Mr.

1st July, 1896.

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that,—

(1.) The roof of the fire-box collapsed in engine 496, owing to the boiler being allowed to run short of water.

(2.) The back plates of the fire-box collapsed in engine 437, owing to broken stays not being detected in the upper rows.

- (6.) Road from Eugowra to Bindagundra Station:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has the last contract yet been let for clearing the road from Eugowra to Bindagundra Station; if so, when is the work likely to be completed, or why has the work been delayed?

Mr. Young answered,—Yes, and the date of completion expires on the 12th September, and I have no reason to believe that the work will not be finished by that date. The delay was occasioned by the necessity for inviting fresh tenders, the original contractor having abandoned the work.

- (7.) Police Station at Toogong:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has any final decision yet been arrived at to station a constable at the police station at Toogong, seeing that Toogong has been a police station for over thirty years; if so, when is the person appointed likely to enter upon his duties?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Inspector-General of Police does not consider it necessary to station a constable at Toogong.

- (8.) Private Boxes at Post Offices in Western District:—Mr. M. T. Phillips asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) How many post-offices in the Western district have private boxes attached to them?

(2.) The places where such offices are situate, and the number of private boxes annexed?

(3.) How many of the said boxes are rented and how many idle at each place respectively?

(4.) The rent paid for each box?

(5.) Will he, in view of the depressed state of times, reduce the rent of said boxes?

Mr. Cook answered,—The Answers to Questions 1, 2, 3, and 4 will be found in a return, which I will presently lay upon the Table. In regard to No. 5, I purpose considering the question of reducing the rents.

- (9.) Election of Delegates to the Federal Convention:—Mr. Griffith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that on the 11th June, in answering a Question concerning election of delegates to the forthcoming Federal Convention, he stated that “the Queensland Premier, when at the Hobart Conference, reserved to his Colony the right to determine for itself its method of representation in the Conference”?

(2.) Is the above statement correct?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) I find on reference to the proceedings of the Conference that I made a mistake in the respect alluded to, and that the Premier of Queensland approved of election of the Convention delegates by direct vote of the electors, but reserved the right to prescribe a different method for the approval of the Constitution when drafted. As the Queensland Bill now stands, the electors will not choose the delegates, but will have the power of accepting or disapproving the Constitution.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Hogue—From certain inhabitants of Toxteth and The Glebe.

(2.) By Mr. O'Reilly—From the executive officers of Prince Alfred Division, Sons and Daughters of Temperance, Parramatta.

(3.) By Mr. Young—From certain inhabitants of Jones' Island.

(4.) By Mr. Morton—From certain inhabitants of Berry.

(5.) By Mr. Anderson—From certain inhabitants of Waterloo electorate.

Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Return showing number of private boxes let and unlet on the 1st June, 1896, at Post Offices in the Western District.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulation, under the Public Service Act of 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return showing the expenditure and revenue in connection with wharves, &c., at Newcastle during the last twenty years.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. COAL PURCHASED BY GOVERNMENT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Watkins moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The amount of coal purchased by the Government for the years 1894 and 1895, and value of same.

(2.) The amount used by the various Departments, including the Railway Department, for the abovementioned years.

Question put and passed.

5. MORUYA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Morton, for Mr. Millard, moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That the Moruya Municipal Council Enabling Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Alexander Campbell, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st July, 1896.

6. DR. TAYLOR, SUPERINTENDENT LITTLE BAY LAZARETTE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Reilly moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all correspondence between Dr. Taylor, Superintendent Little Bay Lazarette, and Dr. Anderson Stuart, President of the Board of Health, in reference to the censure passed by the latter upon the former for alleged failure to report a case of leprosy.
Question put and passed.
7. CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER AGAINST DR. DAVIES, AT HILLSTON (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Ashton moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers in connection with the recent committal for trial, at Hillston, of Dr. Davies on a charge of manslaughter.
Question put and passed.
8. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Morton moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the North Shore Bridge Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. McMillan, Mr. See, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Crick, Mr. Ashton, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Nicholson, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
9. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY TUNNEL-ROADWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Parkes moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Ashton, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Watson, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Harris, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Lyne, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Waddell, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Ministerial Election Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 15th September.
(2.) Law of Libel Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 21st July.
11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Braidwood, Mr. Chapman, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The necessity for immediate legislation in connection with the Church and School Lands.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Chapman moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
12. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Condobolin to Broken Hill*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Condobolin to Broken Hill.
Point of Order:—Mr. Lyne pointed out that this matter was not properly before the House, inasmuch as the requirements of the Public Works Act had not been complied with by the Minister laying upon the Table certain documents including plan and book of reference referred to in sections 13 and 29 of that Act.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker said that, after a careful consideration of the Point of Order, he had come to the conclusion that the Minister had submitted to the House all the documents required by section 13 of the Act.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 2 JULY, 1896, A.M.

Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 35.

Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. See,	Mr. Millard,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Affleck.
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Newman.
Mr. Cook,	

Noes, 14.

Mr. Perry,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Morton.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Price,
Mr. Sleath.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The House adjourned, at twenty-five minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 24.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 2 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Appointments in Land and Income Tax Department:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, out of over 1,100 applicants for positions in connection with the Land and Income Tax Department, the Commissioners of Taxation selected and sent to him some forty odd names of retrenched Civil Servants as being the best and most entitled men?

(2.) Is it a fact that such names were sent to him, and thence to the Public Service Board?

(3.) Is it a fact that such recommendations have not been carried into effect, and that in place thereof men and lads nominated by Government supporters to the Electoral and Taxation Assessment Offices are being or to be appointed, such persons being simply temporary hands, and not retrenched Civil Servants?

(4.) Is it a fact that lads who were employed in a temporary capacity in the Electoral Office at a supernumerary salary are now being employed by the Taxation Department at a salary of 10s. 6d. per diem?

(5.) Will he give the names of those who have been appointed outside those previously employed in the Custom House, together with their respective lengths of service on the permanent staff?

(6.) Is it not a fact that all or nearly all retrenched Civil Servants of good character have been promised the first chance of any appointments necessary to be made in the Taxation Department, and in preference to those previously employed in temporary capacities?

(7.) If so, why has this promise been broken?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Thirty-eight persons were recommended.

(2.) The list was forwarded to the Public Service Board by the Treasurer.

(3.) The majority of the persons recommended are not employed; the only appointments made have been those sanctioned by the Public Service Board.

(4.) Not aware that any such persons are employed by the Taxation Department.

(5.) A return will be prepared if moved for in the usual way.

(6.) The Public Service Board has controlled all the appointments in the interest of the retrenched officers as a whole.

(7.) Answered by No. 6.

(2.) Charges on the Dean and Coal Mines Regulation Bill Commissions:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will the Government, when inquiring into the charges on the Dean and Coal Mines Commissions, also obtain explanations how the folios were made up?

(2.) Did the unofficial sittings charged by Mr. Curnow represent the time occupied by that gentleman in dictating to typewriters; and, if not, what duties did he perform on those occasions?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Folios are made up by counting every 72 words after transcription of shorthand notes.

(2.) No. The duties performed by Mr. Curnow during the unofficial sittings were the preparation of the evidence, report and appendices, the arrangement of the matter, the correction of the proofs, and the general supervision of the revises. Special attention had to be given to large masses of technical evidence in both Commissions, involving considerable labour both day and night. It has been usual to make charges for unofficial sittings upon Royal Commissions.

(3.)

2nd July, 1896.

- (3.) Charges on the Dean and Coal Mines Regulation Bill Commissions:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Chapman*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Did *Mr. Curnow* receive anything for keeping the minutes of the Dean and Coal Mines Commissions; if so, how much, and how was it estimated?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that prior to the use of typewriters the payment of £2 2s. per day and 1s. per folio covered the cost of evidence?
 - (3.) If so, why has the Government been saddled with the cost of typewriting and paper in the Dean and Coal Mines Commissions?
 - (4.) Is not this charge contrary to general practice?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) No special charge was made for keeping the minutes, but payment was made at folio rates, in the same manner as for notes of evidence.
 - (2 and 3.) This appears to be correct, but I may add that the cost of typewriting and paper was a very small item in the amount.
 - (4.) No.
- (4.) Wharf Erected by the North Shore Ferry Company:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has the North Shore Ferry Company erected a new wharf adjoining the Government wharf at Neutral Bay?
 - (2.) What was the cost of erecting the Government wharf at Neutral Bay and deepening the water in front of it?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) I am informed the company has erected a wharf.
 - (2.) The cost of erecting the Government wharf at High-street was £604 13s. 8d., and of deepening the water in front thereof £143 0s. 10d., the total cost being £747 14s. 6d.
- (5.) Lease of Government Wharf at Neutral Bay:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Did the North Shore Ferry Company tender for the lease of the Government wharf at Neutral Bay; and, if so, at what price?
 - (2.) Has the lease been granted, or, if not, are the successful tenderers attempting to repudiate their tender?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1.) The North Shore Ferry Company made application for one year's lease of the wharf at Neutral Bay at a rental of £50 per annum.
 - (2.) The lease has been granted to the Borough Council of North Sydney, and the lessees are not attempting to repudiate their agreement, as far as I am aware.
- (6.) Lease of the Foreshores of Neutral Bay:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has the Government granted a lease or in any way alienated portion of the foreshores of Neutral Bay to the east of and adjoining the Government wharf?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the leasing or otherwise alienating the foreshores adjoining the Government wharf has had the effect of depreciating the value of such wharf property?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—
- (1.) A lease for jetty has been granted to Messrs. Allt and Dawson (trustees of the estate of the late John Davy), eastward of the Government wharf, at the foot of Hayes-street, Neutral Bay. Another lease for a boatshed, &c., has been granted to John Gainford, near to the beforementioned lease. The foreshore of Neutral Bay, between the Government Wharf and Allt and Dawson's lease for jetty, has not been alienated or leased.
 - (2.) I am not aware.
- (7.) Employment of Surplus Labour from other Colonies:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that in certain contracts he has inserted a clause empowering him to order the discharge of men who have been domiciled less than six months in the Colony?
 - (2.) Will he, keeping in view the above, refuse to accept tenders of contractors who have not been domiciled in the Colony more than six months?
 - (3.) Will he, following out the above policy of preventing the employment of the surplus labourers of the other Colonies, also take steps to prevent the importation of the surplus products of the labour of other countries?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) The clause referred to has been inserted in all contracts since about December, 1893.
 - (2.) I have not so determined.
 - (3.) This is not a Departmental matter.
- (8.) Employment of *Mr. Brady*:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is a person named *Brady* employed in the Government Statistician or Land and Income Tax Department?
 - (2.) Was this same *Brady* some time ago struck off the rolls for irregularities as a solicitor?
 - (3.) Upon whose recommendation was he appointed to the position he now occupies?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—No such person is employed on the Land and Income Tax staff.
- (9.) Appointment of *Mr. Thomas Probert* in the Registrar-General's Department:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Chapman*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a *Mr. Thomas Probert* has recently been appointed to a position in the Registrar-General's Department; if so, in what capacity, and at what salary?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the person referred to is over 40 years of age?
 - (3.) Upon whose recommendation was the appointment made?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—I am informed by the Registrar-General that such is not the fact.

2nd July, 1896.

(10.) Diphtheretic Branch of Children's Hospital at the Glebe:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it intended to remove the diphtheretic branch of the Children's Hospital from the Glebe to a site more suitable and less objectionable to a thickly-populated suburb?

(2.) Is he aware that serious objections have been made to the continuance of the diphtheretic branch of the said hospital by the residents of the Glebe?

(3.) Is he aware that during the past few days the authorities of the hospital in question have caused to be placed in a conspicuous place outside the branch of the institution in question a board containing the words "Children's Hospital—Diphtheria Branch"?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The Board of the Hospital have for some time been endeavouring to secure another site.

(2.) Complaints have been made.

(3.) Yes.

(11.) Unclassified Roads in the Murrumbidgee District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that in many country districts there is urgent need that a number of unclassified roads leading to towns and railway stations should be repaired?

(2.) Is the Public Works Department taking any steps so that the roads in the Murrumbidgee district, where agriculture is making such rapid progress, may be repaired in such a way as will enable farmers to send their produce to the different railway stations?

(3.) What provision is intended to be made for the purpose of improving unclassified roads where improvements are urgently needed?

Mr. Young answered,—I fully recognise the necessity for repairing and maintaining all the public roads of the Colony, and endeavour to accomplish this from year to year as funds are placed at my disposal.

(12.) Newspapers Transmitted Free:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Postmaster-General,—What is the estimated loss per annum to the Department through newspapers being transmitted free?

Mr. Cook answered,—It is estimated that a postage of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. each on newspapers posted in the Colony for delivery therein would produce a revenue of about £42,000 per annum.

(13.) Appointment of Miss Bromley at the Shaftesbury Reformatory:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a Miss Bromley has been appointed a teacher or school-mistress at the Shaftesbury Reformatory?

(2.) If so, at what salary?

(3.) Has Miss Bromley passed any of the examinations prescribed for school-teachers by the Department of Public Instruction; if so, will he please say which, and when?

(4.) Is it a fact that, in the ordinary course of events, the matron of the Shaftesbury Reformatory will retire from the Service in about twelve months on account of advancing age?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) No; but a teacher named Bromby, who was appointed more than two years since, is being transferred from the Shaftesbury Reformatory to the Receiving Depôt, Paddington.

(3.) I am not aware. The appointment is not in the Department of Public Instruction.

(4.) No.

(14.) Purchase of Steel Rails:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Does he intend to purchase steel rails of colonial manufacture at a higher cost than the imported article?

(2.) If yes, to what extent will the colonial manufacturer be protected over the importer?

(3.) Did he condemn a similar policy pursued by Mr. Lyne with respect to local manufacture of iron pipes?

(4.) Does he intend to purchase all other material of local manufacture for Government use?

(5.) Is the purchasing of steel rails locally manufactured at a higher cost than the imported consignments a part of the programme of the Government?

Mr. Young answered,—I have invited tenders, to be opened on the 30th December, for the supply of 150,000 tons of steel rails and other permanent-way material, to be manufactured in the Colony of New South Wales, and when tenders have been received they will be dealt with as seems best in the interests of the Colony. I may, however, inform the Honorable Member that I have every reason to believe that tenders will be submitted showing that steel rails can be manufactured in the country at as low a rate as that at which they can be imported.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Dugald Thomson—From certain inhabitants of Manly.

(2.) By Mr. H. H. Brown—From certain inhabitants of Eccleston, Salisbury, and Upper Chichester River.

(3.) By Mr. Griffith—From certain inhabitants of Waratah, Sons and Daughters of Temperance.

(4.) By Mr. Bavister—From Alfred Watt, Chief Ruler, and Fred. W. Collins, Secretary, on behalf of the Capt. Cook Tent, No. 1, I.O. Rechabites.

Petitions received.

2nd July, 1896.

3. OLD AGE PENSIONS :—Ordered, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having appointed a Select Committee on "Old Age Pensions," and the Committee being desirous to examine the Honorable Andrew Garran, LL.D., the Honorable Henry Norman MacLaurin, M.D., LL.D., and the Honorable Louis Francis Heydon, Members of the Legislative Council, in reference thereto, requests that the Legislative Council will give leave to its said Members to attend and be examined by the said Committee on such day and days as shall be arranged between them and the said Committee.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd July, 1896.*

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Seventh Report from the Printing Committee.
5. POLICE REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the "Police Regulation Act of 1862 in certain respects."
Question put and passed.
6. NARANDERA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Gormly moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the Narandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Greene, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Rose, Dr. Ross, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
7. PARTICULARS OF EXPENDITURE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The particulars of all public works over £5,000 initiated and completed during the term of office of the present Administration.
(2.) The total expenditure thereon—(a) from Loan Votes; (b) from Revenue.
(3.) The particulars of all public works now in course of construction over and above the sum of £5,000, giving the nature of the work and probable cost as per contract.
(4.) In what manner will this expenditure be distributed—(a) as to Loan Votes; (b) as to Revenue.
Question put and passed.
8. PARKES' FAMILY GRANT BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to give effect to a resolution of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes by grants out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a trustee for the above purposes,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, including amendments in the Title, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd July, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

PARKES' FAMILY GRANT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 2nd July, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, Title, lines 1 and 2. Omit "give effect to a resolution of the Legislative Assembly that"
insert "make"
- Page 1, Title, line 2. Omit "be made"
- Page 1, Title, line 4. Omit "to a trustee for the above purposes"
- Page 1, Preamble, lines 1 to 3. Omit "the Legislative Assembly did on the twenty-eighth day of
" May, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, resolve to make certain grants out of
" the Consolidated Revenue" insert "it is desirable"
- Page 1, Preamble, line 4. Before "Sir" insert "the late"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 6. After "yearly" insert "during their respective minorities"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 18. After "discharged" insert "or refuses or becomes unfit or incapable to
" act in the trust"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Wednesday next.

9. PAPER :—Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Report of Trustees of the Australian Museum for the year 1895.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd July, 1896.

10. WATER RIGHTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 62.

Mr. Gould,	Mr. Newman,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Law,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Price,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Lovien,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Hurley,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Perry.
Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Davis,	
Mr. Lyne,		

Noes, 6.

Mr. Millen,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Miller.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Moore.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

11. OLD AGE PENSIONS:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—

In answer to the Message from the Legislative Assembly, dated the 2nd July, 1896, requesting leave for the Honorable Andrew Garran, the Honorable Henry Norman MacLaurin, and the Honorable Louis Francis Heydon, Members of the Legislative Council, to attend and be examined before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on "Old Age Pensions," the Council acquaints the Assembly that leave has been granted to its said Members to attend and be examined by the said Committee if they think fit.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 2nd July, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

12. TRUCK BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages; to prohibit such payment being made in goods or otherwise than in money; to regulate the service of legal process in certain cases; and for other purposes in connection with the aforesaid objects.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages; to prohibit such payment being made in goods or otherwise than in money; to regulate the service of legal process in certain cases; and for other purposes in connection with the aforesaid objects.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Garrard then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages; to prohibit such payment being made in goods or otherwise than in money; to regulate the service of legal process in certain cases; and for other purposes in connection with the aforesaid objects*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

13. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at nine minutes after Eleven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 25.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 7 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Persons Condemned to Death:—*Mr. W. H. B. Piddington*, for *Mr. A. B. Piddington*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) How many persons were condemned to death in the ten years from 1886 to 1895 for the crimes of murder and rape respectively?
 (2.) In how many of such cases was the penalty commuted to imprisonment?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Murder, 40; intent to murder, 15; rape, 13; carnally knowing a girl under the age of 10 years, 3; total, 71.
 (2.) Murder, 20; intent to murder, 12; rape, 9; carnally knowing a girl under the age of 10 years, 3; total, 44.

- (2.) Sittings of the Public Works Committee:—*Mr. Haynes*, for *Mr. Affleck*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact, as stated by *Mr. Rose* at Bundanoon, on Friday last, that the Public Works Committee cost 50 guineas per sitting of one hour; if not, what is the average cost per sitting since the appointment of the present Committee?
 (2.) What is the average number of hours per sitting during the time they have held meetings in Sydney since their appointment?
 (3.) How many sittings has this Committee held in Sydney since their appointment to date?
 (4.) Have they held any forenoon sittings since their appointment; if so, how many, and how many hours at each sitting?
 (5.) Do the Committee count a forenoon and an afternoon sitting two separate sittings, and charge accordingly?
 (6.) What was the average number of hours at each sitting in Sydney by the Committees for the three years previous to the appointment of the present Committee?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Public Works Committee is not under my Department. I would advise my honorable friend to question the Chairman of the Committee.

- (3.) Permits for Travelling Stock:—*Dr. Ross*, for *Mr. M. T. Phillips*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) How are persons issuing travelling permits for stock appointed?
 (2.) Will he have any objection to give power to the Local Inspector of Stock or the Board of Sheep Directors in each district to appoint the officer in charge of police to issue travelling permits?
 (3.) Is it a fact that drovers of stock under 300 can make out their own statement, and go practically where they please?
 (4.) Will he cause all persons authorised to issue travelling permits of stock to forward a duplicate of such permit by registered letter to the Inspectors of Stock of the districts which they are to pass through?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) On the recommendation of the Local Board of Sheep Directors.
 (2.) Action is being taken in that direction by consulting the Local Boards. If there be no objection by the Police Department it will probably be carried out.
 (3.) The owner of less than 300 sheep can give his drover a "Travelling Statement" which allows him to travel to any specified destination. The same applies to cattle and horses, but without regard to number.
 (4.) They are expected to send notice to the Inspector when issuing a permit.

(4.)

7th July, 1896.

- (4.) "New South Wales the Mother Colony of the Australias"—Mr. Watkins asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Who translated the recently-published work "New South Wales the Mother Colony of the Australias" into French, and what was he paid for the work?
 - (2.) What number of copies of the French edition was printed?
 - (3.) The same information respecting the English edition?
 - (4.) What number of copies was sent to Great Britain and Europe of each edition, and what was charged for those copies?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) M. Albin Villeval, an officer in the Government Printing Office of nearly ten years standing. He was not paid anything for the work, but got six months leave instead of three months to which he was entitled.
 - (2.) 1,500 copies.
 - (3.) 3,500 copies.
 - (4.) 1,000 copies of the English and 1,100 copies of the French edition, to be distributed free of charge.
- (5.) Fees paid for Shorthand Writing in connection with Private Bills:—Mr. Schey, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Treasurer.—
- (1.) Is it a fact, in connection with private bills for the construction of tramways, bridges, irrigation works, &c., referred to Select Committees for consideration and report, that the *Hansard* shorthand writers are required to attend the Committees for the purpose of taking and transcribing a verbatim note of the evidence tendered?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that, for the attendance of the *Hansard* shorthand writers, the Government charge the promoters of these bills the sum of £2 2s. per day (or sitting), and 1s. per folio for transcription?
 - (3.) Are the moneys so earned by the *Hansard* staff paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund?
 - (4.) In view of the Premier's expressed intention during the recent motion of censure to put a stop to extravagant claims on the Government for shorthand work, does he propose to reduce the charges made by the Government against promoters of bills of the kind referred to?
- Mr. Reid answered,—The *Hansard* staff is not under the control of a Minister.
- (6.) Shorthand Writing in the Dean Case:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that Mr. Curnow employed another shorthand reporter to take down portions of Sir Julian Salomon's speeches in the late Dean case?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—Such is not a fact.
- (7.) Correspondence respecting Henry Thompson and Ah George in the Lazaret:—Mr. Schey, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table of this House all correspondence which has passed between Dr. Taylor, Superintendent at the Coast Hospital, or any other medical man and the Board of Health in connection with the two men Henry Thompson and Ah George, who are in the lazaret?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—These papers will be laid upon the Table of the House in compliance with the Order moved for by Mr. O'Reilly on the 1st instant.
- (8.) Maintenance of Country Roads:—Mr. Wood asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that, owing to the closing of all accounts on the 30th June last, no money is now available to carry on the necessary road works, and, further, that no money will be available for this purpose until the Estimates for 1896-97 have passed?
 - (2.) If that is so, what arrangements do the Government intend to make to provide for the maintenance of the roads of the Colony in the meantime?
- Mr. Reid answered,—No, it is not a fact.
- (9.) Appointment of Gardener to the Shaftesbury Reformatory:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a man named Tracey has been appointed gardener at or to the Shaftesbury Reformatory?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the amount of gardening to be done at that institution is so small that hitherto it has been done by the matron, a woman nearly 60 years of age, in a leisure hour?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Director of Government Asylums:—
- (1.) Tracey has been employed as attendant and gardener at the Shaftesbury Reformatory, and to do general work in connection with the institution, at which he is the only male official. He is now being transferred to another institution under the re-arrangement by the Public Service Board.
 - (2.) No, the matron has never worked in the garden.
- (10.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—Mr. McGowen, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Re the evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth and Co., is he aware that the figures supplied by the Collector of Customs, which he (the Colonial Treasurer) quoted during the debate upon the adjournment of the House, moved by Mr. Hughes, are contradictory, and that according to these figures the amount of shortage paid by Messrs. Tooth & Co., £508, does not nearly cover the amount due?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the amount surcharged represents 40,713 gallons beer, being six gallons each of added blend to 6,785 hogsheads, and one-half hogshead bottled. I may add that the sum paid covered the amount believed to be due, and the Customs authorities are still of opinion the sum due has been fully paid.

7th July, 1896.

- (11.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—*Mr. McGowen*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Why has *Mr. Powell* reckoned the shortage of duty on the part of Messrs. Tooth & Co. on the basis of 45 gallons to the hogshead?
 - (2.) Why was it not charged upon the 54 gallons contained in each hogshead?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1.) In bottling beer it is found that waste, sediment, and bursting of bottles leave an out-turn of from $21\frac{1}{2}$ to $23\frac{1}{2}$ dozens, or 43 to 47 gallons to the hogshead.
 - (2.) Beer for bottling is taken at 47 gallons to the hogshead, and at 51 gallons for beer delivered in bulk.
- (12.) Establishment of an Assay Office at Cobar:—*Mr. Schey*, for *Mr. Waddell*, asked the Secretary for Mines,— Will he, in view of the immense area of auriferous land in the Cobar district, have an assay office established in that town, where prospectors can have samples of stone quickly assayed, and the results made known to them?
- Mr. Gould* answered,—The Cobar District being connected with Sydney by railway, there can be very little difficulty in sending samples for assay, and the Department would not at present be justified in incurring the expense which the establishment of a separate office and staff of assayers would involve.
- (13.) Iron Clad Plant in the Cargo District:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—In view of the rich auriferous district of Cargo, will the Government take into consideration the proposal of purchasing the valuable Iron Clad plant belonging to *Mr. Dunn*, in the interest of miners in that locality?
- Mr. Gould* answered,—The Government do not intend to purchase the plant in question.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—
- (1.) The following Petitions,—representing that no system of local option can be complete or equitable without the incorporation of a well-defined plan of compensation for the confiscation of licenses; and praying the House to take the foregoing into serious consideration, with a view to the incorporation of a plan of compensation as aforesaid in any Bill introduced for the extension of local option,—were presented by the Members named:—
 - (1.) By *Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick*—From certain residents of Junee and District.
 - (2.) By *Mr. Chanter*—From certain residents of Yass and District.
 - (3.) By *Mr. Bull*—From certain residents of Goulburn and District.
 - (4.) By *Mr. Gormly*—From certain residents of Wagga Wagga and District.
 - (5.) By *Mr. Millen*—From certain residents of Bourke and District.
 - (6.) By *Mr. Bull*—From certain residents of Katoomba and District.
 Petitions received.
 - (2.) *Mr. Hogue* presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of The Glebe, referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation. Petition received.
3. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Reid* laid upon the Table,—Return of vessels entered at Port Jackson during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1896, whose heights are known to be 165 feet or over.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Young* laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 26th May, 1896,—“Contract of *Mr. Joseph Walsh*, for Wharf “at Broadwater.”
 - (2.) By-law in connection with *Shea’s Creek Stormwater Channel*, under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894.
 - (3.) Return to an Order, made on 19th May, 1896,—“Removal of *Mr. E. D. Dyson*, Roads “Superintendent, from the Public Works Department.”
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. HALF-HOLIDAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. McGowen* moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill for limiting the hours of work in factories and places of business. Question put and passed.
5. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Municipalities Act Amendment Bill postponed until Thursday next.
6. REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:—*Mr. Speaker* informed the House that he had received a letter from *Mr. Frank Farnell*, resigning his seat on the Refreshment Committee.
Mr. Reid (by consent) moved, without Notice, That *Mr. Farnell* be discharged from attendance upon this Committee.
Question put and passed.
7. CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY ACT OF 1889 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—*Mr. Knox* moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of *Mr. Knox*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of *Mr. Knox*, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

7th July, 1896.

8. AMENDED LIFE ASSURANCE ENCOURAGEMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Russell Jones moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Jones, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday, 18th August.

9. BILLS OF SALE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Russell Jones moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Point of Order:—Mr. Moore stated that, in his opinion, this Bill related to trade, and not having been introduced in a Committee of the Whole, as required by the 246th Standing Order, was improperly before the House.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the Bill did not affect any particular trade, nor did it affect matters relating to trade only, and had therefore been properly introduced.

Debate continued.

Question put.

The House divided:

Ayes, 39.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. See,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Haynes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Collins,	
Mr. Cam,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Russell Jones.
Mr. Storey,	

Noes, 22.

Mr. Wright,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Watkins.
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Fegan,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Smiles,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Davis,	
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. Dacey.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Jones, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday, 18th August.

10. USURY LIMITATION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to limit the charges for interest, bonus, or reward by persons lending money, and to regulate the rights and obligations of parties to bills of sale, assignments, or other securities over personal property, and the applicability thereto of the Acts relating to the distress for rent and bankruptcy, and for the protection of persons making or giving securities for loans.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to limit the charges for interest, bonus, or reward by persons lending money, and to regulate the rights and obligations of parties to bills of sale, assignments, or other securities over personal property, and the applicability thereto of the Acts relating to the distress for rent and bankruptcy, and for the protection of persons making or giving securities for loans.

On motion of Mr. McFarlane, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. McFarlane then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to limit the charges for interest, bonus, or reward by persons lending money, and to regulate the rights and obligations of parties to bills of sale, assignments, or other securities over personal property, and the applicability thereto of the Acts relating to the distresses for rent and bankruptcy, and for the protection of persons making or giving securities for loans.*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 13th October.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th July, 1896.

11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
12. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT ABOLITION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday, 13th October.
13. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Twelve o'clock, Midnight, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 26.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 8 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Employment of Mr. A. J. Brady, in the Military Department:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is a person named A. J. Brady employed in connection with the Military Department; and, if so, in what capacity?

(2.) Was this same person some time ago struck off the rolls for irregularities as a solicitor?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes, as clerk in the Military Pay Office.

(2.) I am informed he is not the same person.

(2.) Forage supplied at the Locksley Deviation Works:—Mr. Hurley asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners are taking forage from distant parts on to the works at the Locksley deviation, and supplying same to those engaged on the works?

(2.) Is he aware that forage equally as good may be purchased in the vicinity, grown by the settlers close to the works at Locksley?

(3.) If the Commissioners supply forage, will he see that the local growers are not placed at a disadvantage by the action of the Commissioners in bringing produce from other districts into competition with them?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that in order to facilitate the work on the Locksley deviation arrangements were made to lay in a stock of forage, which was supplied to men who had horses at cost price. The forage was obtained to the best advantage, the ordinary railway freight being in all cases paid.

(3.) Employment of Men at the Locksley Deviation:—Mr. Hurley asked the Colonial Treasurer,—How many men are employed in Mr. Suttor's office at the Locksley deviation; and what are their duties?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have to point out that the matter in question comes within the province of the Railway Commissioners, who properly control the detail working referred to.

(4.) Men Camped on the Reserve at St. Leonards:—Mr. Howarth asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he, in view of the impoverished condition of many of the men camped on the reserve at St. Leonards, extend to them the privilege of remaining there for some specified period of time, and subject to some special conditions, or will he permit them to camp on some other portion of the reserve?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This is a public recreation reserve, and trespassing on such reserves cannot be tolerated. The trespassers must remove, in order that the land may be used for the purposes for which it was reserved. If individual cases of extreme hardship are made known to me, I shall be glad to give a reasonable time for the trespassers to remove, but in no case longer than three months. No one will be permitted to remove to another portion of the reserve nor to camp thereon.

(5.) Appointment of Mr. Curran, at Rookwood Asylum:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is Mr. Peter Curran, the person appointed as attendant at Rookwood Asylum, the same Peter Curran who opposed Mr. Brunker at the late election?

(2.) When did the appointment take place?

(3.) What salary is he receiving?

(4.) What is the salary now paid to persons occupying similar positions?

(5.) Has Mr. Curran's salary been reduced by the Public Service Board?

Mr.

8th July, 1896.

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Director of Government Asylums:—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) December, 1895.
- (3.) £125 a year.
- (4.) There is not any person occupying a similar position at the Rookwood Asylum.
- (5.) No.

- (6.) Meat sold in Butchers' Shops in Sydney:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that numerous complaints are being made of meat sold in Sydney butcher shops for human consumption being found to have tumours and other diseased portions therein?
 - (2.) Will he call for a report on the subject?
 - (3.) Will he give instructions that the most rigid inspection shall be given to all meat intended for human food?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) This office has not heard of any complaints.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) As far as practicable at present such an inspection is carried out.

- (7.) Explosion of Boilers of Engines 496 and 437:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have any fresh regulations been issued by the Railway Department since the boiler explosions of engines 496 and 437, to minimise the risk of a recurrence of any other such accident?
 - (2.) If so, of what nature?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that no fresh regulations have been issued, and none are required; all that is necessary being, that the officers and men entrusted with the work in connection with engines shall carry out their duties thoroughly.

- (8.) Suspense Accounts:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—How many suspense accounts are now in operation, and the names of the same?

Mr. Reid answered,—Two—the “General Post Office New Street Resumption Account” and “Centennial Park Account.”

- (9.) The Financial Statement:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he give the House the following information in his financial statement:—

- (1.) The amount paid away in gratuities during the present year?
- (2.) The amount that will have to be voted for abatements?
- (3.) The additional drain per annum on the Civil Service Fund owing to enforced retirements?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will do what I can to satisfy the desire of the Honorable Member at the earliest possible period.

- (10.) Secretary of the Electoral Commission:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Did a gentleman named Walker act as Secretary to the Electoral Commission?
- (2.) If so, when was he appointed, and at what salary?
- (3.) Was an increase of salary refused by the Minister?
- (4.) Were the duties similar to those of secretary and shorthand-writer of a Royal Commission?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—No; but the late Mr. John Walker, then a clerk in the Electoral Office, was deputed to take notes of the proceedings of the Electoral Districts Commission from the 4th to 13th September, 1893.

- (11.) Shorthand-writer in the M'Sharry Arbitration Case:—Mr. Perry asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Who has been appointed shorthand writer in the M'Sharry arbitration case?
- (2.) Will he take steps to see that the work is not sublet?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by my honorable colleague the Attorney-General:—

- (1.) Messrs. Curnow and Jones.
- (2.) The matter is not within my control.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—

- (1.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Dugald Thomson—From certain inhabitants of North Sydney.
- (2.) By Mr. Mahony—From certain inhabitants of Camperdown and The Globe.
- (3.) By Mr. Jessep—From certain attendants of the Waverley Congregational Church.
- (4.) By Mr. Carruthers—From certain inhabitants of Rockdale and Arncliffe.

Petitions received.

- (2.) The following Petitions,—representing that no system of local option can be complete or equitable without the incorporation of a well-defined plan of compensation for the confiscation of licenses; and praying the House to take the foregoing into serious consideration, with a view to the incorporation of a plan of compensation as aforesaid in any Bill introduced for the extension of local option,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Copeland—From certain residents of Hillgrove and District.
- (2.) By Mr. Parkes—From certain residents of Sutherland and District.
- (3.) By Mr. Waddell—From certain residents of Nyngan and District.
- (4.) By Mr. Collins—From certain residents of Narrabri and District.
- (5.) By Mr. Barnes—From certain residents of Gundagai and District.
- (6.) By Mr. Hassall—From certain residents of Bingara and District.

(7.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th July, 1896.

- (7.) By *Mr. Chapman*, for *Mr. Mackay*—From certain residents of Harden and District.
 (8.) By *Mr. Waddell*—From certain residents of Coonamble and District.
 (9.) By *Mr. Robert Jones*—From certain residents of Mudgee and District.
 (10.) By *Mr. Haynes*—From certain residents of Wellington and District.
 (11.) By *Mr. Reymond*—From certain residents of Parkes and District.
 (12.) By *Mr. Waddell*—From certain residents of Nevertire and District.
 (13.) By *Mr. Robert Jones*—From certain residents of Merrindee and District.
 (14.) By *Mr. Reymond*—From certain residents of Forbes and District.
 (15.) By *Mr. Barnes*—From certain residents of Temora and District.
 (16.) By *Mr. Waddell*—From certain residents of Warren and District.
 (17.) By *Mr. Robert Jones*—From certain residents of Lincoln and District.
 (18.) By *Mr. Copeland*—From certain residents of Uralla and District.
 (19.) By *Mr. Gillies*—From certain residents of Singleton and District.
 (20.) By *Mr. Gillies*—From certain residents of Morpeth and District.
 Petitions received.
3. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Petitions,—representing that Petitioners will be seriously affected by the clause in the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill, which extends the distance in respect of which property may be rated for the purposes of water supply to four hundred and forty yards from the water-pipes of the Board; and praying that the said clause may be omitted, or, if inserted, that Petitioners may be exempted from its operation,—were presented by the Members named:—
 (1.) By *Mr. H. H. Brown*—From certain property-owners and residents of Louth Park, Oakhampton, Bolwarra, Midlorn, Glenarvon, Liddesdale, and adjacent farming localities near Maitland.
 (2.) By *Mr. Gillies*—From certain property-owners and residents of the same localities.
 Petitions received.
4. CASE OF STAFF-SERGEANT W. JIFFKINS:—*Mr. Waddell* (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Return to an Order, "Suspension of Staff Colour-Sergeant William Jiffkins, Volunteer "Permanent Staff," of Session 1892-3, and the Report, together with Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Select Committee on "Case of Staff-Sergeant W. Jiffkins," of Session 1894, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on the subject.
 Question put and passed.
5. SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1895-6 AND PREVIOUS YEARS:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by *Mr. Reid*, and read by *Mr. Speaker*:—
By Deputation from His Excellency.
 FREDK. M. DARLEY, *Message No. 23.*
Lieutenant-Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the Year 1895-6 and for previous years.
Government House,
Sydney, 7th July, 1896.
- Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates, and referred to the Committee of Supply.
6. CONDITIONAL PURCHASERS RELIEF BILL:—*Mr. Speaker* reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated the 26th June, 1896, in reference to the Conditional Purchasers Relief Bill, does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's amendment upon the Council's amendment in this Bill.
Legislative Council Chamber, JOHN LACKEY,
Sydney, 8th July, 1896. President.
7. STATE CHILDREN RELIEF BILL:—*Mr. Speaker* reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "An Act to amend an Act to establish a system of Boarding-out Children,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber, JOHN LACKEY,
Sydney, 8th July, 1896. President.
- Bill, on motion of *Dr. Graham*, read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 21st July.
8. PAPER:—*Mr. Speaker* laid upon the Table.—A copy of a Minute of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council, authorising the transfer of an amount from one item to supplement the vote for another item of expenditure in connection with the Treasury Department.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
9. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) Church of England Property Act of 1889 Further Amendment Bill; third reading;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Law Practitioners Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.

8th July, 1896.

10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wallsend, Mr. Watkins, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The immediate necessity of the Government introducing a Bill to provide for compulsory arbitration.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Watkins moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
11. WATER RIGHTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 9 JULY, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
- The House adjourned accordingly, at Twenty minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 27.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 9 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Polling-place at Tooloom Township:—Mr. Pyers asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the polling-place at Tooloom township, The Richmond Electorate, has been cancelled, and a polling-place made at Tooloom Station, 8 miles distant?

(2.) If so, on whose report was the alteration made?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) That of the Returning Officer.

(2.) Marine Board Reform Bill:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Did he promise a deputation some time ago to introduce without delay the Navigation and Marine Board Reform Bill; and, if so, when does he propose to proceed with the measure?

Mr. Reid answered,—I did not promise to introduce the Bill referred to "without delay," but did say I would endeavour to get the Bill through this Session. I will proceed with the measure when other more urgent matters permit.

(3.) Contract for Construction of Tank at Wahroongah:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the contractors for the construction of a tank at Wahroongah, in connection with the Northern Suburbs Water Supply, violated the terms of contract by subletting?

(2.) What is the penalty provided in specifications for such subletting, and is it the intention of the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage to enforce such penalty?

(3.) Have the claims of two men named Bennie and Goard, in respect of such contract, been before the Board for some months; and, if so, what is their intention in regard to same?

Mr. Young answered,—The Board of Water Supply and Sewerage has furnished me with the following Answers:—

(1.) No sanction was given to contractors to sublet any portion of the contract.

(2.) General conditions of contract provide a penalty of £50 as and for liquidated damages; and such sum may be deducted by the Board. The contract has not been finally settled up yet.

(3.) The Board is informed that persons referred to can have their claim satisfied whenever they choose to call on contractors for same. As contract is not yet settled up, the outstanding claim must be satisfied, if reasonable, before final payment will be made. I am, however, making further inquiries in the matter.

(4.) Wages of Road Maintenance Men:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it a fact that at the end of a month there is always due to road maintenance men two months' salary; if so, why is every month's salary not paid at the end of the month?

Mr. Young answered,—It is not a fact, as the practice of the Department is to pay all maintenance wages to credit of Road Superintendents for payment to the men at the end of each month, or within the week following, and I am not aware of one instance where this rule has been departed from.

(5.) Retrenched and Temporary Officers appointed by the Public Service Board:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many officers recommended by the Income and Land Tax Commissioners have been appointed by the Public Service Board?

(2.) How many temporary hands recently in the Electoral and Statistician's Offices and otherwise have been appointed, and will he give their names?

(3.)

9th July, 1896.

(3.) Were any of the said temporary hands recommended by the Land and Income Tax Commissioners; if not, by whom were they recommended?

(4.) If these temporary hands have been appointed in direct opposition to his promises that retrenched officers would have the preference, will he instruct the Public Service Board that such be carried into effect, this having been considered by the Land and Income Tax Commissioners?

Mr. Reid answered,—Perhaps the Honorable Member will move for the information in the usual way. I may add, however, the Public Service Board have laid down a rule for their guidance that where temporary assistance is required in any branch of the Public Service, and such assistance cannot be obtained from other Departments, the first chance shall be given to officers retrenched by them. This rule has been applied to the Taxation Office, and after the list of retrenched officers has been exhausted the Board will give preference to persons formerly employed preparing for the Land Tax, whose services were dispensed with in February last, and then to persons formerly employed in the Public Service. In all cases the officers to be employed must prove themselves qualified.

(6.) Locomotive Engines:—Mr. Sehey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Have the Railway Commissioners recently imported some new locomotive engines?

(2.) If so, how many have been ordered, and how many have already arrived?

(3.) What is their classification letter, and what is their weight per engine ready for a journey?

(4.) What is their cost per engine in steam in Sydney?

(5.) Was it not possible to alleviate a portion of the terrible distress now existing by having these engines built wholly or in part in New South Wales?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that the Railway Commissioners have recently imported five locomotives.

(3.) Classification, "T" class. The weight per engine in working order is 65½ tons, and of the tender 4½ tons, when full of coal and water.

(4.) £3,720 each.

(5.) No; the last attempts to build outside the Government workshops failed, and were productive of great loss, and the Government workshops are not able to undertake such work as at present arranged.

(7.) Railway Charges on Wheat from Sydney and Newcastle:—Mr. Wright asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any rebate on existing railway rates for wheat on the down journey from either Sydney, Newcastle, or other places, been allowed to any persons?

(2.) If so, will he give the names of such persons or firm to whom such rebate has been made, and the amount of same in each case?

(3.) The like information with respect to flour and its offal on the up journey?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) This should be moved for in the form of a return in the usual way.

(8.) The Mercadool Land Case:—*Mr. Cann*, for Mr. Black, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Does he intend to take any action consequent on the statement made by Geo. Bates, a witness in the Mercadool case, that he "had previously selected on the Pullamong Run in the interests of the "lessee"?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The matter is under reference to the Crown Law Officers.

(9.) Stock crossing the Queensland Border into New South Wales:—Mr. Cruickshank asked the Secretary for Mines,—Considering the very conflicting reports from Queensland regarding the spread of tick among stock, will he take immediate steps to prohibit any stock from crossing the Queensland border into New South Wales for a period of (say) six months?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is not considered desirable at present to prohibit the importation of stock from all parts of Queensland, but the question of further restricting the territory from which cattle can be sent into this Colony is now under consideration. I may assure the Honorable Member that every necessary precaution is being taken to prevent the introduction of the disease into this Colony.

(10.) Leases of the Sydney Harbour Collieries Company:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Did the suspension of labour conditions in regard to leases of Sydney Harbour, granted to the Sydney Harbour Collieries Company, expire on the 20th June, and is the company still failing to carry out labour conditions on its leases?

(2.) What area is held by the company, and how many men should be employed in terms of lease?

(3.) How many suspensions have already been granted to the company, and for how long?

(4.) In view of the strongly-expressed opinions of Members of the House on this subject, is it his intention to cancel leases held by this company if not complying with labour conditions?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Government having refused to grant wharfage accommodation in the vicinity of Bradley's Head, the company represented that they are endeavouring to secure accommodation of the kind in some other locality, and applied for a further suspension for three months, which has been approved. The total area under authorities to mine under the sea level is 10,168 acres, for which the Government receive as rental £508 19s. per annum, and requires the employment of eighteen men. The area of the lease is 6 acres, and requires the employment of six men. On the authorities three suspensions of three months each, including one now current, have been granted. One suspension only has been granted on the lease.

(11.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th July, 1896.

(11.) Men employed at the Locksley Deviation:—Mr. Hurley asked the Colonial Treasurer,—How many men are employed in Mr. Suttor's office at the Locksley deviation; and what are their duties? Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the following official staff are engaged under the Resident Engineer on the Locksley deviation, viz.:—A clerk at £110 per annum; an officer at 12s. per day, who has charge of the stores, and acts as paymaster in paying off men; and an outside time-keeper at 7s. 6d. per day, who also assists at busy times in the office. As many as 615 men have been engaged on the work and 191 horses.

(12.) Assessment of Rents of Special Areas by the Land Board:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Ewing, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he allow those holders of special areas who desire their holdings to be reappraised, but who did not comply with the regulations, an opportunity of having their rents assessed by the Land Board?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I have no power to do this, which is beyond the law.

(13.) Railway Bridge across the Parramatta River:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Travers Jones, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Why was the report of Mr. Engineer Howarth on the railway bridge across the Parramatta River omitted from the papers laid upon the Table of this House on 16th June, 1896?

(2.) Will he have that report laid upon the Table without delay?

Mr. Young answered,—The Honorable Member probably refers to the report of Mr. Dalgard, which was erroneously mentioned by Mr. Firth, in one of the reports already laid upon the Table, as being by Mr. Howarth. The report of Mr. Dalgard was laid upon the Table with the other papers. Mr. Howarth, who is a draftsman working under the Engineer-in-Chief for Railway Construction, did, however, make certain calculations to enable Mr. Deane to report upon the bridge in question; but it is not usual to publish communications of this kind between a subordinate officer and his chief, and the result of this investigation, not being made an official document, was not with the papers, and, consequently, could not have been laid upon the Table with the other papers. A final inspection and report has not yet been made on the suitability of the bridge to carry traffic.

(14.) Fees paid to Dr. Tidswell on visit to Parkes:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What amount of fees, including travelling expenses, were paid to Dr. Tidswell for his visit to Parkes to report on the late typhoid fever epidemic and the insanitary state of the town of Parkes?

(2.) The number of days he was employed?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Medical Adviser to the Government:—

(1.) Dr. Tidswell is a salaried officer of the Board of Health, and will receive the usual travelling allowance authorised to be paid to officers of his class.

(4.) Four.

(15.) Tasmanian Apples:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that large quantities of apples from Tasmania are coming into New South Wales affected with a disease known as tusicladium dendriticum, or Tasmanian black-spot?

(2.) If not, will he make inquiries with the view of drawing the attention of the Tasmanian Government to the same?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I understand that such apples have come into the Colony, and the only way of stopping their importation is by means of legislation. A draft Bill has been prepared, and it is the intention of the Government to bring it before Parliament at the first opportunity during the present Session.

(16.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was the refund of £53 11s. granted to Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Limited) on bottled beer or bulk?

(2.) Was it in bottles when the Custom House officer examined it?

(3.) Was the amount of rebate calculated on the basis of bottled or bulk beer?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) On bottled beer filled from the bottles into hogsheads.

(2.) Yes—in bottle and in hogsheads.

(3.) On the actual quantity of bottled beer returned into hogsheads.

(17.) Appointment of Matron at the Hawkesbury College:—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has a Mrs. W. Richardson, of Bathurst, been appointed matron of Hawkesbury College, or appointed to any position in that institution?

(2.) If so, by whom was she appointed—by the Minister or by the Public Service Board, and what is her salary?

(3.) Were there no persons recently discharged from the Public Service suitable for the position above mentioned?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—There was considerable difficulty in filling this position, as it is essential the person appointed should be possessed of mature judgment in dealing with students in cases of sickness, and be thoroughly competent to supervise the housekeeping of a large establishment of the kind. Mrs. Richardson was considered the most eligible person for the post, and was offered it on the recommendation of the Principal of the College as far back as March last, but she then declined to accept it. Efforts were subsequently made to secure the services of a suitable person, and the Public Service Board offered the position to a lady recently retired from the Public Service, who it was thought would give satisfaction in the performance of the duties, but after visiting the College, and ascertaining the nature of the responsibilities to be undertaken, she refused it. The place has therefore been vacant for some months past, and great inconvenience has been caused in consequence. Mrs. Richardson having reconsidered her determination and agreed to accept the place, and as a special case the Public Service Board gave their consent to her temporary appointment at a salary of £72 per annum.

9th July, 1896.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—

(1.) The following Petitions,—representing that no system of local option can be complete or equitable without the incorporation of a well-defined plan of compensation for the confiscation of licenses; and praying the House to take the foregoing into serious consideration, with a view to the incorporation of a plan of compensation as aforesaid in any Bill introduced for the extension of local option,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. Leven—From certain residents of Tamworth and District.

(2.) By Mr. Cruickshank—From certain residents of Inverell and District.

(3.) By Mr. Haynes, for Mr. Newman—From certain residents of Kelso and District.

(4.) By Mr. Haynes, for Mr. Newman—From certain residents of Orange and District.
Petitions received.

(2.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. Ashton—From certain inhabitants of Hay.

(2.) By Mr. Jessep—From William Crispin, Chairman of "Morning Star" Division, Sons and Daughters of Temperance.
Petitions received.

3. CASE OF STAFF-SERGEANT W. JIFFKINS :—Mr. Waddell presented a Petition from William Jiffkins, of Sydney, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon his dismissal; and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.

Petition received.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Eighth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY ACT OF 1889 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Ashton, for Mr. Knox, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Ashton then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "An Act to amend the 'Church of England Property Act of 1889 Amendment Act of 1892.'"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Church of England Property Act of 1889 Amendment Act of 1892,'"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 9th July, 1896.

6. BAIL RECOGNIZANCES, SURETIES, AND JUSTIFICATION BONDS ENTERED INTO AT WATER POLICE COURT (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all bail recognizances, and sureties, together with justification bonds, entered into at the Water Police Court, Sydney, for the month of December, 1895.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 10.

Mr. Miller,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Morgan.

Tellers,

Mr. Fegan,
Mr. E. M. Clark.

Noes, 67.

Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Leven,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Brunner,
Mr. Raymond,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. McElhone,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Pyers,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Henry Clarke,

Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Greene,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Asbeck,

Mr. Young,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Collins,
Mr. Haynes,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.

Tellers,

Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Cann.

And so it passed in the negative.

7. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Watkins moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers in connection with the recent election for a member to sit upon the Hunter River Water Board for the suburban municipalities; also copies of all correspondence that passed between Mr. H. Rushton, one of the candidates, and the Honorable Secretary for Public Works; also between Mr. A. Brown, ex-President of the Board, and the Honorable the Secretary for Public Works.
Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th July, 1896.

8. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The Government Orders of the Day, Nos. 1 and 4 to 14, postponed until Wednesday next.
9. **DOG ACT FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL** :—Mr. Crick moved, That the Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill be discharged.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.
10. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Nevertire to Warren*)** :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the proposed railway from Nevertire to Warren, as referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Crick moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.
11. **SUPPLY** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows :—
(1.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £139 Os. 7d., to defray supplementary charge under the head “Services of 1895-6—Legislative Council and “Assembly.”
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
12. **WAYS AND MEANS (*Financial Statement*)** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
13. **PAPERS** :—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Consolidated Revenue Fund—Statement showing the position of the Account for 1895 and previous years, on 30th June, 1896.
(2.) Estimates of the Ways and Means of the Government of New South Wales for the year 1896-7.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
14. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at two minutes before Eleven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 28.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 14 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has the Attorney-General had under his consideration the claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens, made on the 4th October, 1894?

(2.) Was this claim in regard to an action on a case in which the police prosecuted two men for robbing Mr. Stephens of a quantity of goods, and in which he was called as a Crown witness?

(3.) Did the value of the goods stolen from Mr. Stephens amount to about £150?

(4.) Was the value of the goods recovered less than £30?

(5.) Does Mr. Stephens now claim from the Crown a sum exceeding £90, the cost of defending an action against him by one of the persons prosecuted by the police, and acquitted in regard to the robbery?

(6.) Will he consult with the Attorney-General, and, for the information of Members, lay upon the Table of this House the whole of the papers and police reports in connection with the prosecution of Sugarman and Fernandez, the prisoners in the case, and the claim of Mr. Stephens?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The claim was for £90 10s. 3d., the costs stated to have been incurred by him in defending an action brought against him by Louis Sugarman for false imprisonment. Sugarman was one of two men prosecuted by the police for stealing goods belonging to Mr. Stephens, who was called as a witness for the prosecution.

(3 and 4.) Mr. Stephens estimates the value of the goods stolen at £150, but I am not aware of the value of the stuff recovered.

(5.) Yes, as stated in the reply to Question No. 2.

(6.) This matter has been under the consideration of both Mr. Heydon and Mr. Simpson while holding the office of Attorney-General, neither of whom recognised any liability whatever on the part of the Crown in respect of Mr. Stephens' claims. There will be no objection to lay the papers upon the Table of the House if moved for in the usual way.

(2.) The Sydney University :—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. Lee, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) What is the total amount of money received by the University from public funds during 1895?

(2.) How much has the State paid for University purposes from the time the University was established up to the present?

(3.) Has the Senate of the University the sole control of the expenditure of the money thus received?

(4.) Is it true that only the graduates and teachers of the University are entitled to elect the members of Senate?

(5.) Is it true that some of the present members of the Senate are also salaried officers of the University; if so, how many, and what are their names?

(6.) Is the Government in any way represented on the University Senate; if not, is the University Senate as at present constituted, which places the control of the University practically in the hands of the graduates resident in Sydney, satisfactory?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) £12,309 7s. 11d.

(2.) Total, £635,052 6s. 1d.

(3.) Yes, as regards general endowment, not buildings.

(4.)

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(4.) The legally-qualified voters are Fellows of the Senate for the time being, Professors, Teachers, and Examiners in the Schools of the University, Principals of Incorporated Colleges within the University, Superior Officers of the University declared to be such by by-law, graduates holding the Degree of Master or Doctor, and Bachelors of three years standing.

(5.) Yes. *Four* appointed under the provisions of section 2 of 24 Vic. No. 13, which provides that there shall not be fewer than three nor more than six *ex-officio* members who shall be Professors in such branches of learning as the Senate shall from time to time by any by-law in that behalf select, viz.:—Professor Gurney (Mathematics), Professor Pitt Cobbett (Law), Professor Anderson Stuart (Physiology), Professor Liversidge (Chemistry). *One* elected by Convocation, Professor Butler. Total, *five*.

(6.) (a) No. (b) It would seem desirable that everyone entitled to vote, whether resident in city or country, should have facilities for so doing.

(3.) Retirements in the Post and Telegraph Departments:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has the Public Service Commission retired from the Post and Telegraph Department wives of officers employed in the Department?

(2.) Have they allowed to be retained in the Service as post and telegraph mistresses married women whose husbands are employed outside the Service, and who are in receipt of good salaries?

(3.) If so, what is the difference between retaining women with husbands outside the Service and dismissing those whose husbands are employed in the Service?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Two postmistresses in charge of important suburban offices have been retired. The husband of one of these is an officer of the Postal and Electric Telegraph Department, the husband of the other being employed in the Railway Department. Besides these, forty-five postmasters' wives receiving small salaries have been retired—not because their husbands are employed in the Service, but because their services were not required.

(2 and 3.) It is possible that some married women "whose husbands are employed outside the service" may have been retained, but that would not be contrary to the provisions of the Public Service Act.

(4.) Friendly Societies:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill dealing with Friendly Societies this Session?

(2.) If so, is he prepared to accept suggestions and recommendations from representatives of Friendly Societies?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The necessity for the introduction of a Bill dealing with Friendly Societies has long been felt, and the matter will have full consideration. The Government will have no objection to receive suggestions from representatives of Friendly Societies.

(5.) Local Option Bill:—Mr. Affleck asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) When does he propose to introduce the Local Option Bill?

(2.) Is the Bill yet ready for introduction to this House?

Mr. Cook answered,—In a few days.

(6.) Railway Concessions to Sydney Firms:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any concession in the railway rates, as published, been allowed to any person or persons for the conveyance of goods; if so, who are the persons, what is the amount of concession allowed, and what is the reason for such allowance?

(2.) Is any person or persons allowed a free pass for the purpose of obtaining orders for any merchant or firm in Sydney; if so, who are the merchants or firms that get this concession, and by what rule or for what reason is this concession granted?

(3.) Are the Commissioners or Government aware whether there is any person other than Members of Parliament holding a travelling pass by virtue of official position?

(4.) Are any such making use of such pass to obtain orders for any merchant or firm in Sydney; if so, will he give the name or names of such person or persons, and the firms they are obtaining orders for?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that no such abuse of concessions as is indicated is known to exist, but I would suggest to the Honorable Member that he should communicate with the Railway Commissioners on the matter.

(7.) Sporting Agency under the name of "Wintle":—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a sporting agency in the city, under the name of "Wintle," is in the habit of receiving telegrams from racecourses containing the names of scratched horses, for the purpose of distribution among the various betting-shops in the city?

(2.) Is it a fact that special facilities are given by the telegraph operators in the Department for the prompt delivery of these telegrams?

(3.) Will he inquire if this information is obtained for the purpose of defrauding the public by altering totalisator results, and receiving money in bets at excessive odds upon horses that are not starting in races at all?

(4.) Will he take steps to prevent telegrams of this kind being forwarded for the purposes referred to?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) It was reported to me some days since that telegrams signed N. P. A. (Newspaper Press Association) were handed in at the racecourse addressed to a person named Wintle.

(2.) No.

(3.) I cannot state the object of these telegrams.

(4.) I did so at once on learning that the messages were not sent by a representative or on the authority of the Newspaper Press Association. (8.)

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- (8.) Reward for Payable Gold:—Mr. Hurley asked the Secretary for Mines,—In view of his recent notification of a Government reward for the discovery of a payable gold-field distant not less than 10 miles from the nearest payable gold workings, will he notify a reward of half the amount, under similar conditions, for the discovery of a like payable gold-field distant not less than 5 miles from the nearest payable gold workings?
- Mr. Cook answered,—The limit of distance already provided is considered sufficiently liberal to encourage prospecting for new fields.
- (9.) Post Office Report for 1895:—Mr. Affleck asked the Postmaster-General,—When will the report of the Postal Department for the year 1895 be in the hands of the Members of this House?
- Mr. Cook answered,—Probably this report will be ready for presentation to Parliament in about a fortnight.
- (10.) Postmasters in Country Districts:—Mr. Perry asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Are postmasters now graded on a salary according to the revenue of their offices?
 - (2.) Is the postmaster at Mount Victoria graded above the revenue-standard of the office?
 - (3.) What is the revenue from each of the following offices:—Mount Victoria, Braidwood, Wollongong, Kiama, Blayney, Carcoar, Ashfield, Moss Vale, and Manly?
 - (4.) What salary is paid to the postmasters at each of above places?
 - (5.) Will he ascertain the reasons (if any) why the postmaster at Mount Victoria is graded higher than the postmasters at the other abovementioned places?
- Mr. Cook answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I am not aware of the system adopted by the Public Service Board in grading officers.
 - (3 and 4.) These particulars will be found in a return which I will presently lay upon the Table.
 - (5.) This is a Question which should be asked of the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer, who is the Minister directly in communication with the Board.
- (11.) Land for Settlement on Moonagee Holding:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What is causing the delay in throwing open land for settlement on Moonagee holding?
 - (2.) When will this land be thrown open for settlement?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) The delay is caused by the whole of the Crown lands on this holding being affected by a proposal for exchange, which is now being dealt with.
 - (2.) So soon as this exchange has been completed the available Crown lands will be thrown open to settlement.
- (12.) Mr. A. C. Fraser's Paper on Prison Administration:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. Levien, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. A. C. Fraser, the late Under Secretary for Justice, shortly before his retirement from the Service, submitted to the Government a paper calling attention to the defects of the system of prison administration in New South Wales, and the recommendations made recently by a Departmental Committee in England and accepted by the Prison Board of England for prison reform, and suggesting that those recommendations should be considered by the Government, with a view to similar reforms being adopted in this Colony?
 - (2.) If such a paper exists, will the Government lay a copy of it upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. Gould answered,—The late Under Secretary of Justice, Mr. A. C. Fraser, submitted to me, in the beginning of last month, a lengthy paper inviting attention to the recommendations made by the Departmental Committee on Prisons in England (which had, to a certain extent, been approved of by the Board of Prisons Commissioners), with a view to their adoption by the Prisons Department of this Colony. That paper has been referred by me to the late Comptroller-General of Prisons for his views, and when all the papers are ready, if they be moved for in the usual manner, there will be no objection to laying them upon the Table of this House.
- (13.) Long Bay Road:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. Levien, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is the Long Bay Road under the Roads Department, or included in any municipality; and, if so, in which?
 - (2.) Is he aware that portions of it, especially between the cemetery and Phillip's-place, are in a very bad state of repair?
 - (3.) If he is not aware of the fact, will he have inquiries made, and, if found to be correct, give directions for repairs to be made?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) The road is within the municipality of Randwick.
 - (2.) I am informed the road is in a state of disrepair.
 - (3.) The responsibility of maintaining this road rests with the Randwick municipality.
- (14.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of all correspondence, papers, and vouchers in connection with the alleged evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Limited), and the obtaining of a rebate of £53 11s. by that firm?
- Mr. Reid answered,—Yes, if moved for in the usual way. I may add, that I have referred the matter of the refund in question to the Crown Solicitor for his opinion.
- (15.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duties Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) How does he account for the discrepancy between the figures supplied by Mr. Powell, and read by the Colonial Treasurer in the House during the debate upon the motion for adjournment moved by Mr. Hughes, in connection with Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Limited)?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the percentage of Ward's blend was there set down as 25 per cent. on all bottled beer; that Mr. Powell states that Messrs. Tooth & Co. have been charged an additional amount

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amount upon 25 per cent. of all their bottlings from January, 1891, to August, 1894; and thus upon this basis Mr. Powell declares that there has been 68,714 gallons which ought to pay duty, while, according to the Minister's reply to Mr. Hughes, of 3rd July, the amount was only 40,713 gallons, and the percentage only 12 per cent. ?

(3.) Can he explain these discrepancies ?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have received the following information from the Customs authorities :—

(1.) It is not admitted that there is a discrepancy.
 (2.) The statement made by the Collector was—"Tooths' say that Ward made and was paid for 1,462 hogsheads of blend, equal to 68,714 gallons." The blend was used—994 hogsheads by Mr. Ward, in bottling; 343 hogsheads were mixed in the brewery with bulk beer, which was duly stamped when delivered; 125 hogsheads remained in stock, and, being ullaged, were repacked into 45 hogsheads, and stamped as dutiable beer; total, 1,462 hogsheads of blend. The account "A," furnished by the Collector, debits Tooth & Co. with 6,785½ hogsheads, each 45 gallons = 305,347 gallons, to which is added 1,696 hogsheads of Ward's blend, each 45 gallons = 76,320 gallons, or 25 per cent.

(3.) Explained above.

(16.) Royal Commission on charges made by Mr. Parkes, M.P. :—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How long has the Commission appointed to inquire into the charges made by Mr. Varney Parkes been sitting ?

(2.) Has an extension of time beyond the two months for which it was appointed been granted; and, if so, for how long ?

(3.) What professional assistance has been given or promised to Mr. Parkes at the expense of the Government ?

(4.) What has been the cost of this professional assistance to date; and what, if any, has been laid down as the limit of its cost ?

(5.) What professional assistance has been given or promised to Mr. Hickson at the expense of the Government ?

(6.) What has been the cost of this professional assistance to date; and what, if any, has been laid down as the limit of its cost ?

(7.) What has been the total cost of this inquiry to date ?

(8.) When is it expected the inquiry will be brought to a close ?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Since 21st May last. There have been twenty-two sittings.

(2.) His Honor the Commissioner has applied for an extension of his Commission for a period of one month, which has been granted, and Executive authority has been applied for.

(3 and 4.) I promised to pay the expenses of the services of an expert engaged by Mr. Parkes, the total expense not to exceed £200.

(5 and 6.) No such promise made to Mr. Hickson.

(7.) An advance of £100 for the services of the Commission has been expended to date as follows :—Witnesses' expenses, £65 16s. 6d.; salaries of typewriter and messenger, £13 7s. 1d.; extra type-writing for appendices, £14 15s. 10d.; petty cash, £13 5s. 6d.

(8.) It is impossible to state even the probable duration of the inquiry.

(17.) Wages of Workmen Employed by Surveyors :—Mr. Wilks asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact, as published in the *Government Gazette* of 16th June, that a regulation, made under the Public Service Act, 1895, is in operation affecting the wages of workmen employed by surveyors ?

(2.) If so, under what authority are the Commissioners empowered to regulate the wages of any workmen employed in the Public Service at a daily rate ?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Under section 19 (sub-section 1) of the Public Service Act of 1895.

(18.) Overhead Bridge at Nyngan Railway Station :—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners to erect an overhead bridge across the railway line at the Nyngan Railway Station ?

(2.) If so, when will the work be commenced ?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes; and a deputation that waited upon the Commissioners at Nyngan on the 9th June was so informed.

(2.) As soon as possible, consistent with the orders preceding it being executed.

(19.) Recreation Reserve, Deniliquin :—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will copies of papers relating to the application of residents of Deniliquin for a recreation reserve adjoining the police paddock, ordered by the House on 14th May, 1896, be laid upon the Table of this House ?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—To-morrow.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—

(1.) The following Petitions,—representing that no system of local option can be complete or equitable without the incorporation of a well-defined plan of compensation for the confiscation of licenses; and praying the House to take the foregoing into serious consideration, with a view to the incorporation of a plan of compensation as aforesaid in any Bill introduced for the extension of local option,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. Nicholson—From certain residents of Kiama and District.

(2.) By Mr. Nicholson—From certain residents of Bulli and District.

Petitions received.

(2.)

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- (2.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. E. Clarke—From certain inhabitants of Gladstone.
 - (2.) By Mr. Newman—From certain inhabitants of Orange.
 - (3.) By Mr. Kelly—From certain inhabitants of Murwillumbah and District.
 - (4.) By Mr. T. R. Smith—From certain inhabitants of the Municipal District of Mulgoa.
 - (5.) By Mr. Newman—From certain inhabitants of Borenore.
 - (6.) By Mr. Simeon Phillips—From certain inhabitants of Dubbo.
 - (7.) By Mr. Kelly—From certain inhabitants of Murwillumbah.
 - (8.) By Mr. E. Clarke—From certain inhabitants of Beechwood.
- Petitions received.
3. PHARMACY BILL:—Mr. Molesworth presented a Petition from certain residents of New South Wales, representing that the Poisons Act is altogether insufficient and faulty; and praying that a Pharmacy Bill on the lines indicated in their Petition may be passed into law during the present Session.
Petition received.
4. AGE OF CONSENT:—Mr. Simeon Phillips presented a Petition from certain residents of Dubbo, representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years.
Petition received.
5. CONDITIONAL PURCHASERS RELIEF BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- HAMPDEN, Message No. 24.
Governor.
- A Bill, intituled "*An Act to further promote settlement on lands conditionally purchased from the Crown by providing for the reduction of the annual payments in respect thereof, and for the reduction of the rate of interest now payable upon certain conditional purchases; to make further provision for the conversion of conditional purchases and conditional leases into homestead selections; and to effect such amendments in such statutes as may be necessary for the aforesaid purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.
- Government House,
Sydney, 14th July, 1896.*
6. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Amended Regulation under the "Public Service Act of 1895."
 - (2.) Statement showing the cost of certain articles supplied to the Government of New South Wales, under contract, as compared with that of similar articles supplied to the Government of Victoria, also under contract.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Amended Drainage By-laws in connection with—(a) Long Cove Creek, Leichhardt, Ashfield, and Petersham Drain; (b) Willoughby Falls Creek and Neutral Bay Storm Drains, under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894.
 - (2.) Report of the Department of Public Works from 1st January, 1894, to 30th June, 1895.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Amended Regulations for private telephone lines.
 - (2.) Return respecting revenue derived from, and salaries paid to, postmasters at certain post and telegraph offices.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY TUNNEL-ROADWAY BILL:—Mr. Parkes, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 1st July, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Parkes then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 27th October.
Question put and passed.
8. RESUMPTIONS FOR WHARVES, WOOLLOOMOOLOO BAY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The cost of resumptions in regard to the wharf extensions at the eastern side of Woolloomooloo Bay.
 - (2.) The probable cost of making reclamations and for other purposes in connection with these wharves.
 - (3.) The probable shipping traffic expected for so large an expenditure of public money.
Question put and passed.

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9. **INSANITARY STATE OF THE TOWN OF FORBES** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reymond moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a copy of Dr. Tidswell's report on the insanitary state of the town of Forbes.
Question put and passed.
10. **ANNUAL LEASES OF OWEN MCCOSKER, COPE'S CREEK**:—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the granting to Owen McCosker of annual leases Nos. 12,238 and 12,244.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Copeland, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Waddell, and the Mover.
(3.) That the Return to an Order, "Cope's Creek Preferential Occupation License," laid upon the Table of this House on 25th June, 1896, be referred to such Committee.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
11. **LESSON BOOKS USED IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**:—Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the educational requirements of this country demand a larger measure of recognition of Australian History, Biography, Literature, Science, and local subjects generally than is to be found in the reading books at present in use in the Public Schools of the Colony.
(2.) That, as far as is practicable, all lesson books and copy books in use in the Public Schools should be compiled and printed within the Colony.
(3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
12. **SUPPLIES FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE**:—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice,—That, in the opinion of this House, all supplies for the Government Service should be "procured in" New South Wales.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Chanter moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "procured in" and inserting the words "as far as is practicable the products or manufactures of" instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate continued.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
And Mr. Hughes desiring to move an amendment upon the proposed amendment,—
Mr. Speaker ruled that it was not relevant.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—
put and passed.
Question, as amended,—That, in the opinion of this House, all supplies for the Government Service should be, as far as is practicable, the products or manufactures of New South Wales,—put and passed.
13. **PAPER**:—Mr. Gattard laid upon the Table,—Report of the Nautical School-ship "Sobraon" for the year ended 30th April, 1896.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
14. **JUDGES RELATIONS PRACTISING AS ADVOCATES PREVENTION BILL**:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prevent relations of Judges from practising as advocates in Courts presided over by such Judges.
Question put and passed.
15. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at seven minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 29.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 15 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Existence of Disease known as "Scab"—Mr. Hassall asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Is he aware that rumours are in circulation to the effect that the disease known as "scab" is still existent in New Zealand?
 (2.) Will he cause inquiry to be made as to whether such is the case or not?
 (3.) In view of the large numbers of sheep annually sent over here for sale, will he see that every precaution is taken to prevent the introduction of the disease in question?
 (4.) Should there be any doubt on the matter, will he consider the advisability of having all imported sheep dipped in Sydney before they are distributed through the Colony?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am in receipt of a telegram to-day from New Zealand stating there is no truth in the statement that the disease exists in that Colony.

(3.) Each sheep from this Colony is separately examined by the officers of the Department before it is allowed to land, and no trace of any disease has been discovered in any of the sheep admitted.

(4.) There would not seem to be any necessity for this at present, as every precaution is taken before the sheep are allowed to be distributed in this Colony, and the various Colonies are, moreover, under an obligation to report at once to each other immediately any disease manifests itself. No intimation of the kind has been received from New Zealand.

- (2.) Registration of Certificates of Marriage :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that a number of marriages are in danger of being invalidated through the laxity of celebrants in not transmitting the certificates to the Registrar-General?

Mr. Brunner answered,—So far as can be ascertained there are no marriages in danger of being invalidated through laxity of celebrants in transmitting the certificates to the Registrar-General. Some years ago there were one or two instances in which the officiating minister did not transmit the certificates according to the regulations, but with exception of about three all the certificates in these instances have since been transmitted.

- (3.) Parliamentary Allowance to Mr. L. C. Russell Jones :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has the Honorable Member for Petersham, Mr. Russell Jones, abstained from drawing the whole of his Parliamentary allowance; if so, to what extent?

Mr. Reid answered,—Mr. Lewellyn Charles Russell Jones has always drawn the full amount of his Parliamentary allowance.

- (4.) Tram-cars :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it upon the score of economy that the tram-cars are not kept properly painted and varnished?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the cars are kept properly painted, and in far better condition than was ever the case formerly.

- (5.) Purchase of Seed-grain :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has the expenditure involved in purchasing seed-grain been defrayed from the Consolidated Revenue?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Certainly. I am surprised at the Honorable Member asking such a Question, in view of the fact that he was one of the first to ask for a supply of seed-wheat to the farmers in the district he represents.

(6.)

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- (6.) Cost of conveying the Unemployed :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—To what account has he debited the cost of conveying the unemployed to various parts of the Colony, per rail, during the year 1895-96 ?
Mr. Reid answered,—To the Appropriation for the service under Labour and Industry, 1895-6.
- (7.) Bail Bonds in Case Regina v. Crick, Meagher, and others :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House the bail and justification bonds entered into at the Water Police Court in connection with the prosecution, Regina v. Crick, Meagher, and others, in October and November last ; also those in connection with the prosecution, Regina v. Deacon, entered into at the same Court in December and January last ?
Mr. Gould answered,—There will be no objection to lay upon the Table of this House copies of the documents in question, if they be moved for in the usual manner.
- (8.) Forage supplied at the Locksley Deviation Works :—Mr. Hurley asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Did the Railway Commissioners call for public tenders for the supply of forage, such forage to be supplied to the men who had horses on the Locksley deviation ?
(2.) Who supplied the Railway Commissioners with the forage for the Locksley deviation works ?
Mr. Reid answered,—
(1.) I am informed that quotations were called for in the district, and also at Orange, Wellington, and Sydney, for forage, and the most favourable were accepted ?
(2.) The supply has been obtained from three separate firms, viz., Messrs. Webb & Co. and Caples & Co., Bathurst, and Messrs. Freeman & Co., Locksley.
- (9.) Report of the Public Service Board :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Is he aware that, on the 19th of May, he replied to a Question asked by Mr. Affleck by saying the Public Service Board report would be furnished in a very few weeks ?
(2.) When will this report be in the hands of Members for their information ?
Mr. Reid answered,—The report will be laid upon the Table of the House when it has been received from the Public Service Board. I cannot yet say when that will be.
- (10.) Payments to Guardians of State Children :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Is it a fact that about 1,500 guardians of boarded-out State children in all parts of the Colony have not received any payments from the State during this year ?
(2.) If so, will he see that the payments of these moneys are expedited ?
(3.) Is it a fact that a horse and cow were purchased ten months ago for the farm in connection with the State Children's Cottage at Mittagong, and that they have not yet been paid for ?
Mr. Brunker answered,—My reply to the Honorable Member's Questions is "No." I am also informed by the Director of Charities that the statements made to the Honorable Member on which these Questions are based are absolutely false.
- (11.) Issue of Elector's Rights by Electoral Registrars :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Is he aware that many hundreds of men are disfranchised because they cannot get to the Electoral Registrar's offices for their rights during the only hours such offices are open, viz., from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. ?
(2.) Is it not a fact that for some time city and suburban Registrars' offices were opened on certain nights in each week ?
(3.) Why was the evening opportunity abolished ?
(4.) In view of the fact that new rolls are to be completed during this current month of July, will he issue orders that all Registrars' of city and suburban electorates shall be in their offices at least one night in each week ?
Mr. Brunker answered,—
(1.) No.
(2.) Yes ; twice a week, from 6 to 9 p.m., for five months.
(3.) On account of the small number of rights issued, the average for forty-one electorates for a period of three months being only 6.43. In eighteen populous districts, including eight Sydney divisions, a total of twenty-eight rights only were issued.
(4.) This does not appear desirable in view of the facts just stated.
- (12.) Country Gaols :—Mr. Reymond asked the Minister of Justice,—
(1.) Is it a fact that some country gaols are to be closed shortly ?
(2.) If so, which gaols are to be closed ?
Mr. Gould answered,—It is not at present intended to close any of the country gaols, but the question of an alteration in the direction of more economical management of some of them is under consideration.
- (13.) Settlement and Improvement Leases on Gold-field Reserves :—Mr. Lee asked the Secretary for Mines,—
(1.) Is he aware that land within mineral and gold-field reserves is being let by the Department of Lands under settlement and improvement leases ?
(2.) Will the issue of such leases preclude mining thereon under the existing Mining Acts ?
(3.) If not, what arrangements have been made to preserve the right to mine on such leases under the Mining Acts referred to ?
Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Such leases are issued, but a reservation is provided in them giving full power to the Government to authorise any person to work, win, and remove all minerals from the land defined in the Mining Act of 1889.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th July, 1896.

- (14.) Proportion of Population subject to Land and Income Taxes:—Mr. Collins asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What was the probable number of the adult population in New South Wales on the 1st of January, 1896?
 - (2.) What is the number of persons who are liable to taxation under the Land Tax Act?
 - (3.) What is the number of persons who are liable to taxation under the Income Tax Act?
 - (4.) What is the number of persons who own land in the Colony and who are exempt from land taxation?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Adult population (21 years and over) of New South Wales on 1st January, 1896—Males, 364,182; females, 271,678; total, 635,860.
 - (2.) Number not available at present.
 - (3.) 16,321 (approximate), subject to amendment owing to special calls for returns.
 - (4.) Number not available at present.
- (15.) Fees to Members of Royal Commission on Coal Mines Regulation Bill:—Mr. Chapman asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What fees were paid to the members of the Royal Commission on the Coal Mines Regulation Bill at per sitting, and total amount?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that at the first meeting a resolution was carried defining the hours of each sitting?
 - (3.) If so, is it a fact that in a number of instances the Commissioners charged and were paid for two sittings which were held within the hours fixed by the resolution defining the hours of sitting?
 - (4.) If so, will he take steps to obtain a refund of these overcharges?
- Mr. Reid answered,—This Question should be addressed to the Honorable the Chief Secretary, in whose Department Royal Commissions are included.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Jessep—From certain members of the "Star of Hope" Tent, No. 81, I.O. Rechabites, Waverley.
 - (2.) By Mr. Wood, for Mr. Mackay—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 - (3.) By Mr. Jessep—From certain Sons and Daughters of Temperance and Friends, of Tamworth. Petitions received.
3. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 19th May, 1896,—“Cancellation of annual lease, parish of “Boree-Cabonne.”
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 14th May, 1896,—“Recreation Reserve, Deniliquin—Claim of “Mr. J. S. Braim.”
 - (3.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 101st section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (4.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (5.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (6.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 25th June, 1896,—“Pitfall at “Merewether, Newcastle.”
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of June, 1896.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. STANDARD TIME ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
- MR. SPEAKER,—
- The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “*An Act to amend the Standard Time Act of 1894*,”—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.
- Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 15th July, 1896.
- JOHN LACKEY,
President.

STANDARD TIME ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 15th July, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 2, line 9. *Omit* “passing” *insert* “commencement”

Page 1, clause 2, line 11. *After* “Sturt” *omit* remainder of clause, *insert* “in respect of—

“ (a) sections twenty-four, twenty-six, and sixty-three of the Licensing Act of 1882,
“ and such other provisions of the Licensing Acts, 1882-1883, as relate to the hours
“ between which licensees may keep their premises open for the sale of liquor, sell and
“ dispose of liquor, and permit liquor to be drunk or consumed on their premises ;

“ (b)

15th July, 1896.

- “(b) sections two and three of the Billiard and Bagatelle Licensing Act of 1882;
 “(c) section seventy-nine of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893,
 “and section five of the Municipalities Act of 1867 Amendment Act of 1888, and
 “such other provisions of the said Acts as relate to the hours at which the polling
 “or voting at elections shall commence and close.”

Page 1, clause 3, lines 18 and 19. *Omit* “so far as the Acts referred to in the last preceding section and the Act fiftieth Victoria number twenty-four are concerned” *insert* “in respect of the enactments referred to in the last preceding section.”

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
 Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

5. INTERNATIONAL PATENTS ARRANGEMENTS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883.
 Question put and passed.
6. APPLICATIONS FOR OYSTER LEASES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The applications for oyster leases during the present year.
 (2.) The names of those granted and refused, and the reasons for granting or refusing the various leases applied for.
 Question put and passed.
7. WATER RIGHTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.
 Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being a Quorum present, the Committee resumed.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

8. ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1896-7:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Garrard, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 25.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales for the year 1896-7.

Government House,

Sydney, 15th July, 1896.

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

The House adjourned, at eighteen minutes before Twelve o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
 Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
 Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 30.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 16 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Slaughter-yards of Mr. Ferguson, at Peakhurst :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mounted-Constable Bennett, of Newtown, has objected to the slaughter-yards of Mr. Ferguson, of Peakhurst, as being too near the boilers and digesters?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that these slaughter-yards are no nearer the boilers and digesters than those at Auburn?
 - (3.) If so, why is objection raised?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the slaughter-yards of Mr. Ferguson are outside of any municipality, and more than 2 miles from any railway station or centre of population?
 - (5.) Under the circumstances, and considering that Mr. Ferguson has laid out considerable capital on his premises, and is prepared to employ a number of men, why have the police interfered in these matters?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police :—

- (1.) Yes; but not alone on the grounds mentioned.
- (2 and 3.) Auburn not being in Senior-constable Bennett's district, he has no knowledge of the slaughter-yard arrangements there, but inquiry will be made.
- (4.) Yes; but the Act does not exempt slaughter-yards so situated from its operation.
- (5.) Senior-constable Bennett's action in the matter is authorised by the 11th and 12th sections of the Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act. Mr. Ferguson applied for a license in December last, but not having complied with the conditions of the Act, it could not be issued. He then withdrew his application, in order that he might bring his premises within the requirement of the law. He has not, however, repeated his application.

- (2.) Fees paid to Members of the Royal Commission on Coal Mines Regulation Bill :—Mr. Chapman asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What fees were paid to the members of the Royal Commission on the Coal Mines Regulation Bill at per sitting, and total amount?
- (2.) Is it a fact that at the first meeting a resolution was carried defining the hours of each sitting?
- (3.) If so, is it a fact that in a number of instances the Commissioners charged and were paid for two sittings which were held within the hours fixed by the resolution defining the hours of sitting?
- (4.) If so, will he take steps to obtain a refund of these overcharges?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following are the particulars of the vouchers :—

F. E. Rogers, Q. C., President, 54 sittings, at £12 12s.	...	...	£680 8s.
James Curley, Member, 54 sittings, at £7 7s.	...	...	£396 18s.
Jesse Gregson, Member, 54 sittings, at £7 7s.	...	...	£396 18s.

With reference to the remaining Questions, I am obtaining a report from the President of the Commission, and hope to lay it upon the Table of the House on Tuesday next.

- (3.) Locomotive Branches of the Railways and Tramways :—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the condition of employment in the Locomotive Branches of the Railways and Tramways, as gazetted, state—(a) That firemen must always commence in the third class, after serving as cleaners or having had experience on other railways; (b) that firemen are not eligible to promotion to drivers until after twelve months' service in first class?
- (2.) Have these conditions been departed from?
- (3.) If so, when?
- (4.) What was the cause for such departure?

Mr.

16th July, 1896.

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the conditions are as stated, but in a few instances, where exceptional circumstances prevailed, a slight departure has been made from the conditions referred to. In one instance in the Railway Locomotive Branch an exception was made in favour of the appointment of a fireman, who had been engaged in special services, and had previous experience as a railway engine-driver; and in the tramways several promotions were made from second-class firemen to drivers, owing to men in the first-class being unable to satisfactorily pass the necessary examination.

(4.) Case of William Cresswell:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Regarding reply to a Question of Mr. Fitzpatrick's some week's since, when the Colonial Secretary stated that "Thomas Cresswell saw his brother frequently at Parramatta, recognised him, and was recognised," is it a fact—(1) that Thomas Cresswell made an affidavit in England to the effect that the photo. of one John Oswell, then dead, was that of his brother, William Cresswell; (2) that, on coming to Australia, he saw William Cresswell, not "frequently," but twice, and was not then recognised by him; (3) that he absolutely failed, as was shown by Mr. Justice Manning's judgment and remarks in the Equity Court in 1884, to prove William Cresswell to be his brother, the application for the former's release being refused?

(2.) Is it a fact that William Cresswell has all of the special birth and accidental marks which Roger Doughty Tichbourne was known to possess?

(3.) In view of the importance of once and for all determining the actual identity of William Cresswell, and of settling the question, will he cause William Cresswell to be examined by one, two, or three independent medical practitioners, so that the existence or otherwise of the special and characteristic marks above alluded to may be disclosed?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) (1) I have no knowledge of any affidavit made in England by Thomas Cresswell; (2) the answer formerly given is correct; (3) the application for William Cresswell's release, which was refused by Mr. Justice Manning, was made by a man named Orton, not Cresswell.

(2.) I have no knowledge of the special birth and accidental marks on Roger Doughty Tichborne.

(3.) I do not consider that examination by two or three independent medical practitioners would determine the actual identity of William Cresswell, or settle the question, and I cannot see my way to order such examination.

(5.) Purchase of Pictures for the Art Gallery:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that in the discharge of his duties a Trustee of the Art Gallery has paid himself for pictures of his own production?

(2.) If so, will he say whether he is prepared to advise the retirement of Mr. Ashton from the Trust, it having been officially stated that a number of his pictures had been purchased by himself and his co-Trustees?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) No; the Trustee referred to was not present during the selections at the competitive exhibitions.

(2.) As stated by me on the 24th June, I can see no necessity, at present, for taking the steps suggested by the Honorable Member, as no pictures have been purchased from Mr. Ashton since 1893.

(6.) Locomotive Engines:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Since the boiler explosion of engines 496 and 437, is it a fact that the steam-pressure has been reduced on a number of engines—(a) Have the M class, suburban engines, been so treated; what is the life of these engines? (b) Have the P class, express engines, been so treated; what is the life of these engines? (c) Have the I and B class, goods engines, been so treated; what is the life of these engines?

Mr. Reid answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will postpone this Question until Tuesday next.

(7.) Carriage of Newspapers by Railway Department:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does he include in his revenue returns for 1895-96 the amount credited to the Railway Department for carrying newspapers?

(2.) If yes, how does he reconcile such a transaction with his cash basis system of keeping the accounts?

(3.) What amount was allowed to the Commissioners for carrying newspapers for the past year?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) Nothing is included in the revenue returns, so far as the Treasury is concerned, excepting cash receipts.

(3.) £2,500.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—

(1.) The following Petitions,—representing that no system of local option can be complete or equitable without the incorporation of a well-defined plan of compensation for the confiscation of licenses; and praying the House to take the foregoing into serious consideration, with a view to the incorporation of a plan of compensation as aforesaid in any Bill introduced for the extension of local option,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. FitzGerald—From certain residents of Wingen and District.

(2.) By Mr. FitzGerald—From certain residents of Muswellbrook and District.

(3.) By Mr. FitzGerald—From certain residents of Scone and District.

(4.) By Mr. Bull—From the United Licensed Victuallers' Association of New South Wales.

Petitions received.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (2.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Lithgow.
 - (2.) By Mr. Watson—From certain inhabitants of Temora and District.
 - (3.) By Mr. Watson—From certain inhabitants of Temora and District.
- Petitions received.
3. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Amended Estimates of the Ways and Means of the Government of New South Wales for the year 1896-7. [*To be substituted for those laid upon the Table on 9th July, 1896.*]
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for Public School purposes at Beecroft, Burrill, Cundletown, Menah, and Newport.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. AGE OF CONSENT:—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Simeon Phillips—From certain residents of Dubbo.
 - (2.) By Mr. A. B. Piddington—From certain residents of Tamworth.
- Petitions received.
5. MOREYA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Millard, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 1st July, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Millard then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.
Question put and passed.
6. SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL:—Mr. E. M. Clark, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 25th June, 1896; together with Appendix and a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Clark then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.
Question put and passed.
7. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Plans relating to the proposed Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station. [*To be substituted for those marked 2 and 3, laid upon the Table with the Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works on 20th May, 1896.*]
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Ninth Report from the Printing Committee.
9. DISMISSAL OF CONSTABLE WHEALY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Jessep, for Mr. Affleck, moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers and medical certificates in connection with the dismissal of Constable Whealy.
Question put and passed.
10. REBATE ON RAILWAY RATES FOR CARRIAGE OF WHEAT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Wright moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return giving the names of persons or firms who have received rebates on the existing railway rates for the carriage of wheat on the down journey from either Sydney or Newcastle, and the amount of such rebates paid to each person or firm, and the like information on flour and its offal on the up journey.
Question put and passed.
11. POSTPONEMENTS:—Mr. Reid moved, That Government Orders of the Day, Nos. 3 and 4, be postponed, and stand after Order No. 5 for to-day.
Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.
Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only seven Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.
The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Miller, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Edden, Mr. E. M. Clark, and Mr. Griffith.
12. PARKES' FAMILY GRANT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments,—
Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had given consideration to the Council's amendments in this Bill, and, although it was undoubtedly a Money Bill, yet the amendments were not of such a character as this House had generally dissented from. The amendments appeared to him to have been made only to give clearer and more definite effect to the intention of the Legislative Assembly.
Whereupon

16th July, 1896.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to give effect to a resolution of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes by grants out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund to a trustee for the above purposes,*" including the amendments in the Title—such amendments having been made to give effect to the intention of the Legislative Assembly; but desires that its agreement may not be drawn into a precedent, so as to warrant any supposition that the Assembly has waived any of its undoubted rights and privileges.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th July, 1896.*

13. **FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garrard moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
14. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Nevertire to Warren*):**—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Young, "That it is expedient that the proposed railway from Nevertire to Warren, as referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out."
And the Question being again proposed,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 17 JULY, 1896, A.M.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only six Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz. :—Mr. Gillies, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Edden, and Mr. Dick.

The House adjourned, at fourteen minutes after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 31.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 21 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

PARKES' FAMILY GRANT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 26.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make provision for the widow and children of the late Sir Henry Parkes by grants out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 18th July, 1896.

2. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Fees charged by Mr. Palmer, Official Assignee:—Mr. Hughes asked the Minister of Justice,—Under what authority has Mr. W. H. Palmer or his solicitor power to charge fees for the production or exhibition of any documents against which there is no lien, and which the bankrupt was merely holding in safe custody?

Mr. Gould answered,—Careful inquiry has been made into this matter, and it would appear that neither Mr. Palmer nor his solicitor ought to make any charge for the simple production or exhibition of any documents against which there is no lien, and which the bankrupt was merely holding in safe custody, and this, there is every assurance, they have never done; but a small fee has fairly been charged for a special search into the history of individual cases to ascertain on what terms any deeds were held. The extraordinary conduct of the bankrupt Davidson (out of the administration of whose estate this and a previous question have arisen) and the mass of papers have caused great confusion, and if individuals cannot wait until all the deeds have been tabulated, and their position ascertained, the extra cost of making searches should not be thrown upon the general estate.

- (2.) Postage on Letters from Croydon to St. Mary's:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that letters sent from Croydon to St. Mary's are liable to a 2d. stamp, also Paddington and other suburbs, although these suburbs are within the 1d. postage area?

(2.) Is it a fact that a Mr. Tomson, of Erskine Park, St. Mary's, was charged 2d. fine each on letters sent from the above places?

(3.) If so, will he give instructions to the postmasters how to treat these letters?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) Croydon and St. Mary's being places within the radial area of 13 miles from Parramatta, letters are conveyed between them at the 1d. per half-ounce rate, but letters posted at Paddington and other suburbs of Sydney outside the Parramatta 13 miles radius for St. Mary's are chargeable with the 2d. per half-ounce rate.

(2.) It is reported that through an oversight a charge was marked upon certain letters for Mr. Tomson, but it was not collected.

(3.) Postmasters have been instructed.

(3.)

21st July, 1896.

- (3.) Explosion of Boilers, of Engines Nos. 496 and 437:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Since the boiler explosion of engines 496 and 437, is it a fact that the steam-pressure has been reduced on a number of engines—(a) Have the M class, suburban engines, been so treated; what is the life of these engines? (b) Have the P class, express engines, been so treated; what is the life of these engines? (c) Have the I and B class, goods engines, been so treated; what is the life of these engines?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that since the failure of the fire-box roof plates of engine No. 437, the engines referred to, with the exception of the P class, have been reduced in pressure pending examination. The engines have been in use five years. Two of the P class, which are of the compound type and were running with a pressure of 180 lb., have been reduced to 160 lb., the standard pressure for this class. The remaining forty-eight engines of this class have not been reduced in pressure. The engines have been in work three and four and a half years respectively.

- (4.) Cockatoo Island:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) The amount (or approximate amount) of public money that has been expended in the construction of Cockatoo Dock?
- (2.) The amount of annual revenue derived from same?
- (3.) The number of ships, man-of-war or otherwise, that are annually repaired in the same?
- (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to call for tenders for leasing or renting the same?
- (5.) Will he have steps taken to allow merchants' ships (as well as man-of-war vessels) to be repaired in the Cockatoo Dock?
- (6.) How many months in the year is the dock allowed to remain idle or unused?
- (7.) What is the annual cost of looking after the dock in salaries or otherwise?
- (8.) Are the fees obtained from the use of the dock sufficient to defray the interest on the capital expended in the erection of the dock, and what is the amount received?

Mr. Young answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the table of the House, if moved for in the usual way.

- (5.) Subletting of Contract at Kenmore Asylum:—Mr. Hughes asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the clause forbidding subletting on the contract at Kenmore Asylum has been violated, and the slating let by Messrs. Parry and Farley to Mr. G. Keith?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the Government Clerk of Works has been aware of this breach of contract; and, if so, has he reported same to the Minister?

Mr. Young answered,—It is not unusual to allow slating to be done under a sub-contract, and permission was given the contractors to do so on the condition that wages, not below the contract minimum rates, should be paid.

3. STATE CHILDREN RELIEF BILL:—The following Petitions,—representing that it is a serious defect in the otherwise excellent State Children Relief Act that no action has been taken under the provisions of the Act for boarding-out fatherless children to their own widowed mothers, where it is clearly shown they are worthy and capable but unable to pay for their maintenance; and that to deprive such mothers, who are left destitute, of the care of their own children is unnatural and cruel; and praying the House to so amend the present Act as to enable the administrators of it to place children, when they think it desirable, in charge of their own mothers,—were presented by Dr. Graham:—

- (1.) From A. M. Tait, Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of New South Wales.
- (2.) From William G. Taylor, President, Wesleyan Conference.
- (3.) From His Eminence, Cardinal Moran, Archbishop of Sydney.
- (4.) From the Office Bearers of the Benevolent Society.
- (5.) From the President and Honorary Secretary, Baptist Union of New South Wales.

Petitions received.

4. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Reymond—From certain inhabitants of Parkes.
- (2.) By Mr. Reymond—From certain inhabitants of Currajong, near Parkes.
- (3.) By Mr. Reymond—From certain inhabitants of Flagstone, near Parkes.
- (4.) By Mr. Greene—From certain inhabitants of West Wyalong.
- (5.) By Mr. Rose—From certain inhabitants of Marulan and surrounding District.

Petitions received.

5. NEVERTIRE TO WARREN RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 27.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 20th July, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

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21st July, 1896.

6. PAPERS:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bobundarah, county of Wallace, for a bridge over Woolway Creek.
 (2.) Return to an Order, made on 9th July, 1896,—“ Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board.”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
 Mr. Brunner laid upon the Table,—Statement of President of the Royal Commission on the Coal Mines Regulation Bill respecting fees paid to Members, &c.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. CLAIMS OF MR. THEOPHILUS STEPHENS—REGINA v. SUGARMAN AND FERNANDEZ (*Formal Motion*):—
 Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all the papers and police reports, together with the letters and claims of Mr. Theophilus Stephens, in connection with the prosecution Regina v. Sugarman and Fernandez.
 Question put and passed.
8. APPLICATION FOR MINING LEASE AT WOMBAT BY BALLARD, HONOUR, AND PARTY (*Formal Motion*):—
 Mr. Watson moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House the papers in connection with the application for a mining lease at Wombat by Ballard, Honour, and party.
 Question put and passed.
9. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Moruya Municipal Council Enabling Bill postponed until To-morrow.
10. STANDARD TIME ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Cann, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Cann, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—
 MR. PRESIDENT:—
 The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled “ *An Act to amend the Standard Time Act of 1894.*”
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st July, 1896.
11. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Parkes moved, That this “ Bill ” be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 14.

Mr. Fegan,
 Mr. Waddell,
 Mr. Wright,
 Mr. Hughes,
 Mr. James Thomson,
 Mr. E. M. Clark,
 Mr. Edden,
 Mr. O'Sullivan,
 Mr. Wilks,
 Mr. Affleck,
 Mr. Howarth,
 Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick.

Tellers.

Mr. Thomas,
 Mr. Watson.

Noes, 35.

Mr. Bull,
 Mr. Greene,
 Mr. Neild,
 Mr. Haynes,
 Mr. Bavister,
 Mr. Jessep,
 Mr. Cotton,
 Mr. Lonsdale,
 Mr. Dick,
 Mr. Reid,
 Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
 Mr. O'Reilly,
 Mr. Hawthorne,
 Mr. Parkes.

Tellers,
 Mr. Rigg,
 Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.

Mr. Crick,
 Mr. Lyne,
 Mr. Price,
 Mr. Perry,
 Mr. Garrard,
 Mr. Cook,
 Mr. Young,
 Mr. Brunner,
 Mr. McCourt,
 Mr. McFarlane,
 Dr. Ross,
 Mr. Hurley,
 Mr. Nelson,
 Mr. Chanter,
 Mr. Henry Clarke,
 Mr. M. T. Phillips,
 Mr. Anderson,
 Mr. Wheeler,
 Mr. Whiddon,

And so it passed in the negative.
 Debate on Main Question continued.
 Mr. Crick moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Thomas,
 Mr. Fegan,
 Mr. Crick,
 Mr. Wood,
 Mr. Hughes,
 Mr. McGowen,
 Mr. Watson,
 Mr. E. M. Clark,
 Mr. James Thomson,
 Mr. Wilks,
 Mr. Law,
 Mr. Affleck,
 Mr. McLean,
 Mr. Mahony,
 Mr. Mackay,

Mr. Ferguson,
 Mr. Edden,
 Mr. A. B. Piddington,
 Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
 Mr. Waddell.

Tellers,
 Mr. Macdonald,
 Mr. Watkins.

And so it passed in the negative.

Noes, 28.

Mr. Cook,
 Mr. Anderson,
 Mr. Parkes,
 Mr. Millard,
 Mr. Howarth,
 Mr. Greene,
 Mr. Millen,
 Mr. Hogue,
 Mr. Cotton,
 Mr. Newman,
 Mr. Hawthorne.

Tellers,
 Mr. Bavister,
 Mr. Haynes.

Mr. Chanter,
 Mr. M. T. Phillips,
 Mr. Lyne,
 Mr. Young,
 Mr. Jessep,
 Mr. Perry,
 Mr. Garrard,
 Mr. Molesworth,
 Mr. Brunner,
 Mr. Ball,
 Mr. McCourt,
 Mr. Hurley,
 Mr. Pyers,
 Mr. Nelson,
 Mr. McLaughlin,

Debate

21st July, 1896.

Debate on Main Question continued.

Mr. Millen moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "Bill," and inserting the words "be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.

"(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Crick, Mr. Greene, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Millen," instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

Question,—That the words proposed to be omitted stand part of the Question,—put, and Division called for,—but there not being Tellers on the part of the *Ayes*, no Division could be had, and Mr. Speaker declared the Question to have passed in the *negative*.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be inserted in the place of the words left out be so inserted.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.

Mr. M. T. Phillips,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Howarth,

Mr. McLean,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Hogue.

Tellers,

Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Perry.

Noes, 10.

Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Fegan.

Tellers,

Mr. Law,
Mr. Thomas.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question then,—

(1.) That this Bill be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Crick, Mr. Greene, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Millen,—put and passed.

12. SMALL DEBTS RECOVERY ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Affleck moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Crick submitted that the first proviso in clause 1, viz.—"Provided that any order attaching "any debt due from the Crown shall be served upon the Crown Solicitor, who shall be deemed "to be the garnishee,"—was outside the Order of Leave.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the objection taken was an argument against the Bill, but he did not think the proviso was out of order on the ground taken.

Debate continued.

Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 23.

Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Pyers,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. McLean,	<i>Tellers</i> ,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Millard,	Mr. M. T. Phillips.
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Wilks,	

Noes, 25.

Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. E. M. Clark.
Mr. Ferguson,	<i>Tellers</i> ,
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Millen.
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Hogue,	

And so it passed in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Affleck, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

13. SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, That this "Bill" be now read a second time.

Mr. Millen moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "Bill," and inserting the words "be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.

"(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Crick, Mr. Greene, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Millen," instead thereof.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived Question,—

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st July, 1896.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—
put and passed.

Question then,—

(1.) That this Bill be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Crick, Mr. Greene, Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Millen,—put and passed.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunner moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at four minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at
Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 32.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 22 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Pensions and Allowances to retired Civil Servants:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) What is the amount payable annually as pensions to officers retired by the Public Service Board?
 (2.) What is the amount of retiring allowances payable to officers retired by the Public Service Board?

Mr. Reid answered,—The papers in regard to each claim for pension or gratuity have to be prepared by each of the Departments concerned, and then transmitted to the Public Service Board. As soon as this is done, the amounts payable will be computed by the actuaries, and the information asked for supplied. Some weeks must necessarily elapse before the computations can be made.

- (2.) Stock Inspector at Forbes:—Mr. Carroll asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that the Stock Inspector at Forbes has been granted two months' leave of absence on full pay?
 (2.) Is it also a fact that this gentleman has been appointed a valuer under the Land Tax Department, and is during his leave making valuations for that Department?
 (3.) What amount is this gentleman paid as Stock Inspector?
 (4.) What amount will he receive as valuator?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) He has been granted six weeks leave, to which he was entitled under the Public Service Act.
 (2.) From inquiry made, I find he has been appointed a valuer under the Land Tax, but I am not aware his leave was asked for this purpose.
 (3.) £300 per annum.
 (4.) £125.

- (3.) Road Votes:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) What was the total amount voted for scheduled roads for 1895-96?
 (2.) What was the total amount of vote unexpended on the 30th of June last from the above-mentioned vote?
 (3.) Were there any vouchers sent in for payment up to the 27th of June last for roadwork done in accordance with the abovementioned vote, and not paid; if so, which was the amount unpaid?
 (4.) Is there any work now done which should have been paid out of the 1895-96 vote; if so, what is the amount, and does he propose to have the same revoted, or is it his intention to charge to and pay out of the 1896-97 vote the work completed, and which should have been paid for out of last year's vote?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) £303,923.
 (2.) Approximately £18,000.
 (3.) Yes, for wages, which, however, were not due until the close of the month and never paid in previous years until July; about £12,000. (This Answer has been supplied by the Honorable the Treasurer.)
 (4.) Work was let in 1895-6 which would more than absorb the 1895-6 vote, but as it was not completed before the 30th June, and a large part of it is still in progress, the payment will fall due in 1896-7, and become a charge upon 1896-7 votes.

- (4.) Postmen's Uniform:—Mr. Affleck asked the Postmaster-General,—
 (1.) What was the total amount of contract paid for the supply of the red coats for the use of postmen?
 (2.) What was the cost of each single coat when delivered in the Department?

Mr.

22nd July, 1896.

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) The amount already paid for red coats under the existing contract, which was entered into on the 1st January last for two years, is £122 12s. 4d.
- (2.) Scarlet cloth coats, for winter wear, cost 13s. 11d. each; scarlet serge coats, for summer wear, cost 8s. 5½d. each.

(5.) Appointments in the Gloucester Electorate under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act:—

Mr. Perry, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The names of the persons who have been appointed as valuers under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act in the Gloucester electorate?
- (2.) Were tenders called in every division; if, so, what was the amount of the various successful tenders?
- (3.) Did the lowest tenderers receive appointment in every case; if not, for what reasons were the lower tenders not accepted, and upon whose recommendations were the various appointments made?
- (4.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers bearing upon such appointments, tenders, &c.?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) J. M. Conroy, H. W. Flett, A. F. Hall, and J. S. Hart.
- (2.) Yes. £126 10s., £180, £82, and £195, respectively.
- (3.) No; the District Commissioner and the Government Land Valuer recommended the most suitable tenderers.
- (4.) Yes; if moved for in the usual way.

(6.) Case of the late Mr. M. S. Monteagrismi:—*Mr. F. Clarke*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) The names of the person or persons who put the law in motion in connection with the charges of embezzlement brought against the late Mr. M. S. Monteagrismi, in the matter of the A.J.S. Bank, and the information laid by Messrs. Dunn and Bramble in the Wort's Estate case and the A.J.S. Bank?
- (2.) Upon what representations, and at whose request, did Messrs. Bramble and Dunn lay an information in connection with this case; also character of representations made to Messrs. Dunn and Bramble?
- (3.) The name of the magistrate who issued the warrant, and the date of said warrant?
- (4.) Upon what date were representations made to the Inspector-General of Police, and the names of the person or persons interested in moving him in the matter?
- (5.) Is it a fact that either Inspector Lynch or Sub-Inspector Saunders visited Buldelah or Bungwall, and interviewed Messrs. Bramble and Dunn; if so upon what date, and at whose instigation; what was the reason for such visit and the nature of the interviews?
- (6.) Did either of the officers named induce Messrs. Bramble and Dunn to lay an information against the late Mr. Monteagrismi; if so, what was the reason, and by whose authority was this course adopted; also the nature of the representations made by the police officers to Messrs. Bramble and Dunn?
- (7.) Was a telegram forwarded by Sub-Inspector Saunders to the constable at Raymond Terrace, instructing that officer to arrest Mr. Monteagrismi prior to the warrant being received by Constable Steele; if so, what were the reasons for the adoption of this course, and by whose authority was this method of procedure taken?
- (8.) Were instructions forwarded by the Sub-Inspector at Newcastle to Constable Steele, at Raymond Terrace, by wire, to the following effect:—That the Crown required bail as follows: the late Mr. Monteagrismi in the sum of £300 and two securities of £150 each; if so, by whose authority were such instructions given?
- (9.) At what hour of the night was the late Mr. M. S. Monteagrismi arrested, and at what time did the magistrate attend the Court for the purpose of granting bail?
- (10.) Did the magistrate refuse to accede to the request of the police in the matter of bail, and reduce the amounts as follows, viz., the late Mr. Monteagrismi in £100 and two sureties in £50 each?
- (11.) Were representations made by any director of the A.J.S. Bank, or by the manager, secretary, or any other officer of the bank, to the Crown Law Officers or the Police Department; if not, were representations made by any other person in connection with this case; and, if so, the name of the person or persons, and the nature of such representations?
- (12.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers, reports, or interviews, &c., bearing upon the case of the late Mr. M. S. Monteagrismi?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—As the Answers to these Questions will take some time to prepare, I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for the papers in the case to be laid upon the Table of the House.

(7.) Schedules to the Estimates:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will the several Schedules to the Estimates be in the hands of Members for their use?

Mr. Reid answered,—These schedules are in course of preparation, and will be laid upon the Table of the House as soon as possible.

(8.) Export of Oranges by the Government:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Government intend to purchase some thousands of cases of oranges for the purpose of exporting the same as a trial shipment?
- (2.) If yes, will the Government purchase a number of hares from the Argyle electorate with a similar object?
- (3.) If no, what are the claims of the orange-growers to State aid above any other class of producers?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It has been decided upon the recommendation of the Board for Exports to send a trial shipment of oranges to England. This is being done as an experiment, and if it prove successful the Board will no doubt consider the advisability of sending other produce to the same market.

(9.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd July, 1896.

- (9.) Special Grant for Fever Ward, Molong Hospital :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
In view of the necessity for the erection of a "fever ward" in connection with the Molong Hospital, will he see that steps are taken to have a special grant of £150 placed on the Supplementary Estimates for that purpose?
Mr. Brunker answered,—The matter will receive attention when the Additional Estimates are under consideration.
- (10.) Trial Survey of Railway from Gregra to Cudal :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he yet caused a trial survey to be made of a light line of railway from Gregra to Cudal; if so, when will the matter be referred to the Public Works Committee for their report?
Mr. Young answered,—A trial survey has been made, and the question of referring it to the Public Works Committee is still under consideration.
- (11.) Dunn's Ironclad Claim at Cargo :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—
(1.) Has any decision yet been arrived at with regard to Dunn's Ironclad claim at Cargo?
(2.) How long have the labour conditions been under suspension, and, if a further extension has been granted, for what period?
Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The complaints made of non-work have been disallowed, and two months' suspension of labour has been granted from 2nd instant.
- (12.) Delivery of Letters at Post-office, Cobar :—Mr. Waddell asked the Postmaster-General,—
(1.) Has anything been done to provide better accommodation for the delivery of letters at the post-office, Cobar?
(2.) If not, is it his intention to have better accommodation provided?
Mr. Cook answered,—In July last I approved of certain alterations to the Cobar office being effected, but the Works Department represented that the design proposed would endanger one wall of the building. The matter was accordingly left to that Department to carry out, and I am informed that no officer has since had an opportunity of visiting Cobar, but that the matter will receive early attention.
- (13.) Registration of alleged Newspapers :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Postmaster-General,—
(1.) Is he aware of the fact that a number of alleged "newspapers," but which are nothing more nor less than mere price lists and advertising sheets issued by certain metropolitan firms, have secured registration, and, as a result, free carriage over the postal routes of the Colony?
(2.) Will he have this matter investigated, and the *bona-fides* or otherwise of all such publications determined?
Mr. Cook answered,—
(1.) I can only inform the Honorable Member that no newspapers are registered unless after careful scrutiny they are found to accord strictly with the conditions laid down in the 3rd and 4th sections of the Postage Acts Amendment Act of 1893.
(2.) The only way to deal with the matter is by fresh legislation, which will be undertaken as early as practicable.
- (14.) Case of Thomas Suffield, at Newcastle :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Justice,—
(1.) Have any steps been taken by the Cabinet as a whole, or himself individually, in the direction of effecting or recommending a reduction of the term of imprisonment inflicted upon Thomas Suffield, at Newcastle, some considerable time ago?
(2.) If not, will he consider the advisability, in view of the peculiar circumstances surrounding the whole case, of pursuing such a course?
Mr. Gould answered,—The case of the prisoner Suffield has received the fullest and most careful consideration, both by my predecessor (Mr. R. E. O'Connor) and myself; but, although the most searching inquiries have been made since the date of the prisoner's conviction, no material evidence of a reliable character has, on any of the many occasions on which the case has been brought forward, been submitted which would justify an inquiry under the 383rd section of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883," or any interference with the verdict of the jury. Every opportunity has been afforded the prisoner and his friends to bring forward new circumstances of any importance which were not before the jury at the time of the trial, but nothing justifying a re-opening of the case has been produced. Attempts have been made to cast doubts upon the credibility and respectability of the prosecutrix, but they have failed to disclose any facts which would prove her either to be untruthful or in any degree immoral or untrustworthy. Having devoted the greatest attention to this case in all its points, I am unable to see my way to make any recommendation for a present remission of the prisoner's sentence.
- (15.) Unpaid Vouchers on 30th June last :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he, before the close of the debate on the financial statement, state or lay before the House a return showing the total amount for which vouchers were lodged up to 30th June last, and which were not paid on that date, and are not included in the disbursements of the last financial year?
Mr. Reid answered,—The information applied for cannot be furnished, as no entry is made at the time vouchers are received at the Treasury, the only record being when they are actually passed for payment, a statement of which shows that about 500 vouchers were passed for payment during June, 1896, in excess of the number passed during the preceding month (May, 1896), and about 2,700 in excess of those passed for payment during the last month of the financial year ended 31st December, 1894.
- (16.) Grants to Volunteer Fire Brigades :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to recommend a grant of £1,000 for the purposes of a Volunteer Fire Brigade demonstration, to be held in Sydney in November next?
(2.) Whether, in view of the prevailing distress, this intention (if any) will be reconsidered?

22nd July, 1896.

- (3.) To what Volunteer Fire Brigades in New South Wales have grants of money or land been made during the twelve months ending the 30th June, 1896?
- (4.) The value of such grant in each case?
- (5.) What brigades have furnished statements showing the manner in which the money has been expended?
- (6.) Has the money been used for the purpose for which it was granted?
- (7.) What brigades have not furnished such statements?
- (8.) In the case of the brigades which have not furnished such statements, is it the intention of the Government to insist on their being supplied?
- (9.) Was the Fire Brigades Board, Sydney, consulted before grants of money or land were made to Volunteer Brigades in the Metropolitan District?
- (10.) Has the Fire Brigades Board (in its annual report presented to Parliament) protested against the indiscriminate granting of money or land to irresponsible bodies such as Volunteer Fire Brigades?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This information will take some time to prepare, and I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for a return in the usual way. I may say, however, with regard to Questions 1 and 2, an application was made to me by a deputation some time ago for £1,000 for the purpose of holding a demonstration in Sydney on the Prince of Wales' Birthday. I have not yet given a reply to the application; but from the reports of some of the country brigades which I have seen in the newspapers, it is my intention to refuse the application. I have learnt from the country brigades that they are not willing to come to Sydney, as they believe that they are quite as competent as the Sydney brigades to perform their duties.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Perry, for Mr. Levien—From certain residents of Quirindi.
- (2.) By Mr. Millard—From certain residents of Moruya.
- (3.) By Mr. Perry, for Mr. Levien—From certain residents of Spring Ridge and vicinity.

Petitions received.

3. STATE CHILDREN RELIEF BILL:—Dr. Graham presented a Petition from W. J. L. Closs, Chairman of the Congregational Union of New South Wales, representing that it is a serious defect in the otherwise excellent State Children Relief Act that no action has been taken under the provisions of the Act for boarding-out fatherless children to their own widowed mothers, where it is clearly shown they are worthy and capable but unable to pay for their maintenance; and that to deprive such mothers, who are left destitute, of the care of their own children is unnatural and cruel; and praying the House to so amend the present Act as to enable the administrators of it to place children, when they think it desirable, in charge of their own mothers.

Petition received.

4. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Cook, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 28.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to make provision in substitution for some, and in aid of other, provisions in the sale of Liquors Licensing Acts, as to the voting in respect of licenses, and to enable electors in electorates to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, or otherwise to have effectual control over the drink traffic within such areas.

Government House,

Sydney, 3rd June, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

5. CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY ACT OF 1889 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Church of England Property Act of 1889 Amendment Act of 1892,'"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 22nd July, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

6. RABBIT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Carruthers, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 29.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to make better provision for the destruction of rabbits; for the erection and maintenance, and to provide for contributions towards the expense of rabbit-proof fences; to constitute and define the powers and duties of Rabbit Boards; to enable rates to be imposed; to amend the Crown Lands Acts; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 22nd July, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd July, 1896.

7. ALLEGED EVASION OF THE BEER DUTY ACT BY MESSRS. TOOTH & CO. (LIMITED) (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all correspondence, papers, vouchers, &c., in connection with the alleged evasion of the Beer Duty Act and the obtaining of a rebate by Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Limited).
Question put and passed.
8. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Moruya Municipal Council Enabling Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 28th July.
(2.) Coal-mining Leases; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the disastrous results of the competition now existing in the coal trade, no more coal-mining leases should be issued for a period of twenty-five years";—until Tuesday, 13th October.
(3.) Law of Libel Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 27th October.
(4.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.
9. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plans, relating to the proposed additions to the Treasury Building.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
10. NARANDERA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 2nd July, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Gormly then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 15th September.
Question put and passed.
11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Deniliquin, Mr. Chanter, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The delay of the Department of Lands in proclaiming necessary roads open for traffic."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Chanter moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Point of Order:—Mr. Haynes objected to this discussion on the ground that it anticipated the consideration of the Order of the Day for the second reading of the Public Roads Bill, and he submitted to the Chair that it was out of order.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker ruled in favour of Mr. Haynes' objection.
12. PAPERS:—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Return to an Order, made on 3rd September, 1895,—"Appointments to the Civil Service."
(2.) Return to an Order, made on 25th June, 1896,—"Appointments to the Civil Service."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
13. REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the name of Mr. Anderson be added to the Refreshment Committee.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 56.

Noes, 2.

Mr. Bavister,	Dr. Graham,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Gould,	Dr. Ross,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Carruthiers,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Storey,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Sec,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Chapman.
Mr. Lee,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Gillies,	
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Russell Jones,	
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Millard,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

14. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
15. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at six minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 33.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 23 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Appointments made by the Public Service Board:—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many appointments to the several branches of the Civil Service have been made since the Public Service Board took office, exclusive of those persons who may have been transferred from one branch to another?

(2.) Will he supply a list of same, giving names of persons and offices to which they have been appointed?

Mr. Reid answered,—Presuming this Question refers to officers properly so called, there have been two appointments—Mr. H. Pollock, Secretary to the Attorney-General; Mrs. Richardson, Matron, Hawkesbury College. Two officers whose services are only partly at the disposal of the Government have also been appointed—Mr. Phillips, Pattern-maker, Technical College; Mr. Stewart, Teacher of Veterinary Science, Technical College. Besides these there have been various appointments of caretakers, &c., a list of which can be furnished if desired by the Honorable Member.

(2.) Reclassification in the Public Works Department:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the total amount saved by the reclassification in the Works Department by the Public Service Board Commission?

(2.) Previous to the classification by the Commissioners, who held the position of Commissioner and Chief Engineer for Roads; who holds that office now?

(3.) Previous to the classification referred to, who held the office of Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works; who holds that office now?

(4.) Is there any saving on these two offices as now classed compared with the expenditure for the same duties performed previous to the reclassification by the Public Service Board; if so, what is the amount saved; if the expenditure is greater, how much more is it?

(5.) Will he inform this House why, under the 3rd schedule of the classification of officers by the Board, which professes to be reduced salaries, only four have been reduced, one retained at the same salary formerly paid to him, and one increased by £75, seeing the schedule says, "The officers were in receipt of greater salaries than the maximum determined"?

Mr. Young answered,—I have been informed,—

(1.) The reclassification of the Works Department has brought about a considerable saving, but the exact amount thereof cannot yet be stated. The Honorable Member will be informed when the figures are available.

(2 and 3.) Mr. R. R. P. Hickson was Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works and Commissioner for Roads prior to the reorganization. Mr. Darley is now Engineer-in-Chief, and Mr. Hickson Under Secretary and Commissioner for Roads.

(4.) No saving was contemplated by the rearrangement of offices, although, as a matter of fact, there has been a slight saving by the rearrangement; the increase of salary paid for the office of Under Secretary and Commissioner as compared with the salary paid for the office of Under Secretary being more than counterbalanced by the decrease in salary paid to the President of the Water and Sewerage Board.

(5.) The Honorable Member has not had all the facts before him; the officers named in the schedule have been reduced £45, £50, £50, £50, £50, £50, respectively.

(3.) Statute Law Consolidation Commission:—Mr. A. B. Piddington asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has he received a report from the Statute Law Consolidation Commission; if so, will he lay it upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Brunner answered,—Yes; and I will presently lay it upon the Table of this House.

(4.)

23rd July, 1896.

(4.) Mr. R. L. Nash :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Was the Mr. R. L. Nash, who wrote the article on commercial relations and on the railways and tramways for the book entitled "New South Wales the Mother Colony," and recently issued by the Government, an employee of the *Daily Telegraph* Newspaper Company?
- (2.) If yes, how much has he been paid for contributing the said article?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) £30 for the two articles, viz.—"Commercial Relations" and "Railways and Tramways."

(5.) Locomotive Branches of the Railways and Tramways :—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Mr. McGowen's Question No. 3, on 16th July, 1896, with respect to the drivers and firemen on the railways and tramways,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that on 26th December, 1895, engine-fitters (with no previous experience at that work) were placed on the tramway motors to act as drivers?
- (2.) Is it a fact that competent trained drivers were acting as firemen to the engine-fitters?
- (3.) Is it a fact that labourers from the Randwick shops were also acting as firemen on the tram motors who had no training for this position?
- (4.) Did any accident occur to any portion of the rolling stock on that date, caused by the want of experience of these drivers and firemen?
- (5.) Is it a fact that fitters have acted as drivers on the tramway motor at Newcastle?
- (6.) If so, what was the cause of such departure from the gazetted regulations?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that on the public holiday referred to, in order to avoid long hours of duty for the regular staff, the Tramway Locomotive Superintendent arranged for some fitters to act as drivers, and some firemen (who had passed an examination for drivers, but had not been so employed) and mechanical labourers acted as firemen. The Locomotive Superintendent considered this the best way of meeting the emergency. Two mishaps of a trivial character occurred on the day in question in the Bridge-street Yard. One instance only can be traced of a fitter having acted as driver at Newcastle, when a motor was taken out to relieve one that had broken down. The arrangements referred to were to meet an exceptional occasion, and it is in the discretion of the officers to arrange in the best way possible.

(6.) Tenders for Valuating Land and Income Tax :—Mr. A. B. Piddington asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Was it a condition of the tenders for valuating under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act that no firm's tender would be accepted?
- (2.) Is it a fact that both members of a firm doing business in Tamworth have been appointed valuers for portions 12 and 19 of the Tamworth Land District?
- (3.) Will he inquire whether many of the land-owners in these sections are business patrons of the firm referred to?
- (4.) Will he consider the advisability of cancelling these appointments?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) No tenders from firms were accepted. The Commissioners discountenanced the practice, as it was considered that there should not be divided responsibility in valuing assessment divisions.
- (2.) The Commissioners are not aware of the appointed assessors being partners in business.
- (3.) The Commissioners cannot undertake to inquire.
- (4.) The Commissioners see no reason to recommend the cancellation of these appointments.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—

(1.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—

- (1.) By Mr. Gillies—From certain inhabitants of West Maitland.
- (2.) By Mr. Dacey—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
- (3.) By Mr. Neild—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
- (4.) By Mr. Ball, for Dr. Hollis—From certain inhabitants of West Goulburn.

Petitions received.

(2.) Mr. Cook presented a Petition from John Kent, Chairman of a meeting of the United Christian Churches assembled in the Protestant Hall, Sydney, stating that, in consequence of the numerous and serious evils connected with the sale of intoxicating liquors, a Bill should be passed conceding to all electors full local option; that a demand for compensation, made chiefly on behalf of the brewers, for the non-renewal of a yearly permit to sell liquor, is unreasonable, and should not be permitted to block the progress of reform; and that, inasmuch as the four successive previous Parliaments have affirmed the principle of full local option, any further delay in passing a Bill would be unjustifiable, and contrary to the best interests of the people; and praying that the House may speedily pass the Bill into law.

Petition received.

3. STANDARD TIME ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 30.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Standard Time Act of 1894,'"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd July, 1896.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd July, 1896.

4. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Wednesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Electoral Law.
Question put and passed.
5. TRUCK BILL (No. 2) (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages, to prohibit such payments being made in goods or otherwise than in money, and to regulate the service of legal process.
Question put and passed.
6. BAIL AND JUSTIFICATION BONDS—REGINA *v.* CRICK, MEAGHER, AND OTHERS—REGINA *v.* DEACON (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House the bail and justification bonds entered into at the Water Police Court in connection with the prosecution Regina *v.* Crick, Meagher, and others, in October and November last; also those in connection with the prosecution Regina *v.* Deacon, entered into at the same Court in December and January last.
Question put and passed.
7. STALLIONS AND RACEHORSES REGISTRATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to impose a yearly registration fee on all stallions, and also on all horses kept for racing purposes, and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.
8. PAPER:—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Appendices, of the Statute-Law Consolidation Commission.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
9. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Tenth Report from the Printing Committee.
10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Yass, Mr. Affleck, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The Question given me by the Minister for Works this afternoon.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Affleck moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Point of Order:—Mr. Reid drew Mr. Speaker’s attention to the effect of the Notice for discussion, which excluded any reference to the reply given by the Minister. He submitted that it was not in order.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker recommended the Honorable Member for Yass to withdraw the motion. He did not consider it altogether out of order.
Motion, by leave, withdrawn.
11. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 24 JULY, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at thirteen minutes after Two o’clock a.m., until Tuesday next, at Four o’clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 34.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 28 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Sums on Supplementary Estimates:—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Justice,—Are the sums on the Supplementary Estimates for the Acting Police Magistrate, Narrandera, the Acting Clerk of Petty Sessions at Newtown, and the Superintendent of Female Prison at Biloela Gaol, amounts that were deducted by this House last Session when the Estimates were before it; if not, why propose these increases?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Honorable Member is under some misapprehension. The amounts in question were not struck off the Estimates. They appear on the Supplementary Estimates for the following reasons:—Mr. Donaldson, P.M., Narrandera, was sent to Tamworth, and the difference, £53, in the salaries of the two positions was paid from the Advance Account. The C.P.S., Maclean, was transferred to Newtown at the same salary as he was receiving at the former place, but £50 had to be made up from the Advance Account, as an insufficient sum had been provided for Newtown, that amount, however, being saved on the salary of the C.P.S., Maclean. The Superintendent of the Female Division, Biloela Gaol, was transferred from Darlinghurst at an increase from £105 to £130, but as the former Superintendent was retired and the Principal Female Warden removed, a saving of £75 per annum was made by the amalgamation of the two offices, thus throwing more responsibility on the new Superintendent.

- (2.) Notices of Registration of Mining Claims:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The amount of money received last year for printing or advertising in the *Government Gazette* notices of registration of mining claims?
 (2.) The amount he anticipates to receive from the same source during the present year?
 (3.) Is it a fact that the price for advertising notice of registration of mining claims in the *Government Gazette* has been increased from £1 4s. to £2 10s.; if so, for what reason?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) £85 5s.
 (2.) It is impossible to form an estimate, as the number of applications to be received during the present year, and the length of each, cannot be determined.
 (3.) No; the charge for insertion in the *Government Gazette* is 3d. per line for "plain," and 6d. per line for "table" matter; these notices of registration vary very much in length and character, some being set "plain," and others partly "plain" and "table," hence there cannot be uniformity in the cost.

- (3.) Explosion of Boilers of Engines Nos. 496 and 437:—Mr. Thomas, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Since the boiler explosions of engines 496 and 437, has any difference been made in preparing for and the washing out of the boilers of the locomotives; if so, what is the difference?
 (2.) Is it a fact that during the last five years the washing out of boilers of locomotives has in some cases been performed by cleaners, some of whom are mere boys?
 (3.) Prior to the last four or five years was it the practice for drivers and firemen to wash out the boilers of the engines they were in charge of, a shed-day being allowed them for the purpose?
 (4.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of the finding of the officers of the Railway Department re the recent explosions of boilers 496 and 437, together with all papers, reports, and evidence given in such inquiry or having reference thereto?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that,—

- (1.) No difference has been made in the authorised method of washing out boilers since the failure of the fire-box plates in engine 496.
 (2.) Boilers in several cases are washed out by men who are qualified firemen, but who, through the falling off of traffic, are now acting as cleaners. Boys are not entrusted with such work.

(3.)

28th July, 1896.

- (3.) It was a practice four or five years ago for some drivers and firemen to wash out some of the boilers on their shed days. This is still done, but to a lesser extent, as it is necessary, looking at the high rates of pay given to drivers, to confine them as much as possible to their driving duties, and not to put them to inferior work, which can be quite as well performed by others.
- (4.) It is not considered desirable to place papers of this character upon the Table. I may, however, state that the result of the inquiry into the mishap with the fire-box of engine 496 was that the engine-driver was found to have allowed the water supply in his engine to fall short, and so caused the stays of the fire-box roof plate to become over heated, and then to give way. The man in fault was severely dealt with. The failure of the fire-box in engine 437 was owing to broken copper stays in the back plates of the fire-box not having been detected by the mechanical staff, and serious notice has been taken of the matter.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—
- (1.) The following Petitions,—praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—
- (1.) By Mr. Knox—From certain residents in the Woollahra Electorate.
- (2.) By Mr. Neild—From certain Members of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Paddington.
- Petitions received.
- (2.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—
- (1.) By Mr. O'Reilly—From certain members of Carrington Tent, No. 18, I.O. Rechabites, Parramatta.
- (2.) By Mr. Morgan—From certain inhabitants of Leets Vale and Lower Portland, Hawkesbury River.
- (3.) By Mr. Morgan—From certain inhabitants of Sackville Reach.
- (4.) By Mr. Moore—From certain inhabitants of Maybole, Ben Lomond.
- (5.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain inhabitants of Yass.
- (6.) By Mr. Watson—From certain inhabitants of Young.
- (7.) By Mr. Bavister—From certain members of the "Hope of Petersham Division," No. 87, Sons and Daughters of Temperance.
- (8.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain inhabitants of Wallsend.
- Petitions received.
3. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL :—Mr. Morton, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 1st July, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee.
- Ordered to be printed.
- Mr. Morton then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.
- Question put and passed.
4. PAPERS :—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Rules of the Supreme Court in Probate Jurisdiction.
- (2.) Rules of the Supreme Court in Equity Jurisdiction.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY ACT OF 1889 FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—
- HAMPDEN, Message No. 31.
Governor.
- A Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the 'Church of England Property Act of 1889 Amendment Act of 1892,'"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law
- Government House,*
Sydney, 24th July, 1896.
6. LAND FRONTING THROSBY AND COTTAGE CREEKS, SOLD BY A. A. DANGAR, Esq. :—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice,—
- (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the sale of land by A. A. Dangar, Esq., at Wickham, fronting Throsby Creek and Cottage Creek.
- (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Edden, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Dick, Mr. Nicholson, and the Mover.
- Debate ensued.
- Question put and passed.
7. EVIDENCE BEFORE THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION BY MR. H. C. L. ANDERSON :—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to amended Notice,—
- (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the truth or otherwise of the evidence given on the 11th of March 1895, before the Civil Service Commission by Mr. H. C. L. Anderson, the Principal Librarian and Secretary of the Free Public Library.
- (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Cann, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Russell Jones, Mr. McElhone, Mr. McMillan, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Wright, and the Mover.
- Debate ensued.
- Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th July, 1896.

8. CLAIM OF CAPTAIN ROSSI:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice,—
- (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Captain Rossi against the Government.
 - (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Lee, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Morgan, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Cann, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Griffith, and the Mover.
 - (3.) That all papers and reports in connection with such case be referred to such Committee.
- Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 28.

Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Smales,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. H. H. Brown,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Travers Jones.
Mr. Hughes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Neild.
Mr. McGowen,	

Noes, 26.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Barister,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Sleath,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Pyers,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

9. SELECTIONS MADE BY MARTIN TULLY:—Mr. Afleck moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Selections made by Martin Tully," brought up on 17th October, 1895, be now adopted.
- Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 20.

Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Simcoa Phillips.
Mr. Schey,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Afleck.
Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	

Noes, 28.

Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Collins,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Barister,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Cook.
Mr. Bull,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Wilks,	

And so it passed in the negative.

10. CONDITIONAL PURCHASE MADE BY GEORGE VINCENT IN THE DISTRICT OF GUNDAGAI:—Mr. Travers Jones moved, pursuant to Notice,—
- (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all the circumstances attending the conditional purchase made by one George Vincent, in the district of Gundagai, on the 22nd day of August, 1878, of 640 acres, parish of Mooney Mooney, county of Harden.
 - (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Gornly, Mr. Pyers, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Anderson, and the Mover.
 - (3.) That the Report, Minutes of Proceedings, and Evidence of the Select Committee of Session 1894-5 be referred to such Committee.
- Debate ensued.
Mr. Hogue moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday, 12th August.
11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at nine minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 35.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 29 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Concessions made to University Students travelling in Trams and Trains:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Griffith*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that pupils at Public Schools are allowed concessions in tram and train fares?
- (2.) Is it a fact that students at technical colleges receive similar concessions?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the day students at the University also receive this concession?
- (4.) Is it a fact that the evening students at the University do not receive this concession?
- (5.) If not, why not?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) I am informed that it is a fact that concessions are allowed pupils and students as indicated, and have been in existence for some considerable time.

(4 and 5.) An application was recently made to extend the concession to evening students at the University, but, as the Commissioners desire to curtail rather than to increase these concessions, they declined to grant it.

- (2.) Report on Road *via* Point Hut, near Queanbeyan:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that some of the residents on the west side of the Murrumbidgee River, near Queanbeyan, have still to travel 16 miles out of their way owing to the want of a road *via* Point Hut?

(2.) Is he aware that an officer was deputed some months ago to report upon the matter, but that up to the present that report is not to hand?

(3.) Will he give imperative instructions to have this report produced?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) A report was obtained and referred back for further information.

(3.) A reminder will be sent to the District Surveyor, asking him to expedite the local action.

- (3.) Fruit Pest and Noxious Weeds Bills:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the report of the adulterations of the poisons required for the destruction of fruit pests, such as London Purple, Paris Green, and others, in Adelaide?

(2.) Has he had them analysed here to ascertain their purity; if not, will he cause such to be done?

(3.) Can he state a definite date when he will introduce his Fruit Pest and Noxious Weeds Bills?

(4.) If he cannot name such a date, will he give his assistance to a private Member to introduce and carry through such Bills without delay?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) The attention of my honorable colleague was directed to the variable effects or results produced by Paris Green, and the principal wholesale druggists in Sydney were communicated with on the subject.

(2.) They have not been analysed by the departmental chemist, but this will be done.

(3 and 4.) Bills have been prepared. My honorable colleague is unable to name a definite date when these will be introduced, but every effort will be made to have the matter dealt with this Session.

(4.)

29th July, 1896.

- (4.) Statistical Registrar :—Mr. Copeland asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What was the date since which the Statistical Registrar has adopted the policy of “Factories with less than five hands not included,” and which was the first year in which such change affected the statistics?
 - (2.) Were any instructions issued, or any correction suggested, to the Statistical Registrar with reference to such change; if so, by whom and when?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Assistant Statistician :—
- (1.) The following extract from the last edition of the “Wealth and Progress of New South Wales,” page 528, will best explain the system pursued :—“Establishments which do not use mechanical power are excluded unless they employ at least five hands, but all works and factories in which machinery is used are included, as it is obvious that an establishment where only two or three men are employed to look after machinery may turn out a greater quantity of work than another in which the services of a much larger number of men, unassisted by mechanical power, are utilised. It should be noted that no dressmakers or milliners are included in the returns, nor are manufactories of slop clothing where less than ten hands are employed.” An exception to this rule was made in the census year, when, as far as possible, all establishments were included, as required by the Act. The last issue of the Statistical Register gives the figures for each year as far back as 1884 on precisely the same basis.
 - (2.) No instructions have been issued or suggestions made in regard to any change of the system of tabulating returns, as it has been the policy of the Government not to interfere in any way with the official statistics of the Colony.
- (5.) Examiner of Coal Fields :—Mr. Fegan asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the office of Examiner of Coal Fields has become vacant?
 - (2.) If so, is it his intention to appoint anyone to the office; and, if so, will he take the House into his confidence before he makes the appointment?
- Mr. Gould answered,—On the recommendation of the Public Service Board the present occupant of the office retires on the 31st instant, and Mr. J. Dixon has been appointed temporarily to carry on the duties.
- (6.) Friendly Societies Hall :—Mr. Fegan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he received a communication from the Friendly Societies of Newcastle, asking for the passing of a Bill to secure the land for the purpose of building a Friendly Societies hall?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to comply with that request?
 - (3.) If so, when is it his intention to introduce a Bill for the above purpose?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—The Question applies to the Act 56 Victoria No. 35, which was passed on the 13th June, 1893. I perceive by that Act that the land granted to the Friendly Societies is vested in trustees, and that the time for completing the improvements is limited to three years. That term has expired, and I suppose an extension of the time is now asked for, the improvements not having been completed. I will endeavour during the Session to bring in a Bill to extend the powers which have been granted under the Act.
- (7.) Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Bill :—Mr. Jessep asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Were the members of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board representing the Sydney and Suburban Municipal Councils made acquainted, prior to its introduction, with the provisions of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Bill recently adopted by the Legislative Assembly, and which is now before the Legislative Council?
 - (2.) If so, did they have an opportunity of discussing, approving, or objecting to its provisions?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—The Water and Sewerage Board has furnished the following Answers :—
- (1.) Yes; the Bill is the outcome of suggestions made from time to time by the Board in order to rectify errors and omissions in the present Acts, and for the better working of the water and sewerage schemes.
 - (2.) Yes; the Bill was discussed and approved at a special meeting of the Board, held 31st October, 1895.
- (8.) Town Common for Cudal :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—What is the cause of delay in proclaiming the town common for Cudal, and when is it likely to be available for the use of the commoners and residents of the Municipal Council of Cudal?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—The delay has been caused by it being necessary to take proceedings under the 107th section of the Crown Lands Act of 1884, and the 57th section of the Act of 1895, for the alteration of the design of the village prior to the notification of the common. The temporary common of 445 acres will be gazetted on the 31st instant.
- (9.) Improvements on Selections on the Nanimi Run :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is he aware that the improvements that were erected on the several selections that were recently confiscated by the Crown on the Nanimi Run, district of Molong, county of Ashburnham, are being removed from the land; if so, will he see that immediate steps are taken to prevent such improvements that were erected on these respective selections, and since confiscated, from being removed from the land that belongs to the Crown?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—I am not aware. The Conditional Purchase Inspector will be instructed to report fully on the matter. I may, however, explain that, though forfeiture of these selections was duly notified, such forfeiture did not take effect until the expiration of thirty clear days after that notification under the provisions of the 136th clause of the Crown Lands Act of 1884.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th July, 1896.

(10.) Appointment of Valuators for the Newcastle District :—Mr. Fegan asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Have valuers been appointed for the Newcastle District under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1896?
- (2.) If so, who are the valuers appointed?
- (3.) By whom were they appointed?
- (4.) The date of their appointment?
- (5.) The particulars of such appointment?
- (6.) Is it not a fact the valuator is a member of a firm of auctioneers?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) N. Bromley Creer.
- (3.) Appointed by the Honorable the Treasurer on the recommendation of the Government Land Valuer.
- (4.) 8th August, 1895.
- (5.) Mr. Creer agreed to assess the whole of the Newcastle Municipalities at a sum of £25 each.
- (6.) Yes.

(11.) Statement in Newspaper called *St. George's Advocate* :—Mr. Chapman asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to a statement in a newspaper (*St. George's Advocate*), published at Rockdale, with reference to an alleged swindle on the Government?
- (2.) If so, has he received or asked for a report on the matter?
- (3.) If so, does he propose to take action in the matter, and when?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Yes; and the matter is being investigated by the Treasury Department.

(12.) Report of Committee on Retirements in the Post and Telegraph Department :—Mr. Chapman asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board appointed a committee consisting of Messrs. P. B. Walker, W. J. Davies, G. P. Unwin, J. T. McMahon, and A. J. Arndell, or any other official or officials, to report as to the retirements in the Post and Telegraph Department, or the grading or salaries of officers therein?
- (2.) Did the Public Service Board or the said committee recommend the retirement of Mr. Lambton, the Deputy Postmaster-General, and Mr. Dalgarno, the Chief Clerk, or either of them?
- (3.) What were the annual salaries of Messrs. P. B. Walker, W. J. Davies, G. P. Unwin, J. T. McMahon, and A. J. Arndell, before the recent grading, and what are their yearly salaries now?
- (4.) Is it a fact that the Postmaster-General declined to allow the Public Service Board to retire Mr. Lambton and Mr. Dalgarno, or either of them, or did he refuse to allow them to carry out the recommendations made by them in the first instance?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) The Public Service Board inform me that, in this and all other Departments of the Government, they sought, as a matter of obvious necessity, the assistance of the principal officers to gather information to enable them to arrive at decisions on the questions coming under their jurisdiction.
- (2.) The Public Service Board, upon whom alone such a duty would devolve, did not recommend, nor did they at any time contemplate, the retirement of either Mr. Lambton or Mr. Dalgarno.
- (3.) £740, £560, £470, £515, and £398 respectively. As now graded the salaries are as follows :—£800, £700, £500, £550, and £400, but Messrs. Davies and Unwin now occupy different and much more important positions than were assigned to them under the old arrangement.
- (4.) The Public Service Board assure me that there is no foundation whatever for the statement referred to. Mr. Cook did not in any way attempt to interfere with the Board in the discharge of their duties.

(13.) Convictions under the "Beer Duty Act" in the Western District :—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What was the number of convictions under the "Beer Duty Act" in the Western District for the year ending 30th June, 1896?
- (2.) Will he state whether the convictions were through the agency of informers, and in how many instances?
- (3.) Were the publicans convicted, brewers, publicans, or otherwise?
- (4.) The amounts of the fines inflicted, and the forfeitures (if any)?
- (5.) How were fines disposed of?
- (6.) Were the prosecutions at the instance of the Police or the Excise Department?

Mr. Reid answered,—There have been no convictions under the "Beer Duty Act" in the Western District from 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896.

(14.) The Civil Service Superannuation Fund :—Mr. Simeon Phillips asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What was the number of officers paying to the Civil Service Superannuation Fund on 1st January, 1896?
- (2.) How many officers are now paying into that Fund?

Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.

(15.) Consolidation of the Statute-Laws :—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, for Mr. A. B. Piddington, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to have the work of Consolidating the Statute-Laws of the Colony completed?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This subject is under consideration.

29th July, 1896.

(16.) Appeals by Officers of the Telegraph Department:—*Mr. Cotton*, for *Mr. Haynes*, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it true that the Chief Officer of the Electric Telegraph Department has warned his officers against appeals to the Public Service Board, intimating that appealing against the new arrangements would involve probable removal from the Service?

(2.) Will he, in making inquiry on the point, investigate the circumstances by inquiry outside the officer concerned?

Mr. Cook answered,—The officer concerned states the allegations are absolutely untrue. I have no other means of ascertaining the truth or otherwise of these statements. If the Honorable Member has proof to the contrary, it is quite open to him to furnish it.

(17.) Retirement of Major Sparrow:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. H. H. Brown*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that Major Sparrow, late Staff Officer, Mounted Brigade, was, after eleven years' service, allowed, on his own application, to retire from the Service on a gratuity?

(2.) If so, was such application granted, and his retirement gazetted?

(3.) Was any special recommendation made by Major-General Hutton as to Major Sparrow receiving a gratuity at the rate of one month's pay for every year's service?

(4.) Has any action been taken to carry out Major-General Hutton's recommendation?

(5.) If not, is it intended to carry out such recommendation in terms of Major Sparrow's retirement?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes; so far as the application to retire was concerned, and the retirement was gazetted.

(3.) Yes, on the 16th August, 1894, by Major-General Hutton; and on 1st July, 1896, by Major-General French.

(4 and 5.) The matter is still under consideration.

(18.) Church and School Lands:—*Mr. Morton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was any money expended by the Government during the past financial year on the Church and School lands?

(2.) If so, how much; and to what account was the expenditure charged?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) £13,066 17s. 7d. The Public Instruction Endowment Account.

2. ATROCITIES IN ARMENIA:—*Mr. McMillan* presented a Petition from *Thomas Spencer Forsaith*, Honorary Secretary of the New South Wales Branch of the Evangelical Alliance, deploring the inhuman proceedings that for some time past have prevailed in Armenia; and praying that the House will pass a resolution, expressive of the deep feeling of horror with which the people of New South Wales regard the atrocities which have taken place, to be forwarded to Her Most Gracious Majesty's Minister of State, as indicating the strong desire of this Colony that the Imperial Government may take effectual means to put an end to such proceedings.
Petition received.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By *Mr. James Thomson*—From certain members of the Day Dawn Division, No. 5, Sons and Daughters of Temperance, Newcastle.

(2.) By *Mr. Hawthorne*—From certain inhabitants of Leichhardt.

(3.) By *Mr. T. R. Smith*—From certain inhabitants of Mulgoa and District.

(4.) By *Mr. Carruthers*—From certain inhabitants of Kogarah.

(5.) By *Mr. Frank Farnell*—From certain inhabitants of Drummoyno.

(6.) By *Mr. Gillies*—From certain inhabitants of West Maitland.

(7.) By *Mr. Wheeler*—From certain inhabitants of St. Albans and Central McDonald Districts.

Petitions received.

4. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—*Mr. Brunker* presented a Petition from the Mayor and Aldermen of the Borough of Morpeth, setting forth various grounds of objection to the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill, now before Parliament; and praying the House to amend the Bill in the manner indicated in such Petition.
Petition received.

5. PAPERS:—*Mr. Reid* laid upon the Table,—Additional Regulations under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return to an Order, made on 1st July, 1896,—“*Dr. Taylor*, Superintendent Little Bay “Lazarette.”

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 15th July, 1896,—“*Applications for Oyster Leases.*”

(3.) Additional By-laws of the Municipal District of Inverell.

(4.) By-laws of the Borough of Lane Cove, under the Municipalities Act of 1867 and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th July, 1896.

6. VOTE OF CREDIT:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 32.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends to the consideration of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for defraying the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony for the months of July, August, and September, or following month, of the financial year 1896-7; and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

Government House,

Sydney, 29th July, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

7. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 33.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Electoral Law.

Government House,

Sydney, 28th July, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

8. FISHERIES AND OYSTER FISHERIES REGULATION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 34.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to repeal the laws regulating the Fisheries and Oyster Fisheries of the Colony, and to provide for their better development and regulation.

Government House,

Sydney, 28th July, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

9. MINING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to alter and amend sections 14 and 63 of the Mining Act, 1874; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 29th July, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

10. DENTISTS BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the registration of dentists qualified to practise, and for other purposes in connection with the practise of dentistry,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 29th July, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

Bill, on motion of Dr. Graham, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

11. EMPLOYMENT OF MEN ON THE SEWERAGE WORKS AT BOTANY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the employment of men on the sewerage works at Botany.
Question put and passed.

12. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan,*" through all its stages in one day, and would also preclude the resolutions of the Committees of Supply and of Ways and Means respectively, whereon the Bill is proposed to be founded, being received on the same day on which they were come to by the said Committees respectively.
Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

13. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.

The

29th July, 1896.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

(2) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £2,104,058: being £1,525,058, to defray the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the months of July, August, and September, or following month, of the financial year ending 30th June, 1897, to be expended at the rates which have been proposed for the financial year ending 30th June, 1897, subject to the rate of any reduction made in the Estimates laid on the Table of the Assembly on 15th July, 1896, or any further reduction hereafter to be made in the expenditure of the financial year hereinbefore mentioned; £200,000 for the construction and maintenance of Roads and Bridges generally, pending the passing of the Appropriation Act for 1896-7; £65,000 for special grant to Country and Suburban Municipalities, equal to 5s. per £ of the total amount of the general rates collected during the period from 4th August, 1895, to 3rd August, 1896, subject to special conditions; in anticipation of Loan Votes,—for Railways—£100,000 towards improvements in Grades and Curves—further sum; £100,000 for additions to Rolling-stock; £50,000 for additions to Railway Lines, Stations and Buildings, and other purposes, including safety appliances; for Harbours and Rivers Navigation and Water Supply—£4,000 for improvements of the Navigation of the Macleay River; £5,000 towards conversion of Grab-dredges into Sand Pumps—further sum; £15,000 for further reticulation and improvements in connection with the Sydney Water Supply; and £40,000 for construction and extension of Telegraph and Telephone Lines generally—further sum.

Mr. Reid moved, That the resolution be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 30 JULY, 1896, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Resolution then read a second time, and agreed to.

14. **WAYS AND MEANS**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again. The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

(2.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Services of the financial year ending 30th June, 1897, the sum of £2,104,058 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

15. **CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL**:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 2), to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time

(3.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

(4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan*."

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th July, 1896, a.m.

16. **PAPER**:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return showing total number of officers employed under the various Departments for the period ended 3rd August, 1894 (the date upon which the present Government took office), and 16th January, 1896 (the date upon which the Public Service Board was appointed).

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at eighteen minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 36.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 30 JULY, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Valuers under Land and Income Tax in the Queanbeyan Electorate:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What are the names of the various land valuers under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act in the Queanbeyan electorate?
 - (2.) What are the various amounts paid for their services?
 - (3.) What is the particular portion laid out for each valuer?
 - (4.) How were their qualifications for the position ascertained?
 - (5.) Were they selected because of the amount they offered to do the work for, and was the lowest offer in all cases accepted; if not, specify those that were accepted at a rate above the lowest, and the reason for such?
 - (6.) Is one of the valuers named Leslie Dyce; if so, what was his particular qualification for the position; did the District Surveyor know him personally, and was he satisfied as to his ability for the position?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) A. D. Badgery, J. Vider, J. C. Martin, and T. Major.
 - (2.) £168, £90, £120, and £70 respectively.
 - (3.) Mr. Badgery to assess Land District of Goulburn, Mr. T. Major to assess Division 9, Mr. Martin to assess Division 11, Mr. Vider to assess Division 12 of the Cooma Land Board District. An Assessor is to be appointed for Division 10 of the Cooma Land Board District, in place of Mr. L. R. Dyce, resigned. This Electorate only includes a portion of Division 12 of the Cooma Land Board District and a portion of the Land District of Goulburn.
 - (4.) These men were appointed on the recommendations of the District Surveyor and the Government Land Valuer.
 - (5.) None of these men were the lowest tenderers, but were accepted as being the most suitable.
 - (6.) No; he has resigned.
- (2.) Valuers under Land and Income Tax in the Kiama and Shoalhaven Electorates:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What are the names of the persons who have been appointed as valuers under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act in the Kiama and Shoalhaven electorates?
 - (2.) Were tenders called in every Division; if so, what was the amount of the various successful tenders?
 - (3.) Did the lowest tenderers receive appointment in every case; if not, for what reasons were the lowest tenders not accepted, and upon whose recommendations were the various appointments made?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) A. B. Armstrong, J. H. Cardew, W. F. Martin, D. Clifford, J. W. Bunn, S. Nicholson.
- (2.) Yes; £85, £160, £90, £200, £140, and £90, respectively. Only a portion of the three latter are included in the electorates.
- (3.) No; the most suitable persons were selected, on the recommendations of the District Surveyor and the Government Land Valuer.

(3.)

30th July, 1896.

(3.) Railway Employees as Aldermen:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Have the Railway Commissioners any objection to any of their employees becoming candidates for aldermanic honors?

(2.) If not, was an officer of the Commissioners sent up to West Maitland to advise a certain employee to withdraw from the Municipal Election in February last, while, at the same time, two railway employees were allowed to contest the Municipal Election held in Morpeth?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners were advised by an M.P. to prevent this particular employee from contesting the Municipal Election held in West Maitland in February last; if so, for what reason?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the Railway Commissioners extend to the railway employees similar privileges as to aldermanic honors as apply to the public servants generally. Frequently representations are made to the Commissioners in reference to employees who take an active part in municipal elections, which is deprecated if it is likely to interfere with the proper discharge of their duties, or bring them in contact with the public in any way which may affect discipline. Some verbal representations were made with reference to a municipal contest at Maitland, but nothing is known of the Morpeth election referred to.

(4.) Charge against Richard Edwards:—*Mr. Nelson* asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all papers relating to a charge brought against Richard Edwards at the Water Police Court, on the 20th July instant, viz., that he did shoot with intent one O'Keefe, on the 12th day of July, and which charge was tried before *Mr. Isaacs, S.M.*?

Mr. Gould answered,—There will be no objection to Tabling the papers if a return be moved for in the usual way.

(5.) Account Clerk at the Water Police Court:—*Mr. Nelson* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Was there at any time during the last three years an account clerk at the Water Police Court deficient in his cash; if so, to what amount?

(2.) Was he prosecuted under 46 Victoria No. 17, relating to embezzlement as referring to public officers?

Mr. Gould answered,—No.

(6.) Tenders for Construction of Parkes to Condobolin Railway:—*Mr. Nelson* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Was the tender sent in by Kerle and Kerle, for the construction of the Parkes to Condobolin railway, the lowest tender, and declared to be the lowest tender on the opening of the tenders by the Board; was this tender refused; if so, on what grounds?

(2.) Is it a fact that a tender was sent in, and opened twenty-four hours after all other tenders were received and opened, and that of Kerle and Kerle declared to be the lowest, and has this tender been accepted?

(3.) Does he know that Falkingham, the contractor whose tender was received twenty-four hours late, is a contractor carrying on business in Melbourne, and that he sent in the tender on behalf of certain contractors who are debarred from tendering in this Colony?

(4.) Is it a fact that the following regulation of the Tender Board Regulations, namely, "No tender shall be received after 11 a.m. on the day named for the receipt of such tender, unless there are circumstances which, in the opinion of the members of the Board then sitting, render it desirable to do so," has been disregarded by the members of the Board; and did the members of the Board open Falkingham's tender, or was it opened by the Minister?

(5.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House all papers and correspondence relating to the Parkes-Condobolin railway and Kerle and Kerle's tender?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Messrs. Kerle and Kerle's tender was the lowest received by the Board in the first instance, and declared by the Presiding Officer to be the lowest. The tender from this firm was not, however, accepted, because a lower offer, had been received at the General Post Office, about 1 o'clock on the day previous to opening of tenders, and as the tender was properly addressed, and it was no fault of the tenderer that it had not been delivered by the Post Office authorities, the Tender Board recommended its acceptance, and the Minister approved.

(2.) Yes; for the reasons stated in Answer to No. 1.

(3.) My Honorable Colleague is not aware.

(4.) Such a regulation does exist. The tender was opened by the Minister, as President of the Board.

(5.) My Honorable Colleague has no objection, if moved for in the usual way.

(7.) *Mr. Rogers, Q.C.*:—*Mr. FitzGerald*, for *Mr. Chapman*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has *Mr. Rogers* received another appointment from the Government?

(2.) If so, in what position?

(3.) What remuneration will he receive for his services?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) As stated yesterday, *Mr. Rogers, Q.C.*, was retained in the beginning of the present year to preside at the Criminal Court, Darlinghurst, when the Judges of the Supreme Court were unable to perform the duty.

(3.) *Mr. Rogers* is paid at the rate allowed to a Judge of the Supreme Court.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By *Mr. Frank Farnell*—From certain inhabitants of Hunter's Hill.

(2.) By *Mr. FitzGerald*—From certain inhabitants of Murrurundi and District.

(3.)

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- (3.) By Mr. Morgan—From certain inhabitants of Lower Hawkesbury and surrounding District.
 (4.) By Mr. Hurley—From certain inhabitants of Oberon.
 (5.) By Mr. Hurley—From certain inhabitants of Duckmaloi.
 (6.) By Mr. F. Clarke—From certain inhabitants of Gannon's Creek, Hastings River.
 (7.) By Mr. Nelson—From Charles E. Wigzell, Chairman of a public meeting held at Surry Hills on 28th July, 1896.
 (8.) By *Mr. Sydney Smith*, for Mr. Carruthers—From certain inhabitants of Peakhurst.
 (9.) By *Mr. Sydney Smith*, for Mr. Carruthers—From certain inhabitants of Hurstville.
 (10.) By Mr. Goodwin—From certain inhabitants of Gunnedah.

Petitions received.

3. AGE OF CONSENT:—Mr. Robert Jones presented a Petition from certain residents of Mudgee, representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years.
 Petition received.
4. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL—SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL:—Mr. Millen (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Reports, Minutes of Proceedings, and Evidence of the Select Committees on the "City and North Sydney Railway Bill" and the "Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill" be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on the two Bills abovementioned.
 Question put and passed.
5. PAPER:—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Report of the Trustees of the National Park for the year 1895.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Eleventh Report from the Printing Committee.
7. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the State Children Relief Bill postponed until Tuesday, 18th August.
8. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 31 JULY, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and *Mr. Lee* reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

Mr. Lee also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of *Mr. Lee*, That the report be *now* received.

Mr. Lee then reported the resolution, which was read a first time as follows:—

(1.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the supply granted to Her Majesty for the Supplementary service of the year 1895-6, the sum of £139 Os. 7d. be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

9. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL:—

- (1.) Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain Sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the Year 1896-7, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 30th July, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
 President.

- (2.) The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
 Governor.

Message No. 35.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain Sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
 Sydney, 31st July, 1896.

30th July, 1896.

10. PAPERS:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the Examiner of the Treasury Department respecting payments made during the month of June, 1896.
 - (2.) Report of the Paymaster of the Treasury Department respecting payments made during the month of June, 1896.
 - (3.) Statement showing the expenditure made from the Consolidated Revenue Fund during various months from June, 1891, to June, 1896.
 - (4.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Blackheath, county of Cook, for a deviation of the Great Western Railway near Katoomba.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

11. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunner, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Electoral Law.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Lee* reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution.

Ordered, on motion of *Mr. Lee*, That the report be *now* received.

Mr. Lee then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Electoral Law.

On motion of Mr. Brunner, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Brunner then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Electoral Law*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed and read a second time, on Thursday next.

The House adjourned, at twenty-eight minutes before Twelve o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 37.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 4 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Amounts paid to Sir Julian Salomons by the Crown:—Mr. McLean asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What amount was paid to Sir Julian Salomons by the Crown for professional services during the years 1893, 1894, and 1895 respectively?
- (2.) Under what headings or classification were these payments divided?
- (3.) What amount (if any) was due by the Crown to Sir Julian Salomons for or on account of professional services on 31st December, 1895?
- (4.) What amount was paid to Sir Julian Salomons by the Railway Commissioners for professional services during 1893, 1894, and 1895?
- (5.) How were the payments divided?
- (6.) What amount was due to Sir Julian Salomons on account of professional services on 31st December, 1895?
- (7.) Do these payments for professional services cover the whole of the time of counsel while Crown cases are proceeding, or is the counsel employed entitled to accept briefs in outside cases at the same time?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) 1893, £1,112 7s. ; 1894, £243 18s. ; 1895, £510 13s. 6d.
- (2.) It is impossible to answer this Question. They are not divided under any headings or classifications.
- (3.) Nil.
- (4 and 5.) Sir Julian Salomons was paid £570 13s. 6d. during 1893, £384 2s. 6d. during 1894, and £1,481 3s. during 1895, for professional services by the Railway Commissioners, including services in the cases M'Whannell, Crowther, Keys, Beer, Cranny, Forsyth, Askew, Booth, Withey, Proudfoot, Solomons, Milgate, Moffat, Amos, Duggan, Morrissey, Hacket, Jones, Smidt, and all the actions at law arising out of the Redfern accident of the 31st October, 1894, in which he rendered very great service to the public.
- (6.) Nothing was due to Sir Julian Salomons by the Railway Commissioners on the 31st December, 1895.
- (7.) To both clauses of this Question—Yes.

- (2.) Railway from Jerilderie to Berrigan :—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Does not the Act of Parliament authorising the construction of a line of railway from Jerilderie to Berrigan expressly stipulate that the line should only be constructed contingent upon land-owners conveying the necessary land free of cost to the Government?
- (2.) How many persons have so conveyed the land?
- (3.) The names of the persons, and the area of land conveyed?
- (4.) Does the line pass through any land belonging to Mr. John Dickey?
- (5.) Did Mr. Dickey refuse to convey the land gratis?
- (6.) Did Mr. Dickey offer to convey the land to the Government if an equivalent in area of Crown lands was conveyed to him?
- (7.) Is there any intention of conveying any Crown lands to him in exchange for that taken by the railway?
- (8.) Has any land been taken from Mr. Dickey for the purposes of the railway?
- (9.) If so, by what right or authority has it been so taken?
- (10.) Is it intended to remunerate Mr. Dickey in any form for the land taken from him?

Mr

4th August, 1896.

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) The Act stipulates that the work shall not be commenced to be constructed unless the private lands required for the construction of the line (except town allotments) have been contracted by instrument in writing, to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange, from the owners to the Crown.

(2.) Seven.

(3.) Peterson and Sargood, 47a. 2r. 12p.; Executors of J. Connell, 12a. 18p.; Horsfall, J. S., 7a. 2r. 24p.; M'Donald, Duncan, 12a. 3r. 30p.; M'Donald, Roderick, 9a. 2r. 20p.; Harris, J. and H., 1a. 2r. 10p.; Gregger, William, 10a. 1r. 10p.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) No, not until the line was duly proclaimed by notice published in the *Government Gazette*.

(7.) No.

(8.) Yes.

(9.) By resumption under Public Works Act of 1888.

(10.) It is reported by the Land Valuator that Mr. Dickie has been more than remunerated by the enhancement in value of the remaining land. Before authorising this line to be carried out, I consulted with the Crown Solicitor, who advised as follows:—"If the resumption of Mr. Dickie's land can be effected without the Crown being put to any expense, I think the spirit of the Act would be complied with."

(3.) Designs for New Parliament Houses:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to spend a further sum of public money in calling for designs for new Parliament Houses?

(2.) How many times previously to this have designs for the same purpose been called for?

(3.) How many different designs are now in the possession of the Government which have been sent in for the same purpose?

(4.) What has been the total cost of the designs already sent in for the same purpose, including prizes offered?

(5.) Instead of asking for new designs, will the Government refer the designs already in possession of the Government to the Committee lately appointed to select one from those in stock, instead of involving the country in expense calling for another set of designs?

Mr. Young answered,—The Honorable Member is evidently aware that a Board has been appointed to confer with me on this Question, and the whole matter will be considered by that Board.

(4.) Examination of Railway Officials:—Mr. Egan, for Dr. Graham, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is a systematic examination made with a view of testing the sight, colour-vision, hearing, and nerve-fitness in the case of everyone entering the railway and tramway service?

(2.) In the case of railway employees being promoted, or any change made in the sphere of their work, are they further required to be re-examined in regard to sight, colour-vision, hearing, and nerve-fitness before such promotions or changes are approved of?

(3.) Does any regulation exist requiring railway officials to subject themselves at stated intervals to such an examination?

(4.) Is it true that a railway pointsman was recently reported to the Commissioners as being a confirmed epileptic?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that—

(1.) A systematic examination is made in the case of every one entering the railway or tramway service.

(2.) Yes, if their duties are associated with the safe working of the lines.

(3.) Yes; examinations are made every second year.

(4.) The Commissioners are not aware of any such case.

(5.) Mr. Goldrick, Department of Charities:—Mr. Carroll asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did the Public Service Board increase the salary of Mr. Goldrick, of the Charities Department?

(2.) If so, to what amount, and who recommended the increase?

(3.) Is it a fact that, since the Public Service Board recommended dismissals in the Charities Department, clerks have orders to work back at night, and inspectors are peremptorily ordered out of the office at 9.30 a.m., with instructions to do their official writing at home?

(4.) Has it been represented to him that the officers retained in this Department cannot possibly do the work devolving upon them?

(5.) Is it a fact that the Director of Charities has issued instructions to the effect that each inspector shall furnish a report of the number of cases attended during each week?

(6.) If so, is he aware that the application of such a system is likely to seriously impair the efficiency of the inspectors' work, inasmuch as quality will, in all probability, be sacrificed to quantity?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) From £290 to £325, Mr. Goldrick having been appointed to a more responsible position, and after full investigation by the Board.

(3.) Clerks have orders to keep up their work, in order to make the work balance daily. The inspectors have been ordered by the Director of Government Asylums to leave the office daily at 9.30 a.m., because he considers that is a proper time for them to start upon their official work; but he has not told them to do their official writing at home.

(4.) No.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) The quantity as well as the quality of the inspectors' work will be indicated by this new method of dealing with the work of the Charities Department, which has been introduced by the Director of Charities.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th August, 1896.

(6.) Cost of Uniforms worn by Privates in the Military:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Cotton*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the cost of a brown tweed uniform jacket, as worn by a private in the Volunteer Infantry Force; the cost of trousers for the same?
- (2.) The cost of a blue cloth tunic, as worn by a private soldier of the Permanent Artillery Force; the cost of the trousers for same?
- (3.) The cost of a serge jacket, as worn by a private soldier of the Permanent Artillery Force; the cost of trousers for same?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) Jacket complete with aiguillettes, £1 17s. 6d.; trousers, 16s.
- (2.) Tunic, £1 16s.; trousers, 19s.
- (3.) Jacket, £1 7s. 6d.; trousers, 16s. 6d.

(7.) Wages of men at the Sewerage Farm, Botany:—*Mr. Chanter*, for *Mr. McElhone*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a number of men who were working at the sewerage farm, Botany, were paid wages at the rate of 2s. 6d. or 2s. 8d. a day?
- (2.) Is it a fact that he has made some arrangements by which men doing the same class of work are paid 6s. per day?
- (3.) Will he arrange matters so that those who were paid the lower rate of 2s. 6d. to 2s. 8d. per day will be paid the same wages as men are now earning at the sewerage farm?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The men were paid for piece-work under the scale recommended by the City Surveyor, as one under which able and willing men could earn at least 6s. per day.
- (2.) The rates for piece-work were subsequently abolished, and the men at present employed are to receive 6s. per day of eight hours; but should any of them not be fit for the work, or able to earn the minimum wage of 6s., they will be discharged.
- (3.) All men employed on piece-work have been paid according to the length of lead, and at the rates suggested by the City Surveyor. I cannot re-open the matter.

(8.) *Mr. Wilson*, Naval Artillery Volunteers:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that one *Mr. Wilson* has lately been appointed to the position of Sub-Lieutenant of the Naval Artillery Volunteers?
- (2.) Upon whose recommendation or authority was he so appointed?
- (3.) How long has *Mr. Wilson* been connected with the Naval Artillery Volunteer Corps, and was he appointed as an outsider and over the head of other long-service, efficient officers?
- (4.) Is it in accordance with military regulations to appoint outsiders when other efficient officers of long standing, and who have passed their examinations, are overlooked and ignored in the Service?
- (5.) Is it not a fact that the corps before *Mr. Wilson's* appointment had a full complement of officers; and for what reason was *Mr. Wilson* appointed under such circumstances?
- (6.) Who is responsible for such irregularities occurring in the Service, and have the regulations ever on any former occasion been transgressed in a similar manner; if so, when?
- (7.) Will he see that steps are taken to have the matter fully investigated, in order to protect the claims of efficient officers from being usurped by outsiders on any future occasion?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Captain Commanding the Naval Forces,—

- (1.) Yes; Probationary (Acting) Sub-Lieutenant, without pay.
- (2.) The officer commanding the corps.
- (3.) First joined 6th March, 1885; rejoined 24th April, 1895. No.
- (4.) Yes, if thought desirable in the interest of the service.
- (5.) Yes, but supernumerary officers are considered necessary to fill vacancies as they occur.
- (6.) Irregularities are not admitted in this case. There are precedents for it.
- (7.) Efficient officers have not been interfered with. Commanding officers are allowed discretionary power for maintaining the efficiency of their commands.

(9.) Salaries of Officers of the Railway Department:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that recently increases of salaries have been given to a number of the officers and salaried staff of the Railway Department?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the periodical increases which each grade of the wages staff should receive until they reach the maximum wage have been withheld since the year 1891?
- (3.) Were the regulations gazetted that prevented the periodical increases from being paid to the wages staff?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that it is a fact that increases have been granted to a number of the railway employees; the number of the salaried staff receiving advances (almost wholly in the lower grades) during the year just closed being 375, and the number of the wages staff receiving advances being 1,011.
- (2.) The classification increases for the higher grades have been suspended so as to avoid a general reduction of pay. The classification advances have been granted to the junior grades throughout.
- (3.) Yes.

(10.) Additions to the Art Gallery:—*Mr. Watson* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the plastering in connection with the additions to the Art Gallery has been sublet by the contractors?
- (2.) If so, has he consented to such being done?

Mr. Young answered,—From inquiries made, I find that this work has not been sublet.

4th August, 1896.

2. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC**:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
 (1.) By Mr. Young—From certain inhabitants of Kimbriki, Manning River.
 (2.) By Mr. Bavister—From William Henson, Chairman of a Public Meeting held at Ashfield, on 23rd July, 1896.
 Petitions received.
3. **MINING ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
HAMPDEN, *Message No. 36.*
Governor.
 A Bill, intituled “*An Act to alter and amend Sections 14 and 63 of the ‘Mining Act, 1874,’ and for other purposes in connection therewith,*”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.
Government House,
Sydney, 31st July, 1896.
4. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday next:—
 (1.) Co-operative Colliery Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
 (2.) Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company’s Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
5. **PAPERS**:—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Return to an Order, made on 14th July, 1896,—“*Insanitary state of the Town of Forbes.*”
 (2.) Return to an Order, made on 16th July, 1896,—“*Dismissal of Constable Whealy.*”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. **MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Harris, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
7. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
 (1.) City Mutual Life Assurance Society’s (Limited) Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
 (2.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
 (3.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
8. **MORUYA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENABLING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Millard moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Millard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Millard, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
9. **TRUCK BILL (No. 2)**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages, to prohibit such payments being made in goods or otherwise than in money, and to regulate the service of legal process,—
 Mr. Fegan moved, That the Order of the Day be discharged.
 Question put and passed.
10. **INTERNATIONAL PATENTS ARRANGEMENTS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Griffith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
 Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
 The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883.
 On motion of Mr. Griffith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
11. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) Half-Holiday Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill for limiting the hours of work in factories and places of business;—until Tuesday, 18th August.
 (2.) Law Practitioners Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 10th November.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th August, 1896.

12. AUSTRALASIAN FEDERATION :—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Griffith, "That, in the opinion of this House, the representatives to be elected by the people of New South Wales to the forthcoming Federal Convention can only meet on equal terms representatives from the other Colonies who are also elected direct by the people, and should under no circumstances sit in convention with the mere nominees of any Government,"—

And the Question being again proposed,—

Mr. Crick moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 32.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. H. H. Brown,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Cotton,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Morton,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Hogue.
Mr. Waddell,	

Noes, 14.

Mr. Miller,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Collins,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Fegan.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Black,
Mr. Alleck.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 18th August.

13. TICK PEST :—Mr. Pyers moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the loss and disasters suffered by Queensland in consequence of the spread of the tick pest, and the imminent dangers of similar loss to New South Wales by the apprehended spread of the pest to this Colony, render it necessary, in the best interests of the people, to prohibit the importation of Queensland live-stock until the pest shall have been eradicated in the latter Colony.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Price moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 18th August.

14. TIMBER INDUSTRY :—Mr. Pyers moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the imposition of license fees and heavy royalties upon timber-cutters is a severe tax upon and seriously handicaps the timber industry.

(2.) That immediate steps should be taken to more economically administer the Forest Department, with a view to reducing these high fees.

Question put, and Division called for,—but there being no Tellers on the part of the *Noes*, no Division could be had, and Mr. Speaker declared the Question to have been resolved in the affirmative.

15. RYAN'S CONDITIONAL PURCHASES IN THE WAGGA WAGGA LAND DISTRICT :—Mr. Ashton, for Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the cases of Thomas Ryan, Ellen Ryan, and Anastasia Ryan, selectors, in the Wagga Wagga Land District.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Waddell, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Greene, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Watson, and the Mover.

(3.) That the Reports, Minutes of Proceedings, and Evidence of previous Select Committees on this case, be referred to such Committee.

Question put and passed.

16. SUPREME COURT APPEALS BILL :—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend and regulate the practice and procedure relating to applications for new trials of actions in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, and of appeals thereto from an Equity, Probate, Divorce, Bankruptcy, or District Court; and to amend the District Courts Act; and for other purposes.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

17. MINISTERIAL OFFICES REDUCTION BILL :—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Act 47 Victoria No. 5, so as to abolish the Ministerial offices of Attorney-General and the Postmaster-General; to transfer the Department of the Post Office as at present constituted to the control of the Minister of Public Instruction; and to create a Department of Industry, to define in certain cases the duties of certain Ministers; and for other purposes.

Question put and passed.

4th August, 1896.

18. OFFICERS OF THE DEFENCE FORCE :—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The names of all officers of the Defence Force who have attended military schools or been attached to British regiments in England or India while in receipt of salaries from the Government of New South Wales.
 - (2.) The total amount of salary received by each such officer during the period he was absent from the Colony learning his profession.
 - (3.) The total sum paid by the Government to or on behalf of each such officer during his absence from New South Wales, including travelling expenses, fees, maintenance, and all other moneys (exclusive of salary) paid in connection with the military education of such officers.
- Question put and passed.

19. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at ten minutes before Ten o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 38.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 5 AUGUST, 1896.

I. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Road and Unexpended Votes:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact, as stated by Mr. McMillan on Thursday, 30th July, "that £333,000 of the Road "Vote for 1895-6 came from Treasury Bills"?

(2.) Is it a fact, as stated by Mr. McMillan, "that, on the 30th June, 1895, there were unexpended "Votes amounting to the sum of £1,059,853"?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) No; the Treasury Bills were authorised to meet the Deficiency Debt up to 30th June, 1895.

(2.) Yes; but as explained in my financial statement last month, the total expenditure for the past year on account of these unexpended Votes, which belong to the first half of 1895 and previous years, was £967,000.

(2.) Clergymen visiting Goals:—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Have any or all of the clergymen who have been written to, asking them to give their services free of cost in the gaols, according to the return tabled, on the motion of Mr. Schey, replied; if so, who have replied, and what is the nature of such reply?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to pay any who may decline to minister to the prisoners free of cost?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Most of the chaplains have replied. Though protesting against the withdrawal of the salaries formerly paid, they are willing to continue to act as honorary chaplains.

(2.) None of the chaplains have declined to continue to act without payment. They will be duly appointed as honorary chaplains, but such representations as may be made on the subject of payment will be brought under the notice of the Public Service Board.

(3.) Appointments to the Civil Service:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many of those persons appointed to the Civil Service by the present Government are still in the Service?

(2.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return showing the names of those as above now in the Service, together with the salary they are now receiving?

Mr. Brunker answered,—If the Honorable Member will kindly move for the return referred to in the second part of his Question, I shall be very glad to furnish the information.

(4.) Salaries of Attendants and Nurses:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the attendants and nurses in the Hospitals for the Insane have not been paid their last month's salaries?

(2.) If not, why?

(3.) Is it the intention of the Public Service Board to adhere to the *Government Gazette* notice of the 5th May, 1896, *re* the attendants' salaries?

(4.) Is it a fact that the attendants and nurses of the various Hospitals for the Insane forwarded a request, respectfully worded, early in July, to the Public Service Board, asking them to receive a deputation, and failed to elicit a reply, favourable or otherwise, from that body?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that their salaries will be paid to-day.

(3.) The Board propose, in some particulars, to revise the scale of salaries, and their decision will shortly be made known.

(4.) The petition referred to was forwarded to the Board on the 22nd ultimo, but owing to press of work they have not yet been able to arrange for an interview, which, however, they intend to do at as early a date as possible.

(5.)

5th August, 1896.

(5.) Valuer under Land and Income Tax for Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The number of applications received for the office of assessor or valuer under the Land and Income Tax for the Molong Electorate?
- (2.) The names of the successful applicants, and the salary or rate they are paid respectively?
- (3.) The number of cases they have to deal with in each respective division?
- (4.) The time allowed for completion of the work?
- (5.) What is the particular portion laid out for each respective assessor?
- (6.) How were their qualifications for the position ascertained?
- (7.) Was the lowest tender in all cases accepted; if not, for what reason were the lowest tenders declined?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Seventy-one tenders were received for divisions 3, 12, 13, 14, and 16, of the Orange Land Board District and division "A" of the Dubbo Land Board District. The Molong electorate comprises divisions 13 and 14, and parts of 3, 12, and 16 (Orange), and part of division "A" (Dubbo.)
- (2.) A. D. Eastmure, £135; C. J. Smith, £97 10s.; A. D. Eastmure, £128 10s.; W. J. Hadley, £120; J. M. Dixon, £160; H. A. D. O'Connor, £125.
- (3.) The Commissioners are not aware.
- (4.) H. A. D. O'Connor's contract expires on 30th September. The remainder on 7th September.
- (5.) A. D. Eastmure, divisions 3 and 13, C. J. Smith, division 12, W. J. Hadley, division 14, J. M. Dixon, division 16, Orange Land Board District; and H. A. D. O'Connor's, division "A," of Dubbo Land Board District.
- (6.) These men were appointed on the recommendation of the District Commissioner and the Government Land Valuer.
- (7.) No. The tender that was considered most suitable was recommended for acceptance.

(6.) Architects in Public Service:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Hogue, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is he aware that architects employed in the Public Service are in the habit of doing private work, and will he have instructions given that in future the practice shall be discontinued?

Mr. Young answered,—I am not aware; but I have just been informed that an architect employed in my Department is having a house erected for himself at Turramurra, and I understand a friend of his is also building a house alongside, and the officer referred to drew the plans thereof in his own time and without charge, and he is supervising the buildings after office hours. The matter was referred to the Public Service Board so soon as it came under attention, to be dealt with under section 64 of the Public Service Act.

(7.) Application of Mr. Tindall for Land at Helman's Tank, near Nymagee:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Has the matter of Tindall's application for a large area (over 200 acres) of auriferous land at Helman's Tank, on the Overflow Run, near Nymagee, been brought under his notice?
- (2.) Was the fact disclosed, on the evidence before the Warden's Court at Nymagee, that Tindall took possession of this large area of land under mineral licenses, and that at the time he was not the holder of a mineral license, nor any other authority by which he could take possession of Crown lands?
- (3.) Was the fact disclosed before the said Warden's Court that Tindall, after marking out the land, abandoned it for some considerable time, and failed to carry out any of the conditions that would be necessary to hold the land, even if he had been legally entitled to take possession of it?
- (4.) Was the fact disclosed before the said Warden's Court that, after Tindall had illegally marked off and abandoned the land, the said land was legally taken possession of by several miners in virtue of their miners' rights?
- (5.) Was it disclosed in evidence, taken before the said Warden's Court, that, subsequent to the miners taking possession of the land aforesaid, Tindall applied to convert the land which he had previously illegally marked out and abandoned into mineral leases, and that he sought the aid of the said Warden's Court to remove the miners who were in possession?
- (6.) Did Tindall admit in his evidence before the said Warden's Court that he knew the land contained gold, and that he applied for it for the purpose of mining for gold, and not for other minerals under mineral areas in contravention to the Act?
- (7.) Did the Warden after taking the evidence refuse to dispossess the miners who held the land in virtue of their miners' rights, and strongly recommend the refusal of Tindall's application?
- (8.) Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table of this House all papers, including reports, recommendations, evidence, &c., in connection with this case?
- (9.) Is it a fact that he, notwithstanding the recommendation of the Warden, has granted Tindall's application for a lease of the land referred to?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Legal proceedings are now pending in the Warden's Court in regard to the several matters referred to by the Honorable Member, and I would be glad if he would kindly postpone these Questions until the matters have been determined. I may say, however, that the application for a lease has not been granted.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Mackay—From certain inhabitants of Rye Park.
- (2.) By Mr. Howarth—From certain inhabitants of North Sydney and Willoughby.
- (3.) By Mr. E. M. Clark—From certain inhabitants of North Sydney.

(4.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

5th August, 1896.

- (4.) By Mr. Robert Jones—From certain inhabitants of Mudgee.
 (5.) By Mr. Robert Jones—From certain inhabitants of Collingwood and McDonald's Creek.
 (6.) By Mr. Robert Jones—From certain inhabitants of Burrundulla and Broombee, in the Mudgee District.
 (7.) By Mr. Law—From certain members of the Baptist Congregation, Balmain.
 Petitions received.

3. THE UNEMPLOYED :—Mr. Schey presented a Petition from certain unemployed of the City of Sydney and its environs, representing that they are in distressed and destitute circumstances owing to their inability of securing employment ; and praying that the House will provide them with work at fair and reasonable rates.
 Petition received.

4. PAPER :—Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1895.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. NEVERTIRE TO WARREN RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Nevertire to Warren ; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway ; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads ; and for other purposes.
 Question put and passed.

6. MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Harris, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Harris then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 5th August, 1896.*

7. MORUYA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENABLING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Millard, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Millard then moved, that the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the Council of the Municipality of Moruya to recover rates for the year 1895 to 1896 on the basis of the rate imposed for the year 1894 to 1895, and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Council of the Municipality of Moruya to recover rates for the year 1895 to 1896 on the basis of the rate imposed for the year 1894 to 1895, and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 5th August, 1896.*

8. OLD AGE PROVISION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday, 18th August, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with the view of making competent provision for old age ; and for other purposes connected therewith.
 Question put and passed.

9. AUSTRALIAN LEGAL PROFESSIONS FEDERATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to federate the legal professions in Australia, and for other purposes connected therewith.
 Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Schey then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to federate the legal professions in Australia, and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

10. BARRISTERS AND SOLICITORS FEES BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Schey moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the refund of fees paid to barristers and solicitors in certain cases.
 Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Schey then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate the refund of fees paid to barristers and solicitors in certain cases,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

5th August, 1896.

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11. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans, relating to the proposed improvement of Cook's River. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
12. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney-Phillip Division, Mr. Copeland, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order; that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The apparent intention of the Government of accepting the responsibility of governing Norfolk Island without consulting Parliament or laying the correspondence upon the Table in compliance with a Resolution of the House, carried on the 10th June last.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Copeland moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
13. **WATER RIGHTS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 6 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments. On motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 39.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 6 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Abatements and Gratuities payable from the Consolidated Revenue Fund :—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What amount will have to be paid from the Consolidated Revenue for abatements and gratuities on account of the retrenchment effected by the Public Service Board?

(2.) What is the additional drainage per annum on the Superannuation Fund by the retirements made by the Public Service Board?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is impossible to supply this information until the completion of the reorganization of the Service. The report of the Board, which in due course will be presented, will include the fullest information on the points referred to by the Honorable Member.

- (2.) Revenue derived from Wharfs at Darling Harbour and Blackwattle Bay :—*Mr. Watkins*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What has been the quantity and class of goods landed at Darling Harbour wharf and Blackwattle Bay wharf for the years 1893, 1894, and 1895, and the revenue derived from each wharf for each year for each class of goods?

Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.

- (3.) Forest Thinning at Narrandera :—*Mr. Black* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that the men now burning off on the forest blocks at Narrandera have in addition to ringbark, grub, box, and knock off the suckers from rung timber, and are paid at the rate of 9d. per acre?

(2.) Is he aware that the earnings of even the best men at this rate only amount to from 5s. to 12s. weekly, and that the sum thus earned, adequate to supply food to the single men; is so inadequate to fill the wants of the married, that their wives and children in many cases are forced to beg from the neighbouring selectors?

(3.) Will he cause inquiry to be made in order that, should the verity of these statements be upheld, he may raise the price per acre or substitute for piece-work day wages?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Inquiry has been made, and upon the strength of representations received it was decided to increase the rate from 9d. to 1s. per acre. I have since, however, directed that if good men cannot, at this higher rate, earn 6s. per day, it is to be further increased to enable them to do so.

- (4.) Registry Offices :—*Mr. Black* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that in some registry offices the employers are not charged, but the employees are not only charged registration fees but also fees amounting to five and in some cases ten per cent. on a year's wages before they are furnished with the address of intending employers?

(2.) Is he aware that some of these offices have an evil reputation as places for procuring?

(3.) Will he consider the advisability of having all such places registered and placed under supervision?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1 and 2.) The Inspector-General of Police has no definite information, but complaints have been made that some of the offices are not properly conducted.

(3.) The matter shall receive consideration.

- (5.) Shorthand and Book-keeping Classes at the Technical College :—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the shorthand, book-keeping, and business penmanship classes have been discontinued at the Technical College; if so, for what reason?

(2.) Is it a fact that 108 students attended the shorthand class during the third term, 1895?

Mr.

6th August, 1896.

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Yes. The classes were discontinued, as there was not sufficient accommodation, the rooms being required for purely technical classes.
- (2.) The enrolment was 108; the daily average attendance, 46.

(6.) Narrabri to Walgett Railway:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Collins*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has he decided on submitting the Narrabri and Walgett railway to the Works Committee for report?
- (2.) If not, in view of the number of men that will be out of work at the conclusion of the Narrabri and Moree railway contract, will he have the matter brought before the Cabinet as soon as possible?

Mr. Young answered,—This has not yet been decided.

(7.) Circulars sent to Country Postmasters:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Collins*, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Is he aware that a firm of drapers in Sydney has sent circulars to the country postmasters informing them that they will allow a commission on all orders they forward to their firm?
- (2.) If such is the case, will he immediately instruct the officials that they should not in any way interfere in business matters to the detriment of country storekeepers?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) On the matter being brought under notice, the following instructions were issued to official postmasters through the medium of the Post Office Monthly Circular for June last:—"As it appears that inducements by way of commission, &c., are held out to postmasters by certain business people for the obtaining of orders for the supply of goods, it is hereby notified that official postmasters, telegraph-masters, or any other such officers are not to undertake matters of this kind."

(8.) Designs for New Parliament Houses:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Have there ever been any designs sent in to the Government for New Parliament Houses?
- (2.) If so, how many have been sent in, and are now in possession of the Government?
- (3.) Was any sum offered as premiums for designs of New Parliament Houses?
- (4.) If so, what was the amount?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) In 1860 designs were sent in for new Parliamentary Buildings, which included accommodation for all Government officers.
- (2.) Twenty designs received, and two were retained.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) £600 and £300, for the first and second designs respectively.

(9.) *Mr. Isaacs*, Stipendiary Magistrate:—*Mr. Wilks* asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Did *Mr. Isaacs*, the recently-appointed Stipendiary Magistrate, pass a set examination previous to appointment?
- (2.) If so, what was the nature of the examination?
- (3.) Will he place upon the Table of this House a copy of the examination papers (if any) set *Mr. Isaacs* by the Public Service Commissioners?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The nature of the examination is prescribed in regulation No. 36 under the "Public Service Act of 1895."
- (3.) The examination was conducted by *Mr. J. L. Campbell*, barrister, the examiner-in-law to the Public Service Board. It is considered undesirable to comply with the Honorable Member's request that the examination papers be laid upon the Table.

(10.) Bogie Sheep Vans:—*Mr. Dacey* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have the new bogie sheep vans (*Ritchie's* contract) failed to run properly; if so, what is the cause thereof?
- (2.) Have all the axle brasses been condemned and replaced by new ones; if so, at whose expense were the alterations effected?
- (3.) Who inspected these vans on behalf of the Railway Department during construction?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed the axle brasses on the vans ran hot when the vehicles were first put into service.
- (2.) The brasses have been condemned, and replaced by others at the expense of the contractors.
- (3.) The vans were inspected by officers of the Department during construction.

(11.) Secretary to the Attorney-General:—*Mr. Price* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is the Secretary to the Attorney-General permitted to practise privately in the Courts?
- (2.) Does *Mr. Pollock* hold private briefs?
- (3.) Is *Mr. Pollock* briefed in the *Mercadool* case?
- (4.) If so, what fees will he receive?
- (5.) Has the Governor's permission been obtained for *Mr. Pollock* to practise privately, as is required by the Public Service Act?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) Yes, in one application for postponement of criminal trial, but without fee.
- (4.) Answered by No. 3.
- (5.) No.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th August, 1896.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—

(1.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. Mahony—From certain members of the Morning Star Division, Sons and Daughters of Temperance.

(2.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain inhabitants of Nanama Creek and Muntoonan.

(3.) By Mr. Garrard—From certain inhabitants of Blacktown and Seven Hills.

(4.) By Mr. Garrard—From certain members of the Blacktown Branch of the Church of England Temperance Society.

(5.) By Mr. Rigg—From certain inhabitants of St. Peters.

(6.) By Mr. Archibald Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Wollongong.

(7.) By Mr. Archibald Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Dapto and surrounding District.

(8.) By Mr. Archibald Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Marshall Mount.

(9.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain inhabitants of Muntoonan.

Petitions received.

(2.) The following Petitions,—praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. Nicholson—From certain residents in the Electoral District of Woronora.

(2.) By Mr. Gormly—From certain residents in the Electoral District of Wagga Wagga.

(3.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain residents in the Electoral District of The Murrumbidgee.

Petitions received.

3. PAPERS :—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 29th July, 1896,—“Employment of men on the Sewerage Works at Botany.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for the year ended 30th June, 1896.

(2.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for the quarter ended 30th June, 1896.

(3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land at Eveleigh, parish of Alexandria, county of Cumberland, for maintaining the Railway traffic between Sydney and Parramatta.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Annual Report of the Stock and Brands Branch of the Department of Mines and Agriculture, being for 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twelfth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. SUPREME COURT APPEALS PRACTICE BILL :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Crick, pursuant to leave granted on 4th August, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend and regulate the practice and procedure relating to applications for New Trials of actions in the Supreme Court of New South Wales and of appeals thereto from an Equity, Probate, Divorce, Bankruptcy, or District Court, and to amend the District Courts Act, and for other purposes.*”—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.6. NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL :—Mr. Gould, pursuant to leave granted on 12th June, 1896, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such districts as the Governor may direct, and within the districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those districts, and for other purposes in connection therewith.*”—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.7. JUDGES RELATIVES DISQUALIFICATION BILL :—Mr. Griffith, pursuant to leave granted on 14th July, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to prevent relations of Judges from practising as advocates in Courts presided over by such Judges.*”—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 15th September.

8. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—

(1.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 27th October.

(2.) Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 10th November.

9. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Gloucester, Mr. Price, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The necessity for making provision for the appointment of a staff of competent shorthand-writers in connection with the Law Courts of the Colony.”

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Price moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

6th August, 1896.

10. **FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 7 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

11. **WATER RIGHTS BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Bruncker, passed.

Mr. Bruncker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water, and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water, and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 7th August, 1896, a.m.

12. **NEVERTIRE TO WARREN RAILWAY BILL:**—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

The House adjourned, at nineteen minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 40.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 11 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) No. 2 Illawarra Half Squadron of New South Wales Lancers:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Nicholson*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In view of the fact that the uniforms and accoutrements of the No. 2 Illawarra Half Squadron of New South Wales Lancers have been called in and returned, are these men not entitled to their deferred pay?

(2.) Are these men not entitled to their efficiency money, seeing that Major-General Hutton reports that they have fulfilled the conditions of efficiency?

(3.) If these men are entitled to their deferred and efficiency pay, when will they receive payment?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The following Answers have been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

(1.) Yes. The men are entitled to their deferred pay, less deficiencies and damages to arms and equipment.

(2.) Strictly speaking, they are not entitled to efficiency money, but as 1 officer and 19 men attended both of the only two parades held during the year in which they were disbanded, efficiency money might be paid to these men, with the approval of the Government.

(3.) What deferred pay is due to the men cannot be computed until all arms and Government property have been returned. This is almost completed. No delay will occur in adjusting the matter.

- (2.) Closing of Circuit or District Court Gaols:—*Mr. Affeck* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has the Government arrived at any decision yet as to their intention with regard to the recommendation of the Public Service Board *re* the closing of various gaols?

(2.) If it is the intention to close up such buildings as Circuit or District Court Gaols, what do the Government intend to turn them into?

(3.) Has the Government given attention to the idea of turning those gaols to be closed, and those which have never been used as such, although built as gaols, into old men's destitute asylums?

(4.) If the Government has not, will it do so, instead of expending money building new premises for the purpose of housing the old men?

(5.) What is the total number of the buildings referred to, and where are they situated?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Public Service Board have not recommended the abolition of any gaols. At four gaols, however, *viz.*, Forbes, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong, and Yass. they have provided for a limited staff only after the 31st December next, with a view to their being classed and worked as Police Gaols. The only building erected for gaol purposes, and not used as such, is the one at Glen Innes, and no consideration has been given to the question of converting any of the gaols into asylums for destitute old men.

- (3.) Persons employed in Land and Income Tax Department:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many persons submitted themselves for examination recently for position of clerkship in the Land and Income Tax Department?

(2.) What was the nature of the examination, and how many marks or points had candidates to obtain to be successful?

(3.) How many passed the said examination and have been given employment?

(4.) The names of those who passed?

(5.)

11th August, 1896.

(5.) How many persons, together with the names of same, have been employed doing night-work in the Land and Income Tax Department, and from what Department have they been selected, and by whom selected; the amount of pay they earn or receive per night for said work, and the salary each person receives for his usual daily services or annual salary?

(6.) How many of these are retrenched officers?

(7.) What is the nature of the expert work these persons are employed upon at night?

Mr. Reid answered,—To give the full information asked for by the Honorable Member would involve the preparation of a rather long return which, if desired, must be moved for in the usual way; but I can at once give a good deal of the information the Honorable Member seeks:—351 persons submitted themselves to the examination recently held in connection with the Land and Income Tax Department; of these, 283 passed and 68 failed to obtain over 55 per cent. of the number of marks. Of those who passed 108 have received employment, and as the work demands it this number will be increased until the staff is complete. The examination was a simple one, and comprised the copying of a brief schedule with additions of pounds, shillings, and pence. The employment of permanent officials after office hours has been found necessary in the interests of economy and urgency, but the work in this direction will be confined within the narrowest possible limits.

(4.) Repairs to Parramatta Road:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that for the last few years the Parramatta Road as far as Leichhardt has been allowed to get into such a state of disrepair as to be almost dangerous for vehicles to travel over by day or night?

(2.) Will he see that a large sum of money is placed at the disposal of the Commissioner for Roads, so that this main road of the Colony may be placed in a proper state of repair at least as far as Battle Bridge?

(3.) Will he also consult with the Commissioner for Roads as to the advisability and cost of wood-blocking the Parramatta Road from where the present contract for wood-blocking terminates at Broadway, Glebe, to Battle Bridge?

Mr. Young answered,—It is quite true this road is in a bad state, and I have approved of a special sum of £3,000 being set apart for the repair thereof, which will be available as soon as the Estimates are passed. I will have an estimate and report made with regard to the wood-blocking asked for by the Honorable Member.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Mackay—From certain inhabitants of Frogmoor and District.

(2.) By Mr. Harvey—From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, William-street, Sydney.

(3.) By Mr. Wright—From certain inhabitants of Glen Innes.

(4.) By Mr. Bull—From certain inhabitants of Camden and surrounding District.

Petitions received.

3. ORANGE SHOW GROUND BILL:—Mr. Newman presented a Petition from Andrew Taylor Kerr, one of the trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association to mortgage certain lands granted to the said trustees for the use and general purposes of the said Association for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities of the said Association incurred in erecting the buildings and improvements now standing upon the said lands, and to effect further improvements thereon; and also to sell the same lands, and to purchase other lands in the town of Orange or in the vicinity of the said town for the use of the said Association, and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to effect improvements thereon.

And Mr. Newman having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and *Western Advocate*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return showing amount of special grants made to municipalities since 1st January, 1895.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for certain drainage works in connection with the western suburbs of Sydney.

(3.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of St. Andrew, county of Cumberland, for a public wharf and approaches thereto at Darling Harbour.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of July, 1896.

(2.) Interim Return of Gratuities, &c., recommended by the Public Service Board under section 60 of the Public Service Act.

(3.) Interim Return of Refunds recommended by the Public Service Board under section 62 of the Public Service Act.

(4.) Interim Return of Pensions recommended by the Public Service Board.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th August, 1896.

5. **MINISTERIAL PORTFOLIOS REDUCTION BILL**:—*Mr. Chapman*, for *Mr. Crick*, pursuant to leave granted on 4th August, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Act 47 Victoria No. 5, so as to abolish the Ministerial offices of Attorney-General and the Postmaster-General; to transfer the Department of the Post Office as at present constituted to the control of the Minister of Public Instruction; and to create a Department of Industry, to define in certain cases the duties of certain Ministers; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
6. **STALLIONS AND RACEHORSES REGISTRATION BILL**:—*Mr. Chapman*, for *Mr. Crick*, pursuant to leave granted on 23rd July, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to impose a yearly registration fee on all stallions, and also on all horses kept for racing purposes, and for other purposes in connection therewith*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
7. **ANNUAL LEASES ON CHARLES BALDWIN'S MANILLA RUN, LAND DISTRICT OF TAMWORTH (Formal Motion)**:—*Mr. Levien* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all letters, petitions, documents, applications, repeals, objections, or papers in connection with the annual lease No. 14,999, on Charles Baldwin's Manilla Run, Land District of Tamworth. Question put and passed.
8. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Co-operative Colliery Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 1st September.
(2.) Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company's Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 1st September.
(3.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 15th September.
(4.) North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
9. **ADJOURNMENT**:—*Mr. Speaker* stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Rylstone, *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The persistent refusal of the authorities to permit of the examination by independent medical practitioners of *William Creswell*, an inmate of the Parramatta Lunatic Asylum, and alleged to be identical with *Roger Tiehborne*."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Fitzpatrick moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
10. **PENNY POSTAGE**:—*Mr. Moore* moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the existing 13-mile radius penny postage system is inequitable in its operation, benefiting certain districts only, and the same should be abolished in favour of an uniform "penny" postage rate throughout the Colony.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Macdonald moved, That the Question be amended by inserting after the word "penny," in the last line, the words "half-penny."
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.
Debate continued.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted,—put and negatived.
Original Question then put and passed.
11. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE BILL**:—*Mr. Rose* moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Committee of Public Works in the place of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works; and for the purposes incidental thereto.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
12. **GORE AND ARTARMON ESTATES, NORTH SHORE**:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claims and titles to the various grants known as the Gore and Artarmon Estates, North Shore.
(2.) That such Committee consist of *Mr. Carruthers*, *Mr. Howarth*, *Mr. Haynes*, *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, *Mr. Law*, *Mr. O'Sullivan*, *Mr. Watson*, *Mr. Gormly*, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
13. **MAINTENANCE OF WIDOWS, CHILDREN, AND OTHER DEPENDENTS OF MINERS**:—*Mr. Thomas* moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should at "once" inaugurate a fund to provide a maintenance for the widows, the children, and other dependents of miners killed whilst following their avocation.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Perry moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.

11th August, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 17.		Noes, 18.	
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Newman,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Pycrs,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Aflock,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Greene.	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Garrard,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Bavister.
Dr. Ross,		Mr. Hurley,	<i>Tellers;</i>
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Mackay.	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Thomas.
Mr. Jessop,		Mr. Nicholson,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Main Question again stated.

Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 12 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That the Question be amended by inserting after the word "once" the words "take steps to induce mine owners and their employees to"

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.

Debate continued.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question,—That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should at once take steps to induce mine owners and their employees to inaugurate a fund to provide a maintenance for the widows, the children, and other dependents of miners killed whilst following their avocation,—put and passed.

14. IMPROVEMENT OF THE RICHMOND RIVER NEAR TUCKIAN:—Mr. Perry moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it should be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of carrying out certain works for the improvement of the Richmond River near Tuckian, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters.

Debate ensued.

Motion, by leave, withdrawn.

15. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at sixteen minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 41.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 12 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Influx of Asiatics and other Coloured Races:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the fact of the arrival on Monday last of fifty Assyrians and Afghans?
 (2.) Is he aware it is reported a large number are also on their way to the Colony, or about to leave their own homes for it?
 (3.) What does he propose to do to stop their arrival?
 (4.) Will he introduce his Coloured Races Restriction Bill, and try and get it through all its stages in one day; if so, when will he do so?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Government recognise fully the importance of the Question asked by the Honorable Member, and also the necessity for the introduction of a Bill. Recognising, however, that it is desirable to obtain the opinion of the other Colonies with regard to the introduction of alien labour, until that is done a Bill cannot be introduced; but the Government are taking active steps to introduce a Bill at as early a date as possible.

- (2.) Contract Return of Stores and Stationery in New South Wales and Victoria:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Controller-General of Stores amended contract return shows that certain articles, which are admitted into Victoria free of duty, are from 50 to 75 per cent. dearer than a similar quality of goods in New South Wales?
 (2.) As an instance of the above Question, does the New South Wales Government Storekeeper assert that the following goods are identically the same quality in both Colonies, viz.:—15,000 yards calico, N.B., 72-inch: New South Wales, 10d. yard, £625, 1½ per cent. advance; Victoria, 1s. yard, £750, 70-inch. 12,000 yards calico, 65-inch: New South Wales, 4d. yard, £200, 1½ per cent. advance; Victoria, 5¼d. yard, £287 10s., 36-inch. 15,000 yards calico, 33-inch: New South Wales, 3d. yard, £187 10s., 1½ per cent. advance; Victoria, 5½d. yard, £343 15s.?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) The goods are not identically the same quality in both Colonies. 72-inch calico unbleached (probably printed in error N.B.), supplied under New South Wales contract at 10d. per yard, is of greater market value than Victorian supply at 12d. per yard. The same applies to calico 35-inch, probably misquoted at 65-inch. New South Wales sample of 33-inch calico is slightly less market value than Victorian.

- (3.) Selectors' Annual Payments:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) When will the regulation forms be issued so as to enable selectors to apply for a reduction of annual payment to 6d. or 9d., as provided for by the Act of 1896?
 (2.) Will selectors who are now in arrears be entitled to come under the abovementioned reduced payments?
 (3.) Will he introduce a short Bill to reduce the 10. per cent. fine now imposed on selectors who are in arrears?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The regulation and forms have been approved by the Governor in Council, and the forms are now available.
 (2.) Each case will have to be dealt with on its merits, paying regard to the state of the selector's account, and whether the reduction can be made within the terms of the Act.
 (3.) There is no 10 per cent. fine, but one at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, which is enforced only in cases which are without merits. I do not intend to introduce a Bill to do away with that.

12th August, 1896.

(4.) Roads in the Gloucester Electorate:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that applications for the establishment of roads in the electorate of Gloucester have been under consideration by the Lands Department for over two years, and several roads are still being dealt with?
- (2.) If so, who is responsible for the delay—the officers of the Lands Department or the District Surveyor?
- (3.) Was the Road Branch of the Lands Department reorganised by the Minister or the Public Service Commissioners; if so, with what results?
- (4.) Will he make a further inquiry as to the mode of conducting the business in the Roads Branch of the Lands and the District Surveyor's Office, also as to the efficiency of the officers, and inaugurate such changes as will cause the business of the Branch to be expedited?
- (5.) In view of the great loss sustained by the farmers and settlers through the roads not being established, will he cause the work to be proceeded with in an energetic manner?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—If the Honorable Member will give information to identify the roads in question, I will ascertain if there has been any undue delay, who is responsible for the same, and what steps are necessary to expedite action.

(5.) Pharmacy Bill:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. Ewing*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When does the Government intend to introduce the Pharmacy Bill, as mentioned in the Governor's Speech?
- (2.) Is he aware that, while this important measure is delayed, numbers of qualified men cannot be registered as chemists and druggists by the Pharmacy Board under the present defective law?
- (3.) Will he state if it is the intention of the Government in drafting the Pharmacy Bill to recognise existing and vested rights?
- (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to recognise pharmaceutical diplomas of other parts of the world providing they are equivalent to the standard of New South Wales?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) This Session.
- (2.) Other more important measures have to be considered.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) Certainly.

(6.) Long Bay Road, Randwick:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Storey*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) In what year was the Long Bay Road, Randwick, made?
- (2.) Was such road made by the Government?
- (3.) Was not the whole of the Long Bay Road subsidised or kept in repair by the Government until about 7th March, 1894?
- (4.) Did the Randwick Council, on or about 7th March, 1894, execute a bond, agreeing to maintain portion of the Long Bay Road only, viz., from the Belmore Road to the Cemetery?
- (5.) Did such bond contain any provision asking that the rest of the road, viz., from the Cemetery outwards, should also be maintained by the Council?
- (6.) What is the total mileage of roads made by the Government on the Church and School Lands, Randwick?
- (7.) Is the Government going to throw the responsibility of maintaining these roads on the borough of Randwick?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) About 1860.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) No; but the road being within the municipality and not being a main road of the Colony, its maintenance is a matter for the Council.
- (6 and 7.) For information respecting roads on the Church and School Lands, I must refer the Honorable Member to my Honorable Colleague the Minister for Public Instruction.

(7.) Buffalo Creek Bridge:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. H. H. Brown*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What was the quantity, nature, and value, at schedule rates, of the work that had to be done on the contract for the erection of the Buffalo Creek Bridge, Field of Mars, when the contract was cancelled?
- (2.) What was the actual sum paid for each item, as above, and the total sum so paid?
- (3.) Was it not a condition of the said contract that the Government should supply to the contractor for erection all the ironwork for the completion of the bridge?
- (4.) When, and by whom, was the ironwork for the completion of the piers to be supplied?
- (5.) Was it not a fact that the contractor for the erection of the bridge made repeated demands for such ironwork, without which the contractor could not complete the work?
- (6.) When was the contract cancelled?
- (7.) Was it not a fact that such ironwork was not delivered up to the time that the contract was cancelled?
- (8.) What was the value of the work actually done, including work below low-water line, not shown or described on plan or specification?
- (9.) Is it not a fact that no money whatever was paid to the contractor?
- (10.) What is the name of the officer who had charge of this work; had he had any experience whatever at such work; if so, when and where?

Mr.

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Mr. Young answered,—I must ask the Honorable Member to move for the production of these papers, as giving the information in the form of Answers to Questions will not be satisfactory. If the Honorable Member will move that the papers be laid upon the Table of this House, I shall have much pleasure in having them laid upon the Table.

(8.) Public Works Inquiry Commission:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Questions previously asked concerning the Commission appointed to inquire into charges preferred by Mr. Varney Parkes against officers of the Public Works Department,—

- (1.) Has the limited sum available for Mr. Parkes been exceeded; if so, by how much?
- (2.) Has Mr. Parkes asked for a further sum to enable him to complete the inquiry?
- (3.) Has any such sum been promised; if so, to what amount?
- (4.) Has any application been made to extend the inquiry for a further term of two months?
- (5.) By whom has the application been made?
- (6.) Is it his intention to authorise such further extension?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes, by £150; but the money expended by Mr. Parkes up to end of last month, namely, £350, includes £150 for services of a professional accountant. The Government cannot, as at present advised, undertake to pay more in all for this inquiry to Mr. Parkes than £500. The President applied for a further extension of time for two months, which has been granted.

(9.) Reappraisal of Special Areas in the Wagga District:—Mr. Hayes asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that a great many selectors, holders of special areas in the Wagga Land Board District, have not yet had their holdings reappraised, although their applications were sent in more than twelve months ago?
- (2.) If so, will he instruct the Chairman to have them set down for hearing at the next sittings of the Local Land Board?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Yes; but there has been an enormous pressure of work in this district, causing arrears to accumulate.

(10.) Kangaroos and Emus killed in the Colony:—Mr. Wright, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Secretary for Mines,—By what means does the Chief Inspector of Stock ascertain the number of kangaroos and emus killed in the Colony during the year?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The information is obtained from the returns furnished by the Pastures and Stock Protection Boards of the numbers paid for by them.

(11.) Aqueducts built at Arncliffe, Contracts 101 and 64:—Mr. Parkes asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the aqueducts lately built at Arncliffe, Contracts 101 and 64, are cracked throughout their lengths, and are from this and other reasons incapable of retaining the sewage liquid, and that they are now leaking badly from mere soakage water running through them?
- (2.) Will he have a report furnished as to the condition of these aqueducts by an independent authority, and lay the report, together with all papers in connection with these contracts, upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Young answered,—I will have a report prepared and laid upon the Table with the papers.

(12.) Members of the Detective Force:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that members of the Detective Force are in the habit of undertaking the work of private firms?
- (2.) Will he take steps to prohibit paid members of the Detective Force from entering upon work not officially connected with police duties?

Mr. Brunner answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that no such practice is permitted.

(13.) Accidents in Mines at Broken Hill:—Mr. McGowen, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) The number of fatal accidents that have occurred in connection with the Broken Hill mines since 1st January, 1896?
- (2.) The number of serious accidents other than fatal?
- (3.) The total number of accidents in or about those mines since 1st January, 1896, to the present date?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) 10 fatal.
- (2.) 12 serious other than fatal.
- (3.) Total number of accidents, 43.

(14.) Parliamentary Trams and Trains:—Mr. McGowen, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the cost of running late Parliamentary trains and trams per night?
- (2.) Could not some more economical means be devised to enable Members of the Assembly to reach their homes after ordinary train and tram hours?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The cost depends upon the extent of the service required. Calculated upon the basis of recent requirements the cost is £22 per night.
- (2.) I do not think so.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—

(1.) Mr. Wilks presented a Petition from certain members of the Balmain Congregational Church, referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.

Petition received.

(2).

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- (2.) The following Petitions,—praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—
- (1.) By Mr. O'Sullivan—From certain residents in the Electoral District of The Hume.
 - (2.) By Mr. Black—From certain members of the Scots Church, Sydney.
 - (3.) By Mr. E. M. Clark, for Mr. Jessep—From certain residents in the Electoral District of Waverley.
- Petitions received.
3. ELECTRIC TRAMWAY FROM CIRCULAR QUAY TO REDFERN RAILWAY STATION:—Mr. Wright presented a Petition from certain residents of the City of Sydney and surrounding boroughs, representing that a proposal to construct a double line of tramway through George-street, the great artery of the traffic of Sydney, is fraught with danger to the progress of the city, inasmuch as it is mainly, the Petitioners believe, put forward to delay, and, if possible, to prevent the completion of the railway system of the Colony by the construction of the line from Redfern to the deep waters of Port Jackson; that the enormous traffic in George-street will be further congested by the construction of the proposed tram-line; that the carriage of wool, hides, and tallow, as well as merchandise and heavy machinery, should be first removed, and that only by a properly-devised railway system; that there is no need at the present for the construction of a tram-line in Harris-street; that the width of George-street for the most part is so restricted that the space to be occupied will prove a serious interference with traffic; and praying that the House will reject the proposal, and sanction the construction, in the near future, of the line of railway from Redfern to the deep waters of Port Jackson.
- Petition received.
4. MR. LUKE HAYES:—Mr. Nelson presented a Petition from Luke Hayes, of Norton-street, Surry Hills, Sydney, representing that he was seriously injured in the railway accident at Peate's Ferry in the year 1887, and that in consequence he had since been unable to obtain a livelihood; and praying the House to favourably consider his case.
- Petition received.
5. PAPERS:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 16th July, 1896,—“ Rebate on Railway Rates for carriage of wheat.”
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Notifications of withdrawals, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Leases of the Mandamah, Upper Wyalong, and Barmedman Leasehold Areas.
 - (2.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (3.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (4.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (5.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 30th June, 1896.
 - (2.) Regulations under the Volunteer Force Regulation Act of 1867.
 - (3.) By-laws of the Borough of Wollongong.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. ADDITIONS TO THE TREASURY BUILDING:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- HAMPDEN, *Message No. 37.*
Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with proposed additions to the Treasury Building.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 11th August, 1896.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
7. ELECTRIC TRAMWAY FROM CIRCULAR QUAY TO REDFERN RAILWAY STATION:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- HAMPDEN, *Message No. 38.*
Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with proposed Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station and along Harris-street to the intersection of John-street.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 11th August, 1896.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
8. ORANGE SHOW GROUND BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Newman moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association to mortgage certain lands granted to the said trustees for the use and general purposes of the said Association, for the purpose of enabling

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities of the said Association incurred in erecting the buildings and improvements now standing upon the said lands, and to effect further improvements thereon; and also to sell the same lands, and to purchase other lands in the town of Orange or in the vicinity of the said town for the use of the said Association, and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to effect improvements thereon.

Question put and passed.

- (2.) Mr. Newman having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the trustees of the Orange Pastoral and Agricultural Association to mortgage certain lands granted to the said trustees for the use and general purposes of the said Association, for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to pay off the present liabilities of the said Association incurred in erecting the buildings and improvements now standing upon the said lands, and to effect further improvements thereon; and also to sell the same lands, and to purchase other lands in the town of Orange, or in the vicinity of the said town, for the use of the said Association, and to mortgage the lands so to be purchased for the purpose of enabling the said trustees to effect improvements thereon.*"—read a first time.

9. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the North Shore Bridge Bill postponed until To-morrow.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Clarence, Mr. McFarlane, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"*To draw attention to the action of the Government in demanding from residents in sparsely-settled districts contributions for the construction and repairs of roads.*"

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. McFarlane moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

11. **PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to further amend the law relating to Patents for Inventions and Improvements in Arts or Manufactures,*"—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the Prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Council requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Assembly's Standing Order in that behalf.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 12th August, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

And the 296th Standing Order of the House permitting of the restoration of the Bill to the stage it had reached at the close of last Session,—

Ordered that the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.

12. **ADDITIONS TO THE TREASURY BUILDING**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the proposed additions to the Treasury Building, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Question put and passed.

13. **ELECTRIC TRAMWAY FROM CIRCULAR QUAY TO REDFERN RAILWAY STATION**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the proposed Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station and along Harris-street to the intersection of John-street, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Morgan,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Smallos,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Young,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. McCourt.
Mr. Ewing,	
Mr. McLean,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Watson,	

Noes, 24

Mr. Miller,	Mr. Ferguson,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Watkins.
Mr. Chanter,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wright,	
Mr. See,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Price.
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Pycers,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Gillies,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Edden,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

14.

12th August, 1896.

14. **POSTPONEMENTS:**—Mr. Reid moved, That Government Orders of the Day Nos. 1 and 2 be postponed, to follow Order No. 3.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.

Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Ashton.
Mr. McLean,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Smailes,	

Noes, 24.

Mr. Miller,	Mr. Ferguson,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Watkins.
Mr. Chanter,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. See,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Affleck,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

15. **NEVERTIRE TO WARREN RAILWAY BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at eight minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 42.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 13 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Improvement Leases in Land Districts of Condobolin and Parkes :—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Thomas Brown*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the customary practice of the Department with respect to the sales of improvement leases ?

(2.) Why are the improvement leases in the Land Districts of Condobolin and Parkes, advertised in the *Gazette* of the 15th ultimo, offered for sale in Sydney instead of at local offices ?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) To sell where there is the best chance of getting a good buyer.

(2.) Because there is a large sale of improvement leases being held in Sydney, and it is considered that many buyers being present there may be a better chance of a sale.

- (2.) Regimental Fund of the 2nd Infantry Regiment :—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Watson*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What amount stands to the credit of the regimental fund of the 2nd Infantry Regiment ?

(2.) Who has control of the said fund ?

(3.) Will he cause a balance-sheet of the same to be supplied to the officers of the Regiment ?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces :—

(1.) £47 6s. 11d. (subject to liabilities of about £15.)

(2.) The Officer commanding the Regiment, according with the custom of the Service.

(3.) The books are open to inspection by any officer of the regiment, together with the vouchers ; any officer requiring it can be supplied with a copy of the balance-sheet, and of this they should be aware.

- (3.) Application of *Mr. Tindall* for Land at *Helman's Tank*, near *Nymagee* :—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Referring to Question asked by *Mr. O'Sullivan* on Wednesday, 5th instant, in reference to *Tindall's* application for mineral leases at *Helman's Tank*, when the Minister stated that legal proceedings were now pending before the Warden's Court at *Nymagee*,—

(1.) Will he state whether those legal proceedings have been initiated by the Department with a view of obtaining further information to enable him to deal with the application ; or have they been initiated by *Tindall* at the suggestion of the Minister ?

(2.) How many times has the Warden been called on to report on this case ?

(3.) Was the information before the Department insufficient to enable the Minister to deal with the application, without entailing on the holders of the land under miners' rights the cost of protracted litigation such as will result from the course now adopted ?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Legal proceedings were not initiated by the Department. It was necessary for the applicants for the mineral lease to clear away the miners' rights title or obtain the written consent of the claimants under miners' rights before the lease application could be considered. The lease applicants were therefore called upon to proceed, and the hearing of the case has been set down for the 28th instant.

(2.) There is only one report by the Warden, but he has several times been communicated with, with the view of urging on the legal proceedings.

(3.) Yes ; the application cannot be dealt with until the Court has decided who holds legal possession of the land.

(4.)

13th August, 1896.

(4.) Retrenched Officials from Post and Telegraph Department:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that ten retrenched officials from the General Post Office and Telegraph Department were sent for on the 27th of July, and offered temporary employment for four hours a night, from 7 to 11 p.m., at 1s. 6d. per hour?
- (2.) Is it a fact that they accepted the offer, and after working four nights were told that their services were no longer required?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the work they were employed upon was the sorting of taxation papers?
- (4.) Is it also a fact that permanent officials of various branches of the Civil Service were kept on at the same work at 2s. per hour?

Mr. Reid answered,—The facts are correct as stated, but the work was so badly done there was no other course than to dispense with the services of the officials referred to.

(5.) Jerilderie to Berrigan Railway:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Did any of the land-owners on the line of railway, Jerilderie to Berrigan, get compensation for their land either in cash or other land in exchange?
- (2.) If so, what are the names of those who had such compensation; if money, how much; if land, what quantity was given?
- (3.) Who was the valuer of the land taken from the various parties; also the valuer of the land given in exchange; and what were the various lots taken and given in exchange valued at respectively?
- (4.) If all the different lots were not resumed on the betterment principle, which lots were and which were not; and what was the reason for dealing with the different persons in different ways?
- (5.) If all who had land taken from them were not dealt with in the same manner, will he yet see justice done, and have all the persons treated alike?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1 and 2.) Compensation is to be paid to the owners of town allotments through which the railway passes, and lands are to be given in exchange for lands required outside townships, in accordance with the 2nd section of the "Jerilderie to Berrigan Railway Act, 1895." No compensation has yet been paid, nor have the several matters in reference to the exchange of lands been completed.

(3.) Mr. J. B. Thompson was the valuer of the land taken from the various parties. As to the lands given in exchange, this is a matter for the Lands Department to deal with.

(4 and 5.) The Honorable Member may rest assured justice will be done to all landowners.

(6.) Employment of Ichthyologist to report on Fisheries of the Country:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that a scientific knowledge of the fisheries is considered essential to their proper treatment, and bearing in mind the contemplated legislation on the question, and the importance of the fishing industry to New South Wales, will he take into consideration the desirableness of employing a competent ichthyologist to prepare a complete scientific work bearing upon the fisheries of the country?

Mr. Brunker answered,—With the view of further developing the fishing industry, and placing it on a more satisfactory basis, a Bill has already been prepared, and will be submitted to Parliament. It is not at present considered necessary to employ an officer of the kind suggested by the Honorable Member; but, if it should be found necessary for the purpose of assisting the industry in any way, no doubt the services of such an officer will be obtained.

(7.) Schedules to the Estimates:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When will the various schedules to the Estimates for the various Departments be laid upon the Table of this House?
- (2.) If not yet ready, will they be laid upon the Table a full fortnight before the Estimates are considered, so that Members may have an opportunity of examining them before being called on to vote the supplies?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The various schedules to the Estimates are in course of preparation, and will be laid upon the Table as soon as completed.

(2.) If possible.

(8.) Guardians of State Children in the Goulburn District:—Dr. Ross, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that some guardians of State children in the Goulburn district have not yet been paid some amounts due prior to the 30th June last?
- (2.) If yes, when will they be paid?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Upon inquiring of the Director of Government Asylums, I find this is not the case.

(9.) Unsold Town Lots in East and West Molong:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has he yet decided what steps (if any) are to be taken to dispose of the unsold town lots in East and West Molong, or if he will place such vacant Crown lands under the control of the Municipal Council?
- (2.) In the event of offering the land for public sale, will he see that the upset price is reduced so that the land may be sold?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—No decision has been arrived at. I may mention that the application by the Honorable Member, to have these unsold lots submitted to auction at a reduced price, was forwarded to the District Surveyor at Orange on the 10th ultimo, and he will be requested to furnish his report thereon with the least possible delay.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th August, 1896.

- (10.) Conveyance of Mails from Eugowra to Bindagundra Station:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—In inviting tenders for the conveyance of mails for the ensuing year, will he see that tenders are invited for a mail service by coach three times a week from Eugowra to Bindagundra Station, on the railway line to Parkes?
- Mr. Cook answered,—Inquiry is being made into this matter.
- (11.) Bi-weekly Mail Service for Obley, Dalladerry, and Tominglay:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—Has any decision yet been arrived at in regard to the petition sent in from residents of Obley, Dalladerry, and Tominglay, applying for a bi-weekly mail service; if so, when is the service likely to come into operation?
- Mr. Cook answered,—Owing to the small correspondence which passes between the places in question, and the cost of the existing weekly service largely exceeding the revenue receipts, it has been decided not to grant a bi-weekly mail service at present.
- (12.) Persons employed in Land and Income Tax Department:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—The names of all persons employed in connection with the Land and Income Tax Department, and the salaries paid each of them?
- Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—
- (1.) The following Petitions,—praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Hogue—From certain members of The Glebe Presbyterian Church.
- (2.) By Mr. Storey—From certain members of Randwick Presbyterian Church.
- Petitions received.
- (2.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. O'Reilly—From J. W. Withers, Chairman of a public meeting, Parramatta.
- (2.) By Mr. Dacey—From certain inhabitants of Botany.
- (3.) By Mr. Robert Jones—From certain inhabitants of Mudgee.
- (4.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Wentworth.
- (5.) By Mr. Hurlley—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
- (6.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Wentworth.
- (7.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Wentworth.
- (8.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Wentworth.
- (9.) By Mr. Storey—From certain members of No. 9 Tent, Independent Order of Rechabites, Paddington.
- (10.) By Mr. Alexander Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Kangaroo Valley.
- Petitions received.
3. AGE OF CONSENT:—Mr. Dacey presented a Petition from certain residents of Botany, representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years.
- Petition received.
4. PAPER:—Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Reports on some fallen bords in Hetton Colliery, Newcastle.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. INTERNATIONAL PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS ARRANGEMENTS BILL:—Mr. Griffith, pursuant to leave granted on 4th August, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883*,"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 13th October.
6. ORANGE SHOW GROUND BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Newman moved, pursuant to Notice,—
- (1.) That the Orange Show Ground Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
- (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Edden, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Watson, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Cotton, and the Mover.
- Question put and passed.
7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Deniliquin, Mr. Chanter, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The action of the Government in appointing Mr. Houston, Under Secretary for Lands, as a member of the Public Service Board, and the transfer of Mr. Coghlan, a member of the said Board, to the Taxation Department for the term of six months."
- And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
- Mr. Chanter moved, That this House do now adjourn.
- Debate ensued.
- Question put and negatived.

13th August, 1896.

8. NEWCASTLE FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND TRADES HALL ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—
- (1.) Mr. Bruncker moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend sections 2 and 4 of the Act 56 Victoria No. 35, and to provide for vesting land in trustees therein mentioned, notwithstanding any breach of the conditions imposed by the said Act.
Question put and passed.
- (2.) Mr. Bruncker then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend sections 2 and 4 of the Act 56 Victoria No. 35, and to provide for vesting certain land in the trustees therein mentioned, notwithstanding any breach of the conditions imposed by the said Act,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
9. FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 14 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

- Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
Mr. Young moved, "That" the report be now adopted.
Mr. Garrard moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 3, 17, and a new clause standing as 18," instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 3, 17, and a new clause standing as 18,—put and passed.
On motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with further amendments.
On motion of Mr. Garrard, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
10. NEVERTIRE TO WARREN RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 24.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Morton,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Anderson.
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Jessep,	Tellers,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Egan,	Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Hughes,	

Noes, 4.

Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Ferguson.
Tellers,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Wheeler.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, passed.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority, to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 14th August, 1896, a.m.

11. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—
- (1.) Mr. Speaker reported that he had received letters from Mr. Rose and Mr. Cotton, resigning their positions as members of the Printing Committee.
- (2.) Whereupon Mr. Reid moved, That Mr. Rose and Mr. Cotton be discharged from attendance on this Committee.
Question put and passed.
12. POSTPONEMENTS:—The Orders of the Day of Government Business, Nos. 3 to 16, postponed until Tuesday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th August, 1896.

13. NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Morton moved, That this "Bill" be now read a second time.
 Mr. Fegan moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "Bill," and inserting the words "be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report."
 "(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Crick, Mr. Greene, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Millen," instead thereof.
 Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
 Question—That the words proposed to be inserted in the place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
 Question then,—
 (1.) That this Bill be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Crick, Mr. Greene, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Ashton, and Mr. Millen,—put and passed.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at two minutes after Seven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 43.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 18 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Locomotive Branches of the Railways and Tramways:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to *Mr. McGowen's* Questions of 16th and 23rd July last, with respect to the drivers and firemen on the railways and tramways,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Rule 437 of the Rules and Regulations of the Railway Service, as gazetted, states: "Cleaners and other unauthorised employees are not on any account to move engines in steam, whether inside or outside of sheds"?

(2.) Is it a fact that Rule 371 forbids any engine to be in motion on the main line without an engine-driver and fireman upon it?

(3.) Is it a fact that Rule 20 and other rules state "that employees are liable to immediate dismissal for disobedience of orders, &c."?

(4.) Is it a fact that each week-night a cleaner at Milson's Point Railway Station, acting on the orders of his superior officers, prepares and moves an engine, and is under orders, in the event of a break-down with a passenger train, to proceed to the scene of such break-down, and taking for his fireman a porter or other official he can secure—in fact, performs the duties of a pilot driver?

(5.) Is it a fact that a cleaner at Hornsby Junction is under similar instructions, and has on various occasions acted as an engine-driver?

(6.) Is it a fact that on 3rd July last two cleaners at Hornsby Junction acted as driver and fireman respectively, working a goods train, Hornsby Junction to Gordon, and shunted the stations *en route*?

(7.) Is it a fact that on 8th July the same cleaners worked an engine, Hornsby to Eveleigh Loco. sheds, returning thence with another engine to Strathfield, and worked a goods train thence to Hornsby Junction?

(8.) Is it a fact that on 10th July last one of these same cleaners, with another cleaner, worked an engine, Hornsby Junction to Eveleigh?

(9.) Is it a fact that on other occasions cleaners have recently worked engines and trains at and from Hornsby Junction?

(10.) Is it a fact that on each of these occasions competent drivers were available at Hornsby Junction, and were acting as firemen?

(11.) Is it a fact that recently a cleaner worked an engine from Campbelltown to Sydney, a driver being then available, who was booked off duty there and sent home as a passenger?

(12.) Is it a fact that offers have recently been made to cleaners to proceed to Tenterfield at 8s. per day, and act as driver or fireman as occasion requires?

(13.) Is it a fact that cleaners have recently acted as drivers at Armidale and district?

(14.) Is it a fact that cleaners and a comparatively junior fireman were some time ago placed in the position of engine-drivers, and acted as such in the Goulburn district?

(15.) Is it a fact that at every locomotive depôt on the railways there are drivers reduced to and acting as firemen through so-called slackness of trade?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the Rules and Regulations are as quoted in Questions 1, 2, and 3. A qualified fireman, capable of undertaking the duties of driver in case of emergency, is acting as cleaner at Milson's Point Railway Station, and a similar arrangement exists at Hornsby. Two cleaners, stationed at Hornsby Junction, who are qualified firemen, and capable of undertaking the duties of driver and fireman respectively, acted in these capacities on a goods train between Hornsby Junction and Gordon on the 3rd July last, and also worked an engine from Hornsby to Eveleigh Locomotive Sheds, and then took another engine to Strathfield and worked a goods train thence to Hornsby Station on the 8th July, and on the 10th July worked an engine from Hornsby Junction to Eveleigh, and similar duties have been performed on other exceptional occasions to avoid long hours or delays to trains. On the occasion of a derailment a cleaner, who is a qualified fireman, and competent to act as driver, worked an engine from Campbelltown to Sydney. The engine-driver and fireman of the derailed engine having been, in consequence of the

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the derailment, on duty over thirteen consecutive hours, were relieved and sent home as passengers. A cleaner is stationed at Tenterfield, and, in order to have a man there who can undertake the duties of fireman or driver in cases of emergency, it has been arranged to appoint a cleaner (with pay at 8s. per day) who was formerly a fireman, and is competent to act as temporary driver. Cleaners with previous experience as regular fireman, and firemen with previous experience as drivers, have acted as drivers in cases of emergency. In consequence of the falling off and fluctuation of traffic many drivers have been reduced to firemen. The practice has been to reduce drivers to firemen, firemen to cleaners, and to discharge junior firemen and cleaners. This course has been adopted in the interest of the senior men. A far more economical arrangement would have been to discharge the drivers and firemen not required, and retain the juniors. If this had been done a saving of many thousands of pounds per annum would have been effected. When an employee is called upon to undertake duty of a more important nature than attaches to his fixed position, the rate of wage for the more important duty is always paid. This has been done in the cases referred to in the foregoing Questions.

(2.) Railway Employees Contributors to the Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has it been brought under his notice that officers of the Railway Department, who are contributors to the Superannuation Fund of the Civil Service, are precluded, through some unforeseen legal disability, from withdrawing from the said Fund?

(2.) Is the privilege of withdrawal open to all other Civil Servants?

(3.) Did he some time ago promise to take steps to put such railway officials on a similar footing in this regard to other Civil Servants?

(4.) When will he take the necessary action, seeing that the time during which such option may be exercised is strictly limited by the Act conferring it?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No; certain others, detailed in Section 3, are excluded from the operations of the Act.

(3.) I did say I would consider the propriety of taking such steps, but it involves passing an Act of Parliament.

(4.) I will introduce a short Bill for the purpose in a few days; but if there is any obstruction or long debate concerning it, it will be impossible to proceed with it.

(3.) Reward for Discovery of Rock-salt in New South Wales:—Mr. Schey asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Are there any known deposits of rock-salt in New South Wales; if so, in what localities?

(2.) Are there any lakes producing, or suitable for producing, salt in New South Wales; if so, in what localities?

(3.) Will he consider the advisability of offering a substantial reward for the discovery of a deposit of rock-salt of a payable commercial value?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) There are no known deposits of rock-salt in New South Wales. At Ællalong, near Maitland, and at Wybong Creek, near Scone, incrustations of salt occur, having probably been derived from a bed of saliferous sandstone, but they are not of sufficient extent to be of commercial value.

(2.) There are salt lakes on the western plains of the Colony; but they are not suitable for the commercial production of salt, by reason of their distance from large centres of population or from the seaboard.

(3.) This matter will receive consideration.

(4.) Cost of Tunnelling Work in connection with the Postal Department:—Mr. Ashton, for Mr. Watson, asked the Postmaster-General,—Will he state the relative cost of the tunnelling work in connection with his Department under the day labour and contract systems respectively?

Mr. Cook answered,—Contract: Moore-street to the Exchange, £3 1s. 4d. per foot. Day labour: Pitt-street to Clarence-street, £1 19s. 8d. per foot; General Post Office to Railway Station, £2 8s. 10d. per foot. The saving by day labour, on the basis of the last contract price, is:—Pitt-street to Clarence-street, £1,695 3s. 7d.; General Post Office to Railway Station, £4,312 0s. 8d. Total, £6,007 4s. 3d.

(5.) Accounts of 1894 and 1895 and previous years:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he be so good as to state the amount of the deficiency on the accounts of 1894 and previous years—(a) As estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 7th November, 1894; (b) as estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 9th May, 1895; (c) as estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 27th August, 1895; (d) as finally ascertained on the date of his Budget Speech on 9th ultimo?

(2.) Will he kindly give the like information respecting the deficiency on the accounts for the half-year, 1st January to 30th June, 1895?

(3.) What is the amount of Treasury Bills issued under the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895?

(4.) The amount outstanding at the present date?

(5.) How much of the outstanding amount is chargeable to the accounts of 1894 and previous years?

(6.) How much of the outstanding amount of Treasury Bills is chargeable to the first six months of 1895?

(7.) In consequence of the change of financial year, were the accounts of 1895-6 relieved of certain special appropriation charges which gave the Treasurer an advantage that will not recur in future years?

(8.) What was the aggregate amount of the special appropriations of which the accounts were so relieved?

(9.)

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(9.) Did he make it clear, before asking the House to pass the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895, that the old system of accounts was to be continued to the 30th June, 1895, and in respect of the accounts of that period, and that the new financial year, 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, was to be the first year of the new system; if so, how?

(10.) Is the following statement, made by the Honorable Member for Burwood, in the recent debate on the Financial Statement, a true and accurate one:—"The Treasury Bills for 1891 were £57 5s. 1d.; for 1892, £33,071 14s. 6d.; for 1893, £184,797; for 1894, half of which the Honorable Member (the Colonial Treasurer) was responsible for, £186,363; and for the first half of 1895, during which he (the Colonial Treasurer) had control absolutely of the finances of the country, £685,561?"

(11.) If these figures be correct, are the House and the country to understand that the finances during the first half of 1895 went to the bad to the extent of nearly £700,000?

(12.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a return showing the character of the expenditure during 1895-6, on account of previous years, which was covered by Treasury Bills?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have the Answers to these Questions ready, but I would like the Honorable Member to postpone the Questions until Tuesday next, as I wish to lay upon the Table certain returns in connection with those Answers which will take some time to prepare.

(6.) Indebtedness of Country Towns for Water Supply:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it true, as reported in the press, that the Government have refused to release certain country towns of the heavy extra indebtedness in connection with their water supply, and has such extra debt arisen through colonial-made pipes being forced on to the councils?

(2.) What policy does the Government propose to pursue in connection with the whole matter?

Mr. Young answered,—The Tamworth Municipal Council asked that an item of £2,363, included in the estimated cost of the proposed scheme for their water supply, be remitted, on the ground that the late Government had the iron pipes made in the Colony at this additional cost. I informed a deputation from the council that the interest would be foregone until the pipes were used, as Mr. Secretary Lyne had promised on the 8th February that, "in the event of the pipes not being used for a considerable time, interest would not be charged upon them." The Nowra Council also requested that the additional cost of the pipes made in the Colony, which had formed part of their completed scheme, should be remitted. They estimated the amount at £1,200. I informed the council that, as these pipes were made and supplied in accordance with the then policy of the country, and without protest from the Nowra Council, I could not approve of the remission asked.

(7.) Analyses of Water supplied to the Metropolitan Area:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Are analyses periodically made of the water supplied to the metropolitan area and to country towns provided with supplies under the Act?

(2.) If not, will he cause that to be done by one or other of the chemists in the Public Service?

(3.) In view of the vitality of the bacteria supposed to be the germs of anthrax, typhoid fever, and hydatids, and the facility with which they are communicable through the agency of water, what steps have been taken by the Board of Health or other authority to protect public watersheds from pollution by animal putrefaction or contamination through the agency of dogs?

(4.) Have the Board of Health or other governmental authority any information to show the prevalence of typhoid fever in localities provided with water supplies antecedent and subsequent to such provision?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Chief Medical Officer:—

(1.) Monthly analyses are made of the water supplied within the Metropolitan and Hunter River districts. No periodical analyses are made of the water supplied to country towns.

(2.) The analyses should be biological and not chemical alone (but the matter will be considered).

(3.) The Board of Health have no legal powers or duties in this matter.

(4.) The Board of Health have such information only in the case of Balranald, and that as the result of a special inquiry.

(8.) Reappraisements of Crown Lands at Brewarrina and Goodooga:—*Mr. Millen*, for Mr. Willis, asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the Court reappraisements of Crown lands be held at Brewarrina and Goodooga?

Mr. Carruthers answered.—The Chairman reports that he proposes holding meetings of the Land Board at Goodooga towards the end of October next, and at Brewarrina in December.

(9.) Reappraisal of Leases in the Cobar District:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the Land Board sit at Cobar to hear cases of reappraisal of leases?

Mr. Carruthers answered.—The Chairman reports that he proposes holding meetings of the Land Board at Cobar in the early part of October and in January next.

(10.) Darling Island:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Davis, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the cause of the delay in proceeding with the extension of railway to Darling Island?

(2.) Is it intended to proceed with the erection of the Darling Island wharves; if so, when?

Mr. Young answered,—The necessary legal formalities in connection with the resumption of the land have only just been completed, and the erection of the wharves will receive immediate consideration.

(11.) Appeals under the Land and Income Tax:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it true that the regulations under the Land Tax Act make it necessary for all appeals to be made to the District Court?

(2.) If so, can a land agent appear before such Court, or will it be necessary for those appealing to employ professional men?

Mr. Reid answered,—No. The Courts for the hearing of appeals against assessment under the Land Tax are not yet fixed.

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2. **FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL**:—Dr. Graham presented a Petition from certain Tobacconists of New South Wales, praying the House to exempt them from the Factories and Shops Bill, with regard to early closing, on the ground that they would be put into unfair competition with hotelkeepers, fruiterers, restaurateurs, &c., the majority of whom hold tobacco licenses, and are permitted to remain open at any hour to the detriment, loss, and possible ruin of Petitioners.
Petition received.
3. **AGE OF CONSENT**:—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the “age of consent” in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—
(1.) By Mr. Morton—From certain inhabitants of the District of Nowra.
(2.) By Mr. Moore—From certain inhabitants of Bingara.
(3.) By Mr. Molesworth—From certain inhabitants of Newtown.
Petitions received.
4. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC**:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
(1.) By Mr. Morton—From certain inhabitants of Nowra.
(2.) By Mr. Reymond—From certain inhabitants of Cook’s Myalls.
(3.) By Mr. Reymond—From certain inhabitants of Bindogundra, near Parkes.
(4.) By Mr. Moore—From certain inhabitants of Bingara.
(5.) By Mr. Molesworth—From certain inhabitants of Newtown.
Petitions received.
5. **PAPER**:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 30th June, 1896,—“Railway from Grafton to Glen Innes.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Hayes brought up the Thirteenth Report from the Printing Committee.
7. **NO-LIABILITY MINING COMPANIES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Knox moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Knox, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Knox, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
8. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Copeland, “That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider an Address to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause provision to be made on the Estimates for 1896-7 to cover the cost of establishing a boot and clothing factory in which to make all boots and uniforms supplied by the Government,”—postponed until Tuesday, 24th November.
9. **STATE CHILDREN RELIEF BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Dr. Graham moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Dr. Graham, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.
Dr. Graham moved, “That” the report be now adopted.
Mr. Griffith moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word “That,” and inserting the words “the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of Clause 10,” instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.
Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only five Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.
The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Thomas, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Edden, and Mr. Cann.
Original Question,—That the report be now adopted,—put and passed.
Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at seventeen minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 44.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 19 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Roads and Reserves, Wagga Wagga Electorate:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Have the Crown lands fronting the river on reserve No. 2,642, notified 25th October, 1880, county of Mitchell, parish of Brewarrina, been exchanged for private lands; and, if so, what lands have been received in return?
 - (2.) What number of roads and reserves for access to water, which allow the public to approach the river, are situated in that part of the county of Mitchell which is within the Wagga Wagga Electorate?
 - (3.) Where are such roads and reserves situated, and how do they stand apart?
 - (4.) Are any of such roads or reserves held under lease or license; and, if so, what number?
 - (5.) Can the public (or stock) travel over any of the roads or reserves referred to which are held under lease or license; and, if so, how many?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) An area of 174 acres, being portion 86, parish of Brewarrina, county of Mitchell, forming part of the frontage to the Murrumbidgee River of Water Reserve 2,642, was granted under an exchange application originally lodged in 1886; the main frontage to the reserve is still, however, Crown lands. This area forms part of a fairly extensive exchange, and in such cases it is not customary to set individual areas against one another.

(2 to 5.) Can be answered in detail only by means of a return and illustrative sketch, which would take some time, and be expensive to prepare. In general the usual provision has been made for access at short intervals to the Murrumbidgee River by means of roads left in the subdivision of Crown lands and of reserves, but with the exception of two reserves from lease Nos. 17 and 167, parish of Yarragundry, about 10 miles from Wagga Wagga, these are held under pastoral lease and occupation license, and are not immediately available for traffic.

(2.) Dismissal of Tramway Conductors:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that six (more or less) tramway conductors were dismissed from the Service on or about Monday, 11th instant?
- (2.) Were they each receiving 9s. per day as wages?
- (3.) Have their places been taken by youths at a wage of 4s. 6d. per day?
- (4.) Is such reduction part of the Free Trade policy of the Government?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that—

- (1.) Four conductors were dismissed.
- (2.) Three were receiving 9s. and one 7s. per day.
- (3.) Their places have not been taken by youths at a wage of 4s. 6d. a day.
- (4.) This matter is not part of the Free Trade policy of the Government; indeed, most intelligent men know that the Government have nothing to do with the dismissal of tramway conductors. At the same time, I can quite understand a thoroughgoing Protectionist like the Honorable Member hinting the employment of boy-labour at half wages.

(3.) Subletting of Government Contracts:—Mr. Watson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) In how many instances has he granted permission to sublet in connection with Government contracts since his minute concerning the same?
- (2.) Will he give the names of the contractors to whom such permission was granted?

Mr.

19th August, 1896.

Mr. Young answered,—As there is no separate record kept of the contracts in which subletting has been approved, to reply to the Honorable Member's Question would involve examining some 10,000 contracts—the approximate number let by the Department during the period mentioned—a work of considerable magnitude. I might say, however, I exercise a very close supervision over the subletting clause of the conditions of contract, and only allow it when it has been made clear to me it can be done without infringing the spirit of the clause. The number of contracts in which subletting has been approved by me would probably be from fifteen to twenty, a very small proportion of the total number.

- (4.) Lane Cove Municipal Wharves By-laws :—Mr. Howarth asked the Colonial Secretary,—When will the Lane Cove Municipal Wharves By-laws be laid upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Brunker answered,—On Tuesday next.

- (5.) Postal Arrangements at Carlingford, Pymble, &c. :—Mr. Howarth asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What is the population of and the number of letters delivered at Carlingford?
- (2.) The same in respect to Pymble?
- (3.) The same in respect to Turramurra?
- (4.) The same in respect to Wahroonga?
- (5.) Why is there a daily house-to-house delivery at the first-mentioned place, and none at the others?

Mr. Cook answered,—I will obtain the particulars by Tuesday.

- (6.) Fisheries Bill :—Mr. Howarth asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) When will the Fisheries Bill, promised for last week, be laid upon the Table of this House, and when do the Government intend to proceed with that important measure?
- (2.) Have the Fisheries Commissioners submitted their annual report for 1895; and, if not, when will the report in question be laid upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The report will be ready shortly.

- (7.) Railway to Darling Island :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) When will he proceed with the work of extending the railway to Darling Island?
- (2.) Has he yet determined to carry out the work by contract or day labour?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) There will be no delay in proceeding with the work, and I have given instructions for the preliminary steps to be hastened as much as possible.
- (2.) No determination in this respect has yet been arrived at.

- (8.) Site for proposed National Bank :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of his proposal to establish a National Bank, will he consider the advisability of reserving from sale land at the corner of George-street and Martin Place, and opposite the General Post Office, as a suitable site for such an institution?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes.

- (9.) Payment to Men clearing West Bogan Scrub :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it proposed to pay the men who are to be engaged by the Government for clearing the West Bogan scrub out of the Loan Vote or Consolidated Revenue?

Mr. Reid answered,—This Question should be addressed to my Honorable Colleague the Secretary for Lands.

- (10.) Bega Labour Settlement :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) How much money have the Government expended up to date towards assisting the settlers on the Bega labour settlement?
- (2.) Does he propose to apply the same policy of monetary assistance to the thousands of struggling farmers who are not settled on labour farms?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Loans amounting in all to £1,650 have been advanced to the Board of Control of the Bega labour settlement for the purpose referred to.
- (2.) This policy has been adopted in pursuance of the provisions of an Act of Parliament, and can only be applied under the conditions contained in such Act.

- (11.) Revenue received on Molong, Orange, Parkes, and Forbes Railway :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The amount of revenue received from outward and inward traffic on Orange, Molong, Parkes, and Forbes railway during the last six months?
- (2.) Number of passengers and amount received?
- (3.) The number and amount received for the conveyance of sheep and cattle?
- (4.) Total outlay or expenditure during the same period?

Mr. Reid answered,—There will be no objection to supply this information if moved for in the form of a return in the usual way.

- (12.) Land Appraisers for the Cobar District :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What is the cause of the delay in sending appraisers to the Cobar District to make appraisements where pastoral and homestead lessees have appealed to get their rents reduced?
- (2.) Will a refund of the difference be made in cases where this year's rent has been paid, and subsequent to such payment the rent reduced on appeal?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The Chairman reports that two appraisers have been for some time employed in the Cobar District, and the few remaining cases will be issued to a third appraiser, who is expected to arrive there within a week.
- (2.) This matter has not come before me for consideration.

(13.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th August, 1896.

- (13.) Land on Moonagee Station :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the land on Moonagee Station be thrown open for settlement?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Action towards making the Crown lands on Moonagee available was delayed by negotiations for an exchange necessary in the interests of settlement. The exchange is now nearing completion, and the District Surveyor has been asked to prepare a design for disposal of the land, which will be surveyed as soon as possible.

- (14.) Books in Municipal Free Libraries :—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. Rigg, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that in a great number of cases the books in Municipal Free Libraries cannot be satisfactorily used by the public—(a) in consequence of the limited hours the Council Chambers are open; (b) the existence of regulations prohibiting the removal of such books from the reading-room?

(2.) Does he favour the books being lent out free to well-known persons under similar conditions to those attached to the circulating libraries?

(3.) Will he assist the passing of a Bill to amend the law so as to enable this to be done?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) I am so informed.

(2.) Municipal Free Libraries are libraries of reference only. In nearly every district where such libraries have been established Lending Libraries in connection with Schools of Arts are also in operation. I can, therefore, see no reason to alter the present arrangements.

(3.) Answered by No. 2.

- (15.) Mr. W. B. Wilkinson, Land Agent, Dubbo :—Mr. Chapman, for Mr. Crick, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it true that he has authorised Mr. W. B. Wilkinson, Land Agent, Dubbo, to represent the Crown in the matter of certain land cases in the districts of Dubbo and Warren?

(2.) Was Mr. Wilkinson so appointed on his own solicitation, and is it a fact that he has agreed to make no charge for his services?

(3.) Has he been in receipt from Mr. Wilkinson of secret communications respecting lands and cases in the Dubbo, Warren, Nyngan, and Coonamble Land Districts?

(4.) Was the appointment of Mr. Wilkinson to represent the Crown made as a *quid pro quo* for this secret information?

(5.) Has he caused the officers of Police and of the Lands Department to give Mr. Wilkinson all the assistance in their power?

(6.) Has he or the Department communicated the appointment to Mr. Wilkinson by letter, and is he aware that Mr. Wilkinson is using such letter amongst the public for his own purposes and ends?

(7.) Is the Mr. W. B. Wilkinson above referred to the same Mr. W. B. Wilkinson whose certificate in bankruptcy was absolutely refused by the Bankruptcy Court on the 17th August, 1893?

(8.) Is this the Mr. W. B. Wilkinson concerning whom an inquiry was held in 1893 by Mr. Currie, now Acting Under Secretary, as to Mr. Wilkinson's being in the habit of improperly getting information from the officers of the Lands Department at Dubbo which he had no right to get?

(9.) Has he read the evidence given by Mr. Wilkinson in the reference of Adam Rae's conditional purchase and conditional lease before the Local Land Board at Dubbo, on the 18th December last, in which Mr. Wilkinson admitted that he was to get £50 for not taking advantage of a flaw in a title?

(10.) Has he read the judgment of the Land Appeal Court, of 20th May, 1896, in Adam Rae's case, and the remarks made by the Court on Mr. Wilkinson and his evidence?

(11.) Has he seen a letter from Mr. Wilkinson to the *Dubbo Liberal*, of 6th June, 1896, in which he admits having received the above £50?

(12.) Does he still intend to appoint Mr. Wilkinson to represent the Crown in cases coming before Local Land Boards?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1 and 2.) Mr. Wilkinson was appearing for certain caveators in a Land Board case at Warren, but in a similar case the Land Appeal Court, on a technical objection, held that the caveators had no *locus standi*. As such decision, if applied, would shut out a hearing on its merits, Mr. Wilkinson applied for and obtained permission to represent the Crown without costs in the case in question, so that the merits of the case might be decided upon. In no other case has Mr. Wilkinson authority to appear for the Crown.

(3 and 4.) No secret communications were received in such cases from Mr. Wilkinson. I am not aware of any communications in other cases that could be termed secret.

(5 and 6.) Only the usual letter apprising Mr. Wilkinson of the consent of the Minister, and acquainting him that the police and Local Lands officer were informed of the facts.

(7 and 8.) I am not aware, but will inquire.

(9, 10, and 11.) No.

(12.) Every application from Mr. Wilkinson or any other person will be dealt with on its merits, but I will at all times assist in obtaining an adjudication on the merits of a case rather than allow cases to be decided by the shutting out of facts material and essential for the purposes of doing justice.

- (16.) The Dredge Service :—Mr. Wilks asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that during about the last eleven years the dredges have been worked at the rate of forty-eight hours per week?

(2.) Is it a fact that recently these hours have been increased to fifty-four hours per week, and in the cases of some tugs increased to fifty-eight hours per week?

(3.) If so, will he cause the forty-eight hours' system to be reverted to throughout the dredge service?

(4.) Under the present system is the work connected with the dredge service confined to five days per week?

Mr.

19th August, 1896.

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Since 1885 the forty-eight hours system has been in vogue on the dredges, but the regulations provide that, when circumstances render it necessary for tugs to work continuously, meals must be taken while under weigh. This system is still in existence.

(2.) No, but it has recently been arranged that the dredge machinery shall be kept going, as elsewhere, fifty-eight hours per week, but none of the crew are called upon to work more than forty-eight hours. The mechanics, &c., will relieve the working crew during meal hours.

(3.) The forty-eight hours system, as explained in No. 1, is not being infringed.

(4.) Yes.

(17.) Subsidy for Tug Services:—Mr. Wilks asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the amount of subsidy per annum paid for tug services throughout the Colony previous to 30th June, 1896?

(2.) What is the tender price (recently accepted) for the same services?

(3.) What is the total amount saved (if any) per annum under the present system?

(4.) What is the term of the present contracts?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) £7,680.

(2.) Tenders to the amount of £3,705 have been accepted for service at the Manning, Camden Haven, Clarence, Port Macquarie, Tweed and Brunswick, Nambucca and Macleay, Cape Hawke, and Wollongong. Tenders for Bellinger and Richmond have not yet been accepted.

(3.) So far £1,365 has been saved.

(4.) Indefinite, with the right of discontinuance at any time after six months' notice.

(18.) Appointment of a Colonial Judge to the Privy Council:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What steps have been taken in reference to the appointment of a Colonial Judge to the Privy Council?

(2.) Has he any intention of bringing about the establishment of an Australian Court of Appeal, consisting of the Supreme Court Judges; if so, will he suspend any action with regard to the appointment of a Colonial Judge to the Privy Council?

(3.) Will he lay upon the Table copies of all papers, reports of interviews, &c., bearing on the subject?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Any correspondence which has taken place on this subject is of a confidential nature.

(2.) There was a provision in the Draft Federal Constitution of 1891 for the establishment of an Australian Court of Appeal; I am not aware of any other steps in that direction.

(3.) All the papers in this case are, as I have said, of a confidential nature.

(19.) Lease of Crown Lands near Randwick Racecourse:—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Referring to the following Questions, submitted by Mr. Carruthers on the 23rd January, 1894,—

“ (1.) Was any portion of the Crown lands near the Randwick Racecourse, or at Bunnerong, leased to Messrs. Clark and Rowley?

“ (2.) If so, for what term, at what rent, or for what purpose?

“ (3.) Is he aware that portion of the land has been converted into a racecourse, and is being used weekly for pony-racing?

“ (4.) Was it made known to the Department that the land was to be put to use as a racecourse?

“ (5.) Does the lease permit of such use of the land?”

will he furnish Answers to Questions 1 to 5 inclusive?

(2.) Has the design submitted, and rough plan, by Mr. Rowley, when applying for the lease, been carried out; if not, will he enforce the conditions?

(3.) Is it his intention to cancel the lease; if not, will he allow pony-racing to be continued at Kensington?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) I must refer the Honorable Member to the replies to Questions 1 to 5, given on the 23rd January, 1894.

(2 and 3.) The validity of the lease has been the subject of a Land Board Inquiry, and is still before the Land Appeal Court on a reference by Mr. Secretary Carruthers. A point of law will be raised, and an application has been made to the Supreme Court to decide the same, has owing to the state of business in the Court it has not yet been heard. The Crown Solicitor but been instructed to endeavour to expedite the matter.

2. PENNY POSTAGE—POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS:—The following thirty-three Petitions, from residents of New South Wales,—representing that country residents of this Colony are compelled to pay twice as much for postage of their letters as residents in Sydney; and praying that the House will pass a measure equalising the postage in town and country by making a general rate of one penny upon all letters not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight, posted and delivered in the Colony, and that, if it be necessary to raise further revenue, a half-penny postage rate be imposed upon all newspapers posted for delivery in the Colony, save and except those sent free as exchanges, and those delivered free within the electorate in which they are printed and published,—were presented by the Members named:—

Mr. Moore (3); Mr. Wright; Mr. W. H. B. Piddington (2); Mr. Morton (2); Mr. Wheeler (2); Mr. Mackay; Mr. Perry; Mr. Wood; Mr. Pyers (2); Mr. Kelly; Mr. Hassall; Mr. Newman (2); Dr. Ross; Mr. T. R. Smith; Mr. Henry Clarke (2); Mr. Waddell (2); Mr. Ashton; Mr. See; Mr. Miller; Mr. Reymond (2); Mr. F. Clarke; Mr. Rose; and Mr. Price.

Petitions received.

19th August, 1896.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—
- (1.) Mr. Willis presented a Petition from the residents of Carinda and District,—representing that no system of local option can be complete without the incorporation of a well-defined plan of compensation for the confiscation of licenses; and praying the House to take the foregoing into serious consideration, with a view to the incorporation of a plan of compensation as aforesaid in any Bill introduced for the extension of local option.
Petition received.
- (2.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—
- (1.) By Mr. Dugald Thomson—From certain inhabitants of Manly and Pittwater.
(2.) By Mr. Fegan—From Thomas Estill, Colonel, Salvation Army.
(3.) By Mr. See—From certain inhabitants of Grafton, Clarence River.
(4.) By Mr. Law—From J. S. Nutt, a member of the No. 9 Grand Division of the Order of the Sons and Daughters of Temperance, Balmain.
Petitions received.
4. PAPERS :—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Kogarah.
(2.) By-law of the Municipal District of Cabramatta and Canley Vale.
(3.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies—Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 30th June, 1896.
(4.) Return to an Order, made on 4th August, 1896,—“ Officers of the Defence Force.”
(5.) Return to an Order, made on 14th July, 1896,—“ Resumptions for Harves, Woolloomooloo Bay.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. REMOVAL OF THE LAND BOARD OFFICES FROM COOMA (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Miller moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence, papers, petitions, and other documents in connection with the removal of the Land Board Offices from Cooma.
Question put and passed.
6. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
- (1.) Factories and Shops Bill; third reading;—until Wednesday next.
(2.) Midwifery Nurses Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 10th November.
(3.) Old Age Provision Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with the view of making competent provision for old age; and for other purposes connected therewith;—until Tuesday, 15th September.
7. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS :—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plans, relating to the proposed construction of Locks and Weirs on the River Darling.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Queanbeyan, Mr. O'Sullivan, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“ The unfair treatment accorded to a number of men in the Dredge Service.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Noes* had it.
Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *negative*, as there were only fifteen Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.
The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Hassall, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Wood, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Perry, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Crick, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Price, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. O'Sullivan, and Mr. Rose.
9. ORANGE SHOW GROUND BILL :—Mr. Newman, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 13th August, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Newman then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.
Question put and passed.
10. RABBIT BILL :—Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make better provision for the destruction of rabbits; for the erection and maintenance, and to provide for contributions towards the expense of rabbit-proof fences; to constitute and define the powers and duties of Rabbit Boards; to enable rates to be imposed; to amend the Crown Lands Acts; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

19th August, 1896.

11. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill “be” now read a second time.

Point of Order :—Mr. Crick submitted that this Bill proposed to make changes in the Electoral Law not comprehended by the existing Act which this Bill is intended to amend, and that the title of the Bill did not refer to such amendment.

Mr. Speaker considered the title ample to cover all the provisions in the Bill, and as giving notice of the purpose intended, but amendments must be within the scope of the Bill rather than within the terms of the title. He considered the Bill quite in order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Chapman moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word “be,” and inserting the words “referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.

“(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Perry, Mr. O’Sullivan, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Dacey, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, and the Mover,”—instead thereof. Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 20 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and passed.

Original Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

12. NEWCASTLE FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND TRADES HALL ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at twenty-five minutes after Two o’clock a.m., until Four o’clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 45.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 20 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Accounts of 1894-5 and previous Years:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he be so good as to state the amount of the deficiency on the accounts of 1894 and previous years—(a) As estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 7th November, 1894; (b) as estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 9th May, 1895; (c) as estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 27th August, 1895; (d) as finally ascertained on the date of his Budget Speech on 9th ultimo?
 - (2.) Will he kindly give the like information respecting the deficiency on the accounts for the half-year, 1st January to 30th June, 1895?
 - (3.) What is the amount of Treasury Bills issued under the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895?
 - (4.) The amount outstanding at the present date?
 - (5.) How much of the outstanding amount is chargeable to the accounts of 1894 and previous years?
 - (6.) How much of the outstanding amount of Treasury Bills is chargeable to the first six months of 1895?
 - (7.) In consequence of the change of financial year, were the accounts of 1895-6 relieved of certain special appropriation charges which gave the Treasurer an advantage that will not recur in future years?
 - (8.) What was the aggregate amount of the special appropriations of which the accounts were so relieved?
 - (9.) Did he make it clear, before asking the House to pass the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895, that the old system of accounts was to be continued to the 30th June, 1895, and in respect of the accounts of that period, and that the new financial year, 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, was to be the first year of the new system; if so, how?
 - (10.) Is the following statement, made by the Honorable Member for Burwood in the recent debate on the Financial Statement, a true and accurate one:—"The Treasury Bills for 1891 were £57 5s. 1d.; for 1892, £33,071 14s. 6d.; for 1893, £184,797; for 1894, half of which the Honorable Member (the Colonial Treasurer) was responsible for, £186,363; and for the first half of 1895, during which he (the Colonial Treasurer) had control absolutely of the finances of the country, £685,561"?
 - (11.) If these figures be correct, are the House and the country to understand that the finances during the first half of 1895 went to the bad to the extent of nearly £700,000?
 - (12.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of the House a return showing the character of the expenditure during 1895-6, on account of previous years, which was covered by Treasury Bills?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member's first Question is—

- (1.) Will he be so good as to state the amount of the deficiency on the accounts of 1894 and previous years?
 - (a) As estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 7th November, 1894?
 - (b) As estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 9th May, 1895?
 - (c) As estimated in the accounts submitted with his Budget Speech of 27th August, 1895?
 - (d) As finally ascertained on the date of his Budget Speech of 9th ultimo?

Answer.

20th August, 1896.

Answer.

The answer to these questions is as follows :

I estimated the deficiency on account of 1894 and previous years			
on 7th November, 1894, at	£1,465,225	16	0
on 9th May, 1895, at	1,322,651	18	6
on 27th August, 1895, at	1,324,897	7	6
This deficiency is reduced by credit entry advised by Auditor-General	341,319	9	2
	£983,577	18	4

After writing off further savings the deficiency on account of 1894 and previous years, as finally ascertained on 30th June, 1896, was £1,193,054 1s., or less the above credit entry of £341,319 9s. 2d., £851,734 11s. 10d.

(2.) Will he kindly give the like information respecting the deficiency in the accounts for the half-year, 1st January to 30th June, 1895 ?

Answer.

The deficiency for the first six months of 1895, as estimated on the basis of the accounts submitted with Budget Speech of 7th November, 1894, was	£	s.	d.
As estimated on the basis of the accounts of 9th May, 1895, it was	280,160	0	0
As estimated on the basis of the accounts of 27th August, 1895, it was	234,920	14	7
And, as finally ascertained on 30th June, 1896, it was... ..	191,189	16	0
	149,129	8	8

(3.) What is the amount of Treasury Bills issued under the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895 ?

Answer.

The total amount issued under the Act in question was	£	s.	d.
	1,174,700	0	0

(4.) The amount outstanding at the present date ?

Answer.

The total amount issued, namely, £1,174,700 having been reduced by savings amounting to the sum of £150,000, and Treasury Bills to that amount having been cancelled, the amount outstanding at the present time is... ..	1,024,700	0	0
To be further reduced by repayment of sundry advances made from the Consolidated Revenue Fund amounting to	23,835	19	6
The net deficiency being	1,000,864	0	6

(5.) How much of the outstanding amount of Treasury Bills is chargeable to the accounts of 1894 and previous years ?

Answer.

The amount of Treasury Bills outstanding chargeable to the accounts of 1894 and previous years is (being the amount shown by answer to question No. 1)	851,734	11	10
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(6.) How much of the outstanding amount of Treasury Bills is chargeable to the first six months of 1895 ?

Answer.

The amount of Treasury Bills outstanding, chargeable to the first six months of 1895, is £149,129 8s. 8d. (being the amount of the deficiency for that period, as shown in answer to question No. 2.)

(7.) In consequence of the change of financial year were the accounts of 1895-6 relieved of certain special appropriations, which gave the Treasurer an advantage which will not recur in future years ?

Answer.

Yes; owing to the first half of 1895 being on the basis of money owing in respect of the year, instead of cash actually paid, half of certain annual obligations were provided for in the estimates for that period. Those annual obligations were due on the 31st December in every year. Consequently, the new financial year 1895-6 being from 1st July, it was only necessary to vote half of the annual obligations in that year to provide for the full year's payment due on 31st December, 1895.

(8.) What was the aggregate amount of the special appropriation of which the accounts were so relieved ?

Answer.

About £200,000.

(9.) Did he make it clear, before asking the House to pass the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895, that the old system of accounts was to be continued to the 30th June, 1895, and in respect of the accounts of that period, and that the new financial year, 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, was to be the first year of the new system; and if so, how ?

Answer.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th August, 1896.

Answer.

I made it clear that the old system of keeping the Public Accounts was to continue in respect of the period to 30th June, 1895, and in respect of all appropriations for public expenditure voted up to that time, in the first Financial Statement I made, namely, on the 7th November, 1894, and on various occasions between that date and the passing of the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act. The following are the proofs of that assertion:

I submitted the usual Ways and Means Accounts on 7th November, 1894, showing the deficiency of 1893 and previous years carried forward into the year 1894, and the deficiency, increased by the operations of that year, carried forward into the Account for the first six months of 1895, increased by the operations of that half-year, and closed off on 30th June, at £1,745,385 16s., less credit entry, as advised by Auditor-General, £389,152 15s. 11d., net £1,356,233 0s. 1d.; stated in the Account to 30th June, 1895, as follows:

“By balance, being estimated deficiency 1895 and previous years, to be provided for by Treasury Bills, £1,356,233 0s. 1d.”

In my Budget Speech of same date, referring to these Accounts, I said (*Hansard*, page 2138, 7th November, 1894):

“I estimate the expenditure for the first six months at £4,861,850. That amounts for the six months to £280,000 in excess of the revenue, which, of course, I greatly regret.”

At page 2140 (same speech) I said:

“The effect of adding the credit (the £389,152 15s. 11d. above referred to) is that the total deficiency on all the previous years up to 30th June, 1895, will be £1,356,233 0s. 1d.”

Mr. See then interjected: “Will that be in 1895?”

I replied: “The whole deficiency is carried on to 1895.”

Mr. See then asked:

“Will that include the amount of £280,000 which the honorable member says will be the difference between the expenditure and income in the first part of 1895? Does the honorable member take that into account in the deficiency he states?”

I replied: “Yes, that is included in the deficiency.”

A little later (same page) I said:

“I propose, as my predecessors did, to put the deficiency into the shape of Treasury Bills, and to pay them out of surplus revenue.”

No amendment was moved, or division called for, on the motion which covered the Financial Statement, and in pursuance of my declared policy, the Appropriation Act, 58 Vic. No. 13, for the six months January–June, 1895 (assented to on 22nd December, 1894), contained a clause, the 16th, in the following words:

“No appropriation included in the Act shall lapse until the 30th day of June, 1896.”

With my second Budget Speech of 9th May, 1895, I submitted the accounts in precisely the same shape, carrying forward the deficiencies as before for 1894 and previous years, and the first six months of 1895, to 30th June, 1895, and then closing the account with the same entry as before, namely:

“By balance, being Estimated Deficiency 1895 and Previous Years, to be provided for by Treasury Bills, £1,216,253 3s. 11d. (reduced since November, 1894, by £137,979 16s. 2d.)”

In my third Budget Speech, delivered on 27th August, 1895, I submitted these accounts in precisely the same way, again closing the accounts to 30th June, 1895, with the same entry, the amount of the deficiency to be provided for by Treasury Bills, being reduced by that date to £1,174,767 14s. 4d.

In order to carry out the proposed change in the system of keeping the public accounts, it was necessary to alter the provisions of the Audit Act of 1870. Accordingly a Bill to amend that Act was introduced on 2nd October, 1895, providing that all unexpended balances of appropriations should lapse on the last day of the year for which voted. Under the old system the votes were kept open for twelve months longer than that, the Appropriation Act for the services of the first half of 1895 containing, as we have seen, a provision that all votes for that period should remain open for expenditure until 30th June in the following year.

The Bill to establish the new system provided that it should apply to “appropriations made after the passing of this Act,” consequently in pursuance of my oft-declared intentions, all appropriations voted in 1894 for the six months 1895 and for previous years were not affected by it. Not only was this made clear by the Bill itself, but, if honorable members will refer to the debate upon the second reading of the Bill, 8th October, 1895 (*Hansard*, pp. 1501–2), they will find that I again gave the clearest indication of my intentions.

Mr. ROSE: “Outstanding votes will now be done away with?”

Mr. REID: “It would not be fair to do away with outstanding votes to which Parliament is pledged. Every outstanding vote will remain until existing contracts are worked out. We will start a new era from the 1st July, but it would be very unfair, as was suggested by the honorable member for Burwood, to

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“to the finances of next year, if I were to take over liabilities on account of previous years to the amount of about £500,000. If I were to take those liabilities over to next year, I should involve the finances in chaos again, and that, I do not suppose, is the wish of any honorable member. We want to leave outstanding votes to be expended legitimately, as Parliament intended they should be. *The new era will not knock off one penny of these votes; they will go on.* The only votes that will stop on the 30th June, 1896, are the votes for this year (1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896), which we passed the other night. None of our outstanding contracts or obligations will be interfered with in any way whatever.”

I may mention that Mr. Lyne, the leader of the Opposition, must have been present when I made that declaration, for the moment it was concluded he rose to address the House. More than that, I convict him of knowing my intentions by a remark he made a few moments later (*Hansard*, p. 1502), as follows:

“As regards his [the Treasurer’s] remarks with regard to past votes, if the proposal is a good one—and I do not say it is not,—then it should come into full force and effect on the 30th June next (that is, 30th June, 1896) as regards past votes as well as future votes.”

Here we have the leader of the Opposition showing clearly that he knew I was going to keep the votes for 1895 and previous years open beyond 1895, and even beyond 30th June, 1896, and yet, in July, 1896, when the amount expended on those votes up to 30th June, 1896—most of it was spent in 1895—was mentioned by me, he asked the House and the country to join in condemning me for concealment and deception, because I had done what he knew in October, 1895, I was going to do.

On the 11th December, 1895, the House adopted the resolution in Committee of Ways and Means authorising me to raise the sum of £1,174,700 by Treasury Bills, the amount mentioned being the final statement of the deficiency on the votes of 1895 (six months) and previous years, in my Ways and Means Account submitted in the Financial Statement of 27th August, 1895. It was of this resolution the honorable member for Burwood spoke, on the second reading of the Bill, when he used the following words:

“Those who voted for the resolution upon which the Bill was founded this Session have no right now to in any way cavil at the proposal of the Colonial Treasurer, because it was practically embodied in the Ways and Means resolution.” (*Hansard*, page 3452.)

In moving the second reading of the Bill—that is, the Treasury Bills Deficiency Bill of 1895—I again made my uniform intention clear in the following words:

“I do not think I need say much more at present, because I have followed out the course which was taken on a similar occasion, and it is necessary to have this Bill, because unless we were to take a Bill to put the deficiency in the shape of Treasury Bills we should start our new system on an utterly false basis. I would show a deficiency of about £1,100,000, with which the new system has nothing to do.” (*Hansard*, p. 3451.)

Mr. McMillan, who followed me, besides saying, as already quoted, that those who voted for the Resolution knew what I was doing, took care that the House should be again reminded, for he said (p. 3454):

“Now, however, the Government are asking the House—that is on the statement of the 30th June—to cover with Treasury Bills an expenditure which has not been expended, which, I think, is exceedingly wrong in principle.”

To sum the matter up, I made the intention of the Government to do what has been done abundantly clear in my Financial Statements and in every set of accounts I submitted with them; in the terms of the Audit Act Amending Bill, and my remarks in debate upon that measure; in the terms of the Appropriation Act for the six months of 1895; and in the terms of the Treasury Bills Deficiency Bill, and in my remarks on the second reading thereof.

The remaining proof is to be found in the Estimates and Appropriation Act for the year 1895-6. By the terms of the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895, the Appropriation Act for the year to 30th June, 1896, was the first subject to the new cash system. If at the time of submitting the Estimates of Expenditure for 1895-6, there had been a single member of the Assembly under the delusion that I intended to meet the obligations of previous years out of my revenue for 1895-6, he would have seen from the Estimates of Expenditure for the year that that could not possibly be the case, for to do that I must have included the outstanding obligations on 30th June, 1895, in my Estimates or Ways and Means Accounts for 1895-6, laid on the Table in May, 1895, and again in August, 1895. The Estimates and Ways and Means Accounts for that year contain no trace of any such provision; and for the best of all reasons, that it was fully made by the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act, which provided, as it was notoriously designed to do, the full amount necessary.

(10.) Is the following statement, made by the Honorable Member for Burwood in the recent debate on the Financial Statement, a true and accurate one:—“The Treasury Bills for 1891 were £57 5s. 1d.; for 1892, £33,071 14s. 6d.; for 1893, £184,797; for 1894, half of which the Honorable Member (the Colonial Treasurer) was responsible for, £186,363; and for the first half of 1895, during which he (the Colonial Treasurer) had control absolutely of the finances of the country, £685,561?”

Answer.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Answer.

So far from being a true and accurate statement, as I have just said, the deficiency which the Treasury Bills represent for the first half-year of 1895, instead of being £685,561, as stated by Mr. McMillan, is only £149,129 8s. 8d., and the deficiency which the Treasury Bills represent for 1894 and previous years is £851,734 11s. 10d., those two amounts making up the exact total of the deficiency, namely, £1,000,864 0s. 6d., and within £24,000 out of the total amount of the Treasury Bills outstanding under the Act of 1895.

(11.) If these figures be correct, are the House and the country to understand that the finances, during the first half of 1895, went to the bad to the extent of nearly £700,000?

Answer.

As I have said, the figures are grossly incorrect.

(12.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a Return showing the character of the expenditure during 1895-6, on account of previous years, which was covered by Treasury Bills?

Answer.

The character of the expenditure during 1895-6 on account of previous years can be seen in the monthly and quarterly statement of expenditure published in the *Government Gazette*. The Consolidated Revenue Fund being a running account, the proceeds of the Treasury Bills were credited thereto to meet deficiencies in revenue from 1887 to 30th June, 1895. Although certain payments made in 1895-6, on account of the six months of 1895, would seem to have been charged to the proceeds of Treasury Bills, they were not in reality so charged. During the first half-year, 1895, more than £800,000 were paid out of the Revenue of that period for Services of 1894 and previous years. Hence the necessity to pay Services of 1895 in their turn out of Treasury Bills, really required for the deficiencies of previous periods.

This will perhaps be clearer by giving, as an instance, the expenditure on account of the first half-year 1895, which from 1st January, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, a period of eighteen months, amounted to	4,715,931	8	0
Add outstanding liabilities, 30th June, 1896	5,458	18	5
Total expenditure	4,721,390	6	5
The Revenue for the period from January to June, 1895, amounted to	4,564,780	13	2
And other Receipts to	7,480	4	7
Together	4,572,260	17	9
Which deducted leaves a deficiency on the operation of the whole period to the extent of	149,129	8	8

A Return showing the deficiency in the Revenue for each year from 1887 will be laid upon the Table in the course of a few days.

The Answers to these Questions, I have made full and complete; but I desire to add that in view of the strangely unjust and unfounded attacks which have been made, impugning my straightforwardness in connection with the statement of the finances, I will lay upon the Table returns from the Auditor-General showing that the cash surplus on the operations of the year just ended is substantially as stated by me to the House in my Budget Speech of 9th July last. The House will recollect that I estimated the surplus for the year at £333,000. The Auditor-General states the amount, subject, possibly, to trivial alterations, at £331,362 14s. 1d. Again, the Auditor-General furnishes, at my request, a return showing how much of the deficiency debt is chargeable to the six months January-June, 1895. The House and the public will judge of the way I have been misrepresented by assumed financial experts when I point out that, instead of more than £650,000 paid out of Treasury Bills on account of deficiency for the six months, it is certified by the Auditor-General at £186,296 4s. 7d., which can be reduced to about £150,000 because of amounts written off since 27th August, 1895. I will also lay certain returns, prepared in the Treasury, upon the Table.

I wish also to state to the House that, not resting satisfied with official returns, even from the highest of all authorities—the Auditor-General, who has complete access to the Treasury vouchers, I submitted all my Financial Statements, with the *Hansards*, containing the debates thereon, also the Ways and Means Accounts, the Audit Act Amendment Act, the Treasury Bills Act of 1895, and the Appropriation Act for the six months, January to June, 1895, to three eminent bankers of this city—Mr. French, the General Manager of the Bank of New South Wales, Mr. T. A. Dibbs, the General Manager of the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney, and Mr. C. A. Stanton, the General Manager of the City Bank, with the following letter:—

Gentlemen,

The Treasury, New South Wales, 15th August, 1896.

In view of the very injurious criticisms made in certain quarters with reference to my exposition of the financial position of the Colony, and the fact that the payments made in 1895-6 on account of 1895 (six months) and previous years were not charged against the revenue for 1895-6, I beg to request that you will be good enough to examine the public documents sent herewith (as per accompanying list), and to inform me whether, in your opinion, any person having a competent knowledge of my financial proposals as submitted to Parliament in connection with the recent

20th August, 1896.

recent change in the mode of keeping the Public Accounts, as explained in my Budget Speeches, Ways and Means Accounts, and the debates on the same, also the debates on the Bills to give effect to those changes, could fairly plead ignorance of the following facts:—

1. That I intended to carry on the accounts to 30th June, 1895, and in respect of appropriations open for expenditure since that date, for the periods before and up to 30th June, 1895, upon the old system.

2. That I intended to add any deficiency arising on the operations of those six months to the deficiency debt, and, therefore, to be provided for by Treasury Bills.

3. That I intended to present the accounts for the year from 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, to Parliament free from any of the expenditure chargeable under the old system to previous periods.

4. I would also be glad if you would consent to look at the cash balances on 30th June, 1896, and state whether there was or was not a surplus of revenue in 1895-6 over expenditure chargeable by law to the year 1895-6, and if so, how much?

Your faithful Servant,
G. H. REID.

J. R. French, Esq.,
General Manager, Bank of New South Wales.

T. A. Dibbs, Esq.,
General Manager, Commercial Bank of Sydney.

C. A. Stanton, Esq.,
General Manager of the City Bank.

To that letter I this day received the following reply:—

Sydney, 19th August, 1896.

The Hon. G. H. Reid, Premier and Colonial Treasurer,—

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 14th instant, together with copies of *Hansard*, the Treasury Bills Deficiency Bill, the Audit Amendment Act, and other documents.

These have had our most careful attention, and judging by the speeches and debates in *Hansard*, and by the legislation relative to audit and appropriations founded thereon, we are of opinion that it was your intention (to use your own words)—

- “1. To carry on the Public Accounts to 30th June, 1895, and in respect of appropriations “open for expenditure since that date, for the periods before and up to 30th June, 1895, “on the old system;”
- “2. To add any deficiency arising under the operations of those six months to the deficiency “debt to be provided for by Treasury Bills; and
- “3. To present the accounts for the year July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, to Parliament free “from any of the expenditure chargeable under the old system to previous periods.”

With regard to the concluding paragraph of your letter, asking us “to look at the cash “balances on the 30th June, 1896, and state whether there was or was not a surplus of revenue in “1895-6 over expenditure, chargeable by law to the year 1895-6, and, if so, how much?” we feel we are unable, with the information at our command, to give an answer.*

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,
J. RUSSELL FRENCH,
T. A. DIBBS,
C. STANTON.

* The return obtained from the Auditor-General on this point, and laid upon the Table this day, shows cash surplus of £331,362 14s. 1d.—G.H.R., 20/8/96.

Naturally the bankers hesitate to certify one way or the other as to the amount of the cash surplus in respect of the operations of the year 1895-6, in the absence of an inspection of the books; but I will now quote from a return received from the Auditor-General, certifying to that important point:—

A return for the first year of keeping the accounts on a cash basis, in respect to both the Revenue and Appropriation for the year—namely, from 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896, showing the total Revenue and Receipts credited to the Revenue Account from 1st July, 1895, to 30th June, 1896; and the total Expenditure on account of the Appropriations for the year.

“The total surplus on the year was £331,362 14s. 1d.

The above figures are considered to be substantially correct. The final audit of the Treasurer's Annual Account cannot be made until it is furnished to me under the Audit Act for that purpose—and it is not yet due; but it will not probably result in any material alteration of the totals as given above.

F. A. RENNIE,
Auditor-General.”

Department of Audit,
19th August, 1896.

I deeply regret that outrageous attacks upon me have compelled me to seek this vindication; but I felt that, in view of the high reputation for financial accuracy which at least one of my accusers has hitherto borne, in justice to the honor of the position I hold, and to the whole community, I should thoroughly demonstrate the utter groundlessness of the serious attacks made upon my administration of the public finances.

20th August, 1896.

(2.) Pilotage Charges at Sydney and Newcastle:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he kindly inform the House when he expects to be able to introduce the Bill to reduce the present excessive pilotage charges at the ports of Sydney and Newcastle?

Mr. Reid answered,—As soon as more urgent business has been dealt with.

(3.) Pay to Men Clearing the West Bogan Scrub:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it proposed to pay the men who are to be engaged by the Government for clearing the West Bogan scrub out of the Loan Vote or Consolidated Revenue?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Out of the Loan Vote to the extent that the same may be permissible by law.

(4.) Grants to Volunteer Fire Brigades:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) To what Volunteer Fire Brigades in New South Wales have grants of money or land been made during the twelve months ending the 30th June, 1896?

(2.) The value of such grants in each case?

(3.) What brigades have furnished statements showing the manner in which the money has been expended?

(4.) Has the money been used for the purpose for which it was granted?

(5.) What brigades have not furnished such statements?

(6.) In the case of the brigades that have not furnished such statements, is it the intention of the Government to insist on their being supplied?

(7.) Was the Fire Brigades Board (being the properly constituted authority on such matters) consulted before grants were made to brigades in the metropolitan district?

(8.) If not, why not?

(9.) Has the Fire Brigades Board protested against the indiscriminate granting of land or money to volunteer brigades within the metropolitan area?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—If the Honorable Member will allow me to say so, he will find that if he refreshes his memory I answered this Question on the 22nd of last month. If the Honorable Member will then kindly take the course I suggested I shall be glad to comply with the order.

(5.) Concessions to Shopkeepers for the Sale of Tram Tickets:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a custom of the Railway Commissioners to allow shopkeepers and others, for public convenience, to sell tram tickets?

(2.) Has such concession been granted to Anthony Hordern and Sons and others?

(3.) How many persons at North Sydney have been granted this concession; and why?

(4.) Is it a fact that a person named Hodd, who provides seating accommodation at an important section of the North Sydney tram, has been refused the right to sell tram tickets; and, if so, why?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that the Railway Commissioners allow tram tickets to be sold by authorised vendors, but since the introduction of the system of allowing the conductors to sell tickets on the trams the sales by vendors have fallen off.

(3.) One, whose place of business is at the Milson's Point Ferry Wharf, for the convenience of passengers proceeding to Sydney and intending to use the steam-trams in the city.

(4.) Application was made by a person named Hodd, but not granted, as further licenses were not necessary. The cash system is in operation on the North Shore lines, and ordinary tram tickets are not required.

(6.) Fisheries Bill:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it his intention to introduce a Bill dealing with the fisheries question, in conformity with the promise he recently made to the large deputation introduced by Mr. Farnell?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I can only repeat the Answer I gave last night to a similar Question, that this Bill is being revised, and will be submitted to Parliament as early as practicable.

(7.) Deputation to the Public Service Board:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board recently arranged for a deputation with the heads of the various asylums for the insane, making an exception of the reception-house at Darlinghurst?

(2.) If so, why were the attendants and nurses at the reception-house denied their right of explaining their disabilities before the Board?

(3.) Will he see that the employees at the Darlinghurst reception-house are granted a hearing?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following replies have been furnished by the Public Service Board:—

(1.) It is a fact that one of the members of the Board met, by arrangement, at Callan Park, a deputation of the various employees of the Hospitals for the Insane.

(2.) There was no such denial.

(3.) The Board is quite ready at convenient times to hear from any member of the Public Service who may wish to make them, any representations on matters coming under the Board's jurisdiction.

(8.) Influx of Asiatics and other Coloured Races:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has any further action been taken for the purpose of preventing the influx of coloured races?

(2.) Is he aware, since Mr. Affleck asked a similar Question, that two of the other Colonies have initiated legislation to prevent the introduction of the aliens alluded to?

(3.) Seeing they have done so, will this Government take steps to legislate in that direction without waiting to consult the other Colonies; if so, when will a Bill be introduced?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—My honorable colleague, the Premier, yesterday fully explained the course of the Government in this matter.

20th August, 1896.

- (9.) Forest-thinning at Narrandera :—Mr. Black asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) How many men are burning-off at block 9 of the forest-thinning at Narrandera?
 - (2.) How long have they been working there?
 - (3.) What is the gross amount earned by them during this period?
 - (4.) What are the gross earnings of their overseer during a similar period?
 - (5.) Has any consideration been given to the fact that burning-off is practically impossible in wet weather?
 - (6.) Is it a fact that on some blocks the men are still being "measured up" at the rate of 9d. per acre?
 - (7.) Is it a fact that some men have never drawn a shilling of pay since they went on the ground?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,— It will be necessary to obtain this information from the district. Inquiry will be made, and replies to these Questions furnished to the Honorable Member as soon as possible.
- (10.) Visit of Forester to the Forest-thinning at Narrandera :—Mr. Black asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) With regard to his reply of 6th August, concerning forest-thinning at Narrandera, is he aware that the Inspector or Forester only visits the ground on pay day; also, that he said 7s. per day could be made at 6d. per acre?
 - (2.) That being so, to whom then is intrusted the discretionary power of saying whether 1s. an acre for ring-barking, grubbing, and burning-off, in special cases, is or is not a living wage?
 - (3.) Will that be left to the overseers, who are always on the ground, and able to judge the qualities of such block, and the capabilities of the men working thereon?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that on some of the unfinished blocks the men are already indebted for food to the extent of their greatest possible earnings when the work is completed?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) The price was fixed on the recommendation of the Forester, who possesses the local knowledge necessary for fixing a fair rate.
 - (3.) It would not be possible to do so.
 - (4.) It is not known, but inquiry will be made. I may mention that the Forester was instructed to fix the rate so that good men could earn 6s. a day.
- (11.) Proposed Railway to Walgett :—Mr. Edden asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he yet submitted to the Cabinet the proposal to connect Walgett with the railway system of the Colony; if so has such an undertaking been approved?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to submit the proposal to the Public Works Committee this Session; and, if so, what route is it proposed to submit?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) The matter is under consideration.
- (12.) Overtime worked by Officers in the Taxation Offices :—Mr. Hurley asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that on alternate evenings each or any of the clerks in the Taxation Offices are employed four hours overtime at the rate of 2s. per hour?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that on Saturday afternoons practically the whole staff are employed and paid overtime at 2s. per hour?
 - (3.) Are heads of Department or heads of rooms also paid overtime?
 - (4.) In view of the fact that there are large numbers of clerks (retrenched Civil Servants and others) out of employment, will he at once order the discontinuance of the system of overtime, in order to give work to others sorely in need of same?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) No.
 - (4.) The Department has no desire to pay overtime if the same can be avoided, and would be glad to hear of retrenched Civil Servants competent for the work. I am informed that in a few days the Public Service Board propose to hold an examination, open to all persons, and it is hoped that a sufficient number of eligible clerks will be obtainable, and by this means the necessity for working overtime will be almost entirely obviated.
- (13.) Carriage of Sugar to the Western Districts :—Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it not a fact that the published rate-book issued by the Railway Commissioners, page 53, provides a charge on "sugar consigned in 100-ton lots to Bourke to be carried at the convenience of the Department in live stock or other trucks (which otherwise would be forwarded empty to Western Districts) at £2 per ton," whereas ordinary rate is £4 13s. 4d. per ton in truck loads of 6 tons, and £8 1s. 9d. per single ton?
 - (2.) Has the Government considered the danger or otherwise to the public health by reason of sugar intended for human consumption being carried in sheep or cattle trucks which in all probability have at various times carried cattle or sheep suffering from diseases such as tuberculosis, pleuro, anthrax, &c., &c.?
 - (3.) Do the Railway Commissioners cause such cattle and sheep trucks to be thoroughly disinfected before being used for the carriage of sugar under this regulation?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) I am informed that an exceptional rate is made for sugar under special conditions.
 - (2 and 3.) Live stock and other goods vehicles, in which merchandise traffic of any description is carried, are thoroughly cleaned before being utilised for the conveyance of goods.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (14.) Medical Examination of Persons Arrested :—Dr. Graham asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the medical examination of persons arrested by the police on suspicion of being of unsound mind is at present conducted solely by Government officials?
 - (2.) Is he also aware that the order for the subsequent transference of such persons to an insane asylum, formerly issued only upon the production of certificates by one Government medical officer, and one medical authority not connected with the Government service, is now issued on the certificates of two Government officials alone, this change in procedure having occurred by direction of the Civil Service Commissioners?
 - (3.) Is he further aware that such procedure is against precedent in lunacy cases of this kind, and also contrary to the custom of dealing, under the Leprosy Act of New South Wales with suspected lepers?
 - (4.) Will he cause inquiry to be made as to whether this new arrangement affords sufficient safeguard to the public?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Public Service Board that the practice referred to by the Honorable Member has been discontinued pending further inquiry into the legal aspect of the question.

- (15.) Railway from Dubbo to Werris Creek :—Mr. Simeon Phillips asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to propose during the present Session for the consideration of the Public Works Committee a line of railway from Dubbo to Werris Creek?

Mr. Young answered,—This has not yet been decided.

- (16.) Improvement Leases in Land Districts of Condobolin and Parkes :—Mr. Sleath, for Mr. Thomas Brown, asked the Secretary for Lands,—With reference to the Question asked by Mr. Thomas Brown, on the 13th August, respecting the sale in Sydney of improvement leases in the Condobolin and Parkes Land Districts, is it a fact that this is the first occasion improvement leases outside of the Metropolitan Land District have been offered in Sydney?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Yes.

- (17.) Forest Planting :—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to abandon forestry operations?
 - (2.) If not, does he consider that that branch of forestry pertaining to planting should be under the guidance of a forest expert competent to direct such work?
 - (3.) Will the Government consider the advisability of placing forest-planting under some experienced officer who can devote attention to this important branch?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) This is being done.

- (18.) Payment of the Income Tax :—Mr. Lyne asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Are notices, dated the 11th of June, and calling for payment of income tax on the 25th June, being issued about the middle of August?
 - (2.) If this is so, will it not have the effect of preventing the possibility of appeals being lodged?
 - (3.) Does the Assessment Act not give sixty days grace after the due date; will this grace be allowed to date from the receipt of the notice?
 - (4.) Is not the £200 exemption allowed in cases where property is held in trust?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) No; appeals may be lodged within thirty days from date of service of assessment notice.
- (3.) Yes; the tax was due on 25th June, and the sixty days grace dates from that date.
- (4.) Yes; on returns being furnished by the beneficiaries under the trust.

- (19.) Mr. Parry Long, Registrar-General :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Griffith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it intended to add to the duties of Mr. Parry Long (Registrar-General) the work of Examiner of Patents?
- (2.) What experience has this officer had that will enable him to carry on this highly technical work?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by the Public Service Board :—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The Registrar-General will have in his employ a competent technical staff, and will in this respect be in an exactly similar position to that of his predecessor.

2. PENNY POSTAGE—POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS :—The following eleven Petitions, from residents of New South Wales,—representing that country residents of this Colony are compelled to pay twice as much for postage of their letters as residents in Sydney; and praying that the House will pass a measure equalising the postage in town and country by making a general rate of one penny upon all letters not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight, posted and delivered in the Colony, and that, if it be necessary to raise further revenue, a half-penny postage rate be imposed upon all newspapers posted for delivery in the Colony, save and except those sent free as exchanges, and those delivered free within the electorate in which they are printed and published,—were presented by the Members named :—

Mr. Chapman; Mr. Pyers, for Mr. Ewing; Mr. Ball; Mr. McFarlane; Mr. Cruickshank (2); Mr. Lee; Mr. Robert Jones; Mr. Dick (2); and Mr. Chapman.

Petitions received.

20th August, 1896.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—

(1.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Sydney Smith—From certain inhabitants of Bathurst.
- (2.) By Mr. Pyers—From certain inhabitants of Casino and District.
- (3.) By Mr. Nicholson—From certain inhabitants of Helensburgh.
- (4.) By Mr. Hogue—From certain inhabitants of Forest Lodge and other Suburbs.
- (5.) By Mr. O'Sullivan—From certain inhabitants of Queanbeyan.
- (6.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Lithgow.
- (7.) By Mr. Bruncker—From certain inhabitants of Minmi.
- (8.) By Mr. Carruthers—From certain inhabitants of Rockdale.
- (9.) By Mr. Young—From certain inhabitants of the Manning River District.
- (10.) By Mr. Moore—From certain inhabitants of Bingara.
- (11.) By Mr. Moore—From certain inhabitants of Barraba.
- (12.) By Mr. Heury Clarke—From certain inhabitants of Cobargo, Bermagui, Tilba, Murrumbidgee, and Wapengo.
- (13.) By Mr. McFarlane—From certain residents in the Clarence River District.
- (14.) By Mr. McFarlane—From certain inhabitants of Maclean.
- (15.) By Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick—From certain inhabitants of Narrandera.
- (16.) By Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick—From certain inhabitants of Junee.
- (17.) By Mr. Watson—From certain inhabitants of Temora.
- (18.) By Mr. Watson—From certain inhabitants of Young.
- (19.) By Mr. Robert Jones—From certain inhabitants of Hargraves.
- (20.) By Mr. W. H. B. Piddington—From certain inhabitants of Walcha.
- (21.) By Mr. W. H. B. Piddington—From certain inhabitants of Uralla.
- (22.) By Mr. Wilks—From certain inhabitants of Balmain, Pymont, and Annandale.
- (23.) By Mr. Ball—From certain inhabitants of Albury.
- (24.) By Mr. Ashton—From certain inhabitants of Hay.
- (25.) By Mr. Cruickshank—From certain inhabitants of Inverell.
- (26.) By Mr. Hurley—From certain inhabitants of Sofala.
- (27.) By Mr. Bavister—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
- (28.) By Mr. Newman—From certain inhabitants of Orange.
- (29.) By Mr. Russell Jones—From certain inhabitants of Petersham.
- (30.) By Mr. Thomas Brown—From certain inhabitants of Peak Hill.

Petitions received.

(2.) Mr. Hughes presented a Petition from certain residents of Sydney—Lang Division, praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation.
Petition received.

4. AGE OF CONSENT:—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Sydney Smith—From certain inhabitants of Bathurst.
- (2.) By Mr. Pyers—From certain inhabitants of Casino and District.
- (3.) By Mr. Nicholson—From certain inhabitants of Helensburgh and Lilly Vale.
- (4.) By Mr. Hogue—From certain inhabitants of Forest Lodge and other Suburbs.
- (5.) By Mr. O'Sullivan—From certain inhabitants of Queanbeyan.
- (6.) By Mr. Dacey—From certain inhabitants of Botany.
- (7.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Lithgow and District.
- (8.) By Mr. Bruncker—From certain inhabitants of Minmi.
- (9.) By Mr. Bruncker—From certain inhabitants of East and West Maitland.
- (10.) By Mr. Carruthers—From certain inhabitants of Rockdale.
- (11.) By Mr. Young—From certain inhabitants of the Manning River District.
- (12.) By Mr. Moore—From certain inhabitants of Barraba.
- (13.) By Mr. Henry Clarke—From certain inhabitants of Cobargo, Bermagui, Tilba, Murrumbidgee, and Wapengo.
- (14.) By Mr. McFarlane—From certain residents of New South Wales.
- (15.) By Mr. McFarlane—From certain residents of the Clarence River District.
- (16.) By Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
- (17.) By Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick—From certain residents of Narrandera.
- (18.) By Mr. Watson—From certain residents of Young.
- (19.) By Mr. Watson—From certain inhabitants of Temora.
- (20.) By Mr. Robert Jones—From certain inhabitants of Hargraves and District.
- (21.) By Mr. Lonsdale—From certain residents of Armidale and District.
- (22.) By Mr. W. H. B. Piddington—From certain inhabitants of Uralla.
- (23.) By Mr. W. H. B. Piddington—From certain inhabitants of Walcha.
- (24.) By Mr. Wilks—From certain inhabitants of Balmain.
- (25.) By Mr. Ball—From certain inhabitants of Albury.
- (26.) By Mr. Ashton—From certain inhabitants of Hay.
- (27.) By Mr. Wood—From certain inhabitants of Bombala.

(28.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (28.) By Mr. Nelson—From certain inhabitants of Sydney and Suburbs.
 (29.) By Mr. Hurley—From certain inhabitants of Sofala and Wattle Flat.
 (30.) By Mr. Bavister—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 (31.) By Mr. Russell Jones—From certain inhabitants of Petersham.
 (32.) By Mr. Wright—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 (33.) By Mr. Thomas Brown—From certain inhabitants of Peak Hill.
 Petitions received.

5. PAPERS :—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Cabramatta, county of Cumberland, for the Liverpool Water Supply.
 (2.) Return respecting the management of the Dredge Service, together with Regulations.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Correspondence between the Colonial Treasurer and Managers of Banks with reference to the Financial Statement of the Treasury.
 (2.) Return prepared by the Auditor-General, showing the Cash Surplus on the first year of the new system of keeping the Public Accounts.
 (3.) Return prepared by the Auditor-General, showing the state of the Public Accounts for the six months ended 30th June, 1895.
 (4.) Return prepared by the Auditor-General, showing the particulars of Treasury Bills issued under the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act, 1895.
 (5.) Return showing the estimated deficiencies in the Public Revenues for 1894 and previous years, and for the first six months of 1895; also particulars respecting Treasury Bills issued to meet those deficiencies.
 (6.) Statement showing the deficiencies in the Accounts from 1887 to 1894 inclusive, and also for the half-year ended 30th June, 1895, covered by Treasury Bills issued under the Treasury Bills Deficiency Act of 1895.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fourteenth Report from the Printing Committee.

7. NEWCASTLE FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND TRADES HALL ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Brunker, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Brunker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend sections 2 and 4 of the Act 56 Vic. No. 35, and to provide for vesting certain land in the trustees therein mentioned, notwithstanding any breach of the conditions imposed by the said Act.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend sections 2 and 4 of the Act 56 Vic. No. 35, and to provide for vesting certain land in the trustees therein mentioned, notwithstanding any breach of the conditions imposed by the said Act,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 20th August, 1896.*

8. POSTPONEMENT :—The Order of the Day for the third reading of the No-liability Mining Companies Bill postponed until Thursday next.

9. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The action of the Mines Department in regard to mining lease applications at Helman's Tank Overflow." And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Sleath moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

10. GEORGE-STREET AND HARRIS-STREET ELECTRIC TRAMWAY BILL :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of an electric tramway from Circular Quay, in the city of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street, in the said city.

Point of Order :—Mr. Lyne desired to know whether this motion, involving the expenditure of public money, would come under the operation of that portion of Standing Order No. 133, which prescribed that "no debate should be allowed"; and whether, in future, such motions could be debated, as in the past.

Mr. Speaker thought the Standing Order referred to had been enforced several times, though it might possibly have been overlooked lately. He would now rule that there could be no debate.

Question put.

The

20th August, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Harris,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Kelly.
Mr. Hawthorne,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Ashton,	

Noes, 29.

Mr. FitzGerald,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. See,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Price,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Ferguson.
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Gillies,	
Mr. Pyers,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

11. ADDITIONS TO TREASURY BUILDING BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the carrying out of additions to the Treasury Building in Macquarie-street, Sydney.
Question put and passed.
12. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 21 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

The House adjourned, at twenty-four minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 46.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Export of Fruit :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has the Board of Exports purchased fruit for export ; if so, what description and quantity, and at what price ; also estimated cost of packing and other charges ?

(2.) Who selected the fruit ; from what districts was the fruit obtained ; and what agents were employed ?

(3.) Was the price paid in excess of market rates ?

(4.) Is it necessary to send a large consignment, or would bulk samples have been sufficient to test the market ?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes ; about 2,000 cases of oranges at from 4s. 6d. to 5s. per gin case. Packing and other charges, including cases, are estimated at 1s. 4½d. per case. Freight, 3s. 6d. per case.

(2.) The fruit was selected, as far as possible, by Messrs. Jessep and Thompson, Members of the Board of Exports, and Mr. Stephenson, Secretary. It was obtained from Parramatta, Ryde, Castle Hill, Dural, Galston, Seven Hills, Eastwood, Thornleigh, Kurrajong, and Bulga. No agents were employed.

(3.) The price paid cannot be compared with market rates, as the class of fruit purchased would not have been marketed at present.

(4.) The consignment, which cannot be said to be large, was fixed by the dimensions of cool-storage chamber, and the desire to obtain a proper test of the market values in Great Britain under commercial conditions. Bulk samples would not give reliable results.

(2.) Deviations on the Railways :—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. See, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the Departmental estimate for the deviations of the Great Southern Railway at Moss Vale and Wingello ?

(2.) What amount was paid to the contractor on his final certificate ?

(3.) The same information in reference to the three deviation contracts, let to Mr. Carson, between Wellington and Dubbo ?

(4.) What was the Departmental estimate for the first proposed deviation at Clarence, Great Western Railway ; what was the amount of the lowest tender received for the work ?

(5.) What was the cost per cubic yard of excavation on the Locksley deviation ?

(6.) What was the average lead ?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that the Departmental estimates for the deviation works at Moss Vale and Wingello (exclusive of permanent-way materials) were, respectively, £8,676 and £5,800, and the final certificates to the contractors amounted to £9,339 11s. 6d. and £7,525.

(3.) The estimated cost of the Wellington and Dubbo deviations, exclusive of permanent-way materials, was £31,500. The final certificate has not yet been given, but it is not anticipated that it will exceed the estimated cost.

(4.) The estimated cost of the deviations at Clarence, exclusive of permanent-way material, was £17,878, and the lowest tender received was £16,367.

(5.) In connection with the deviations at Locksley, the cost per cubic yard for excavation was 1s. 3½d. The cost for similar work under recent contracts has been from 1s. 7d. to 1s. 9d. per cubic yard.

(6.) The average length of lead at Locksley was 30 chains.

(3.)

25th August, 1896.

(3.) Postal Arrangements at Carlingford, Pymble, &c.:—Mr. Howarth asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What is the population of and the number of letters delivered at Carlingford?
- (2.) The same in respect to Pymble?
- (3.) The same in respect to Turramurra?
- (4.) The same in respect to Wahroonga?
- (5.) Why is there a daily house-to-house delivery at the first-mentioned place, and none at the others?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) The population of the whole of Carlingford is estimated at 2,000, and the average number of letters delivered daily at 142.
- (2.) At Pymble the figures are respectively estimated at 1,500 and 96.
- (3.) At Turramurra the figures are respectively estimated at 1,000 and 109.
- (4.) Particulars not yet available, but believed to be less than the others.
- (5.) The revenue collected in Carlingford is about £240 per annum, and largely in excess of that collected at the other places named. These latter places have been of more recent development, and have not yet justified the additional postal facilities alluded to.

(4.) Rookwood Cemetery:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is he aware that that portion of the cemetery at Rookwood set apart for the interment of those men connected with the Navy who happen to die in the Colony is in a most untidy and neglected condition?
- (2.) Will he cause steps to be taken to have the enclosure put in proper order by expending a few pounds thereon?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am informed that the grass needs cutting, and that the ground requires attention in other ways. The land was given free of cost to the naval authorities for burial purposes, and it was anticipated that the ground would be kept in order by them. I will, however, cause inquiries to be made, with the view of having the ground put in proper order.

(5.) Overtime worked in the Justice Department:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Molesworth, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that, since the reorganisation of his Department by the Public Service Board, the officers of such Department have been frequently required to work at night and even on Sundays to meet the requirements of the office?
- (2.) If so, will he take the necessary steps to remedy this state of affairs?

Mr. Gould answered,—The exceptionally heavy work which has arisen, chiefly from the changes and re-arrangement of duties in the different branches of the Justice Department throughout the country districts, necessitating much extra correspondence, &c., has rendered it necessary for the officers to frequently work for many hours beyond the ordinary official time. I am glad to say, however, that the pressure of extra work is now decreasing, and it is expected that the business of the Department will shortly be restored to its normal condition.

(6.) Weldon's Matrimonial Association—The "Minister's Study":—Mr. Rigg asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) How many marriages have been solemnised and registered through Weldon's Matrimonial Association, of 57, Phillip-street, during the twelve months ended on 30th June last?
- (2.) What is the total number of each denomination?
- (3.) What are the names of the clergymen who celebrated the same?
- (4.) Will he also supply similar information respecting the institution at 48, Elizabeth-street, known as the "Minister's Study"?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Registrar-General:—

- (1.) 464.
- (2 and 3.) There is nothing to indicate the number in each denomination. The Rev. W. T. Adams, Methodist Episcopal, appears to have been the clergyman who performed the ceremony in each instance.
- (4.) 94 by Alfred James Clarke, Baptist Minister, and 110 by Lorenzo Howard, Independent Baptist Minister.

(7.) Charges preferred against Governor of Parramatta Gaol:—Mr. McGowan, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Was an inquiry held at Parramatta Gaol in regard to charges preferred against the governor by a warder.
- (2.) Was the evidence at said inquiry taken on oath?
- (3.) Will he lay all papers in reference to such charges and inquiry upon the Table of this House?
- (4.) Were all the charges preferred against the governor dealt with at such inquiry?
- (5.) If not, why not?

Mr. Gould answered,—An inquiry of the character indicated into all the charges made is now under the consideration of the Public Service Board. When it has been completed there will be no objection to lay copies of the papers upon the Table of this House if moved for in the usual way.

(8.) Fees of Commissioners of Affidavits:—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Chapman, asked the Minister of Justice,—Are all the Commissioners for Affidavits paying in the fees received by them as such Commissioners to the Consolidated Revenue, or are they still retaining the fees for their own use and benefit?

Mr. Gould answered,—So far as I am aware all Officers who come within the scope of the "Public Service Act," and are Commissioners for Affidavits, pay the fees received by them as such Commissioners into the Consolidated Revenue in terms of the requirements of number 75 of the Public Service Regulations.

(9.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th August, 1896.

(9.) Revenue received in respect of Patents for Inventions:—Mr. Wilks asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) What amount of revenue was received for the year ending 30th June, 1896, in respect of patents for inventions?
- (2.) What is the estimated revenue from same source for the year 1896–1897?
- (3.) What amount was provided under the Appropriation Act for salaries, contingencies, &c., in connection with the Patents Office, for the former period, and what is the estimated amount to be provided for like purposes for the current financial year?
- (4.) Does he consider that a surplus of revenue over expenditure in such connection is just or equitable to inventors?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) £3,490 19s.
- (2.) £3,650.
- (3.) [a] £2,158; [b] £1,287.

(10.) Patents Office Library:—Mr. Griffith asked the Minister of Justice,—What is the extent and value of the Patents Office Library, and where is it intended to house the same in the event of the removal of the Patents Office and staff to the Registrar-General's Office?

Mr. Gould answered,—The library contains upwards of 6,000 volumes. It is not possible to state the actual monetary value of all the works comprising the library. They will be placed in one of the large rooms of the Registrar-General's Department.

(11.) Postmasters at Adamstown, Gundaroo, Kelso, &c.:—Mr. Affleck asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What were the amounts paid as salaries to the postmasters at Adamstown, Gundaroo, Kelso, Mundooran, Tabulam, Tinonee, and Tumbulgum previous to the 30th June last?
- (2.) What are the salaries now paid, as fixed by the Public Service Board, to the officers in the offices above-mentioned?
- (3.) Do the salaries previously paid to the 30th June include rents of premises, or was there a sum extra paid for residences; if so, what were the respective amounts?
- (4.) Do the salaries fixed by the Public Service Board now include rent of residences; if so, state how much in each case, and the net amount to be paid per annum as salary to each of the officers in the abovenamed offices?
- (5.) When the Public Service Board has fixed the salary and allowed a residence, if that residence is rented will the Government pay the rent over and above the salary, or will the rent be deducted from the salary?
- (6.) What was the total amount of deposits made in these several post-offices for the twelve months ending 30th December last, giving the amounts for each post-office separately?
- (7.) The same information with regard to withdrawals?
- (8.) What was the revenue received at each of these offices for the twelve months ending 31st of December last?
- (9.) What were the total expenses at each of these offices for the same period?
- (10.) What was the value of the money orders issued at each of these offices for twelve months ending 31st December last?
- (11.) The same respecting withdrawals?
- (12.) What difference in revenue for twelve months, ending 31st December last, would there be by the issue of postal notes, as compared with the revenue, had the value of these notes been sold in stamps as formerly?
- (13.) What was the value of the postal notes sold at each of these offices up to 31st December last?
- (14.) The same regarding the payment of postal notes?
- (15.) How long has the postmaster at each of these offices been in the Public Service, and what are their names?

Mr. Cook answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a return giving the information asked for by the Honorable Member.

(12.) Imprisonment of Mr. Baker for Debt:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is he aware that a Mr. Baker, proprietor of a newspaper in the Tweed electorate, has been imprisoned for non-payment of £78 costs imposed upon him as defendant in a recent libel action?
- (2.) In view of the circumstances surrounding this and other similar cases, will he take early steps in the direction of bringing in a Bill to abolish the law relating to imprisonment for debt?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Mr. Baker is at present in gaol for non-payment of costs in a libel action heard at the Supreme Court, Sydney.
- (2.) The propriety of amending the law will be considered.

(13.) Utilisation of Waters of the Grose or Colo Rivers for the Generation of Electricity:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Will he consider the advisability, in the public interests, of initiating a scheme having for its object the utilisation of the waters of the Grose or Colo Rivers as motive-power for the generation of electricity with which to light the City of Sydney and its suburbs?
- (2.) Is he aware that such a scheme has been pronounced feasible by the highest engineering authorities, and that it is regarded as one capable of being worked with great profit to the State?
- (3.) Will he have the matter referred to an officer or officers of his Department for report?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) This appears to me to be more of a Municipal than a Departmental matter.
- (2.) I am not aware.
- (3.) I do not consider this necessary at present.

(14.)

25th August, 1896.

(14.) Electoral Registrars in Suburban Districts :—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Cotton*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the fact that it is proposed to abolish the Electoral Registrars in suburban districts, and transfer such work to the Clerks of Petty Sessions?
- (2.) Is he aware that the local Electoral Registrars have made a practice of opening their offices in the evenings for the convenience of the electors who are unable to attend in business hours?
- (3.) Will such facilities for procuring electoral rights be still available under the new system?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Changes of Registrars have already been made in certain suburban electorates on the grounds of efficiency and economy, and with a view to the convenience of the public.
- (2 and 3.) The offices of Registrar for Sydney and suburban electorates were kept open from 6 to 9 p.m. on two days in each week for some months during 1895, but on account of the small number of rights issued the original hours were reverted to. An exception, however, has been made in the cases of Annandale and Granville.

(15.) Country Cemeteries :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that country cemeteries are not being used as they should be, or intended, as many persons bury their dead without respect to position, and fence in whatever quantity of land each individual chooses?
- (2.) Will he without delay introduce a Bill dealing with country cemeteries, and make it imperative on trustees appointed to make rules and regulations, and have them carried into effect?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Some such cases have occurred.
- (2.) Under section 106 of the Crown Lands Act of 1884 there is power for the Governor to make regulations which prevent irregularities in interments if proper control be exercised by the trustees.

(16.) Erection of Wharf at Hayes-street, Neutral Bay :—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Was Captain Jackson, of the Government Wharves Department, consulted as to the application of the North Shore Ferry Company to erect a wharf adjoining the Government wharf at Hayes-street, Neutral Bay?
- (2.) What objections (if any) did he offer to same?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the wharf and waiting-room referred to cost the Government a considerable sum of money to prepare it for the passenger traffic by the North Shore Ferry Company, and of what use is it now as a revenue-producing property?
- (4.) Is it a fact that this wharf has lately been leased to the North Sydney Municipal Council, and that every previous effort of that body to obtain the wharf has for years been frustrated by Captain Jackson and other Departmental officers, until the North Shore Ferry Company had acquired a private wharf adjoining the public property?
- (5.) Is it a fact that a tender of the North Sydney Council was some years ago lost in the Treasury, and only found when, upon Captain Jackson's recommendation, the lease of the wharf had been completed for three years to the North Shore Ferry Company?
- (6.) Is it a fact that Captain Jackson reported in favour of allowing the North Shore Ferry Company to continue the erection of a book-stall on their wharf at Circular Quay, notwithstanding that such was opposed to the terms of the lease?
- (7.) Is it not a fact that Captain Jackson's reports upon this company are more favourable than otherwise?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1 and 2.) No.
- (3.) The wharf was erected at a cost of about £680, and the waiting-room cost an additional £20 or £30. It is now leased to the North Sydney Municipal Council at a rental of £20 per annum.
- (4.) The wharf is now leased to the North Sydney Municipal Council at a yearly rental of £20. Former efforts on the part of the Council to obtain this wharf were opposed by the Wharves Department, on the ground that the rent offered was too small, except one term of three years, when the North Sydney Council paid £120 per annum for the wharf.
- (5.) It is a fact that a tender for a lease of the wharf at £10 per annum by the Council was mislaid at the Treasury some years ago. The North Shore Ferry Company, about the same time, offered £50 per annum for three years lease, and their tender was accepted.
- (6.) Captain Jackson favoured the erection of a book-stall at the North Shore Ferry Company's wharf at Circular Quay, as this erection was a public convenience, and did not interfere with the traffic. It is not opposed to the terms of the lease, the company having asked permission and obtained it.
- (7.) The relations of the Wharves Department with the North Shore Ferry Company having always been satisfactory from a revenue point of view, Captain Jackson's reports on the company have been favourable.

(17.) Clearing of the West Bogan Scrub :—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
With reference to the ring-barking and clearing of West Bogan Scrub, will he see that the local unemployed who apply get employment before sending numbers of men from Sydney?

Mr. Garrard answered,—Due consideration will be given to the claims of the local unemployed.

(18.) Ammunition supplied to the Military Forces :—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
Will he, in the matter of supplying ammunition to the Military Forces, give preference to that manufactured in the Colony, provided it can be supplied at equally cheap rates with that imported, and of as good quality?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes; but this Government is bound by a contract, made by a preceding Government, with the Colonial Ammunition Company of Melbourne, which does not expire till 1900.

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- (19.) Concession to Shopkeepers for the Sale of Tram-tickets:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the Answer given to Mr. E. M. Clark's Questions, on Thursday, 20th August, on the Question of the sale of tram-tickets by shopkeepers and others, will the Railway Commissioners consider the advisability of placing all applicants for this right upon an equal footing, or abolish altogether the sale of tickets by private vendors?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that it would not be desirable to follow either of the courses mentioned by the Honorable Member. Licenses are granted in accordance with public requirements, and not in the interests of individuals.

- (20.) Alleged Statement made by Colonel Lassetter in reference to Public Schools Act:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a statement made by Colonel Lassetter, in connection with a public meeting for the building of St. Mary's Roman Catholic Cathedral, to the effect that the Public Schools Act was ruinous to the social welfare of the community, and that it had produced pupils who generally were dishonest and unfit for any position of trust in private employ?

(2.) Is this Colonel Lassetter in any sense a State Officer; if so, will he ask him for an explanation of his conduct in slandering the reputation of the community?

Mr. Brunner answered,—Members of the Volunteer Force, when not on military duty, are entitled to as much latitude in the remarks which they may choose to make as other civilians, and the Military Department cannot well interfere; but if their remarks touched on questions of military discipline notice would have to be taken in the matter.

- (21.) Registration of By-law by Registrar of Friendly Societies:—Mr. Russell Jones asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has the Registrar of Friendly Societies registered a by-law within the last month of a number of Lodges of the United Ancient Order of Druids, referring to the making new laws and rules by the Order?

(2.) If so, will he give the names of all the Lodges who have registered the by-law?

(3.) Has the Crown Solicitor or Attorney-General perused the by-law; and, if not, will it be submitted for their opinion as to whether it is legal and can have any effect?

Mr. Brunner answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by the Registrar of Friendly Societies:—

(1.) A by-law has been registered by twenty-eight of the branch lodges, acknowledging the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of the Order.

(2.) A return will be laid upon the Table of this House giving this information.

(3.) The Crown Law Officers were not consulted by the Registrar, upon whom, by section 8 of the Friendly Societies Act, devolves the duty of finding that any alteration of rules is in conformity with law.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Morton—From certain inhabitants of Nowra.

(2.) By Mr. Morton—From certain inhabitants of Berry and District.

(3.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain inhabitants of Wallsend.

(4.) By Mr. Macdonald—From certain inhabitants of Coonamble.

(5.) By Mr. Lee—From certain inhabitants of Tenterfield.

(6.) By Mr. Bavister—From certain inhabitants of Summer Hill.

(7.) By Mr. Bavister—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.

(8.) By Mr. Rose—From certain inhabitants of Goulburn.

(9.) By Mr. E. M. Clark—From certain inhabitants of North Sydney.

(10.) By Mr. McLean—From certain inhabitants of Dulwich Hill.

(11.) By Mr. McLean—From certain inhabitants of Marrickville.

(12.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain inhabitants of Liverpool and District.

(13.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain inhabitants of Yass.

(14.) By Mr. Levien—From certain inhabitants of Quipolly Creek.

(15.) By Mr. Levien—From certain inhabitants of Quirindi.

(16.) By Mr. M. T. Phillips—From certain inhabitants of Cowra.

(17.) By Mr. Smailes—From certain inhabitants of Auburn and Rookwood.

(18.) By Mr. Smailes—From certain inhabitants of Granville.

(19.) By Mr. Edden—From certain inhabitants of Glebeland, near Newcastle.

(20.) By Mr. Hogue—From certain inhabitants of The Glebe.

(21.) By Mr. Griffith—From certain inhabitants of Lambton.

(22.) By Mr. Rigg—From certain inhabitants of St. Peters.

(23.) By Mr. Bull—From certain inhabitants of Picton.

(24.) By Mr. Haynes—From certain inhabitants of Hill End and Tambaroora.

(25.) By Mr. Dick—From certain inhabitants of Stockton.

(26.) By Mr. Gould—From certain inhabitants of Singleton.

(27.) By Mr. Russell Jones—From James Matthews, Chairman of a Public Meeting of residents of Dulwich Hill, held on the 24th August, 1896.

Petitions received.

25th August, 1896.

3. **PENNY POSTAGE—POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS**:—The following five Petitions, from residents of New South Wales,—representing that country residents of this Colony are compelled to pay twice as much for postage of their letters as residents in Sydney; and praying that the House will pass a measure equalising the postage in town and country by making a general rate of one penny upon all letters not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight, posted and delivered in the Colony, and that, if it be necessary to raise further revenue, a half-penny postage rate be imposed upon all newspapers posted for delivery in the Colony, save and except those sent free as exchanges, and those delivered free within the electorate in which they are printed and published,—were presented by the Members named:—
Mr. Watkins; Mr. Chanter (2); Mr. Copeland (2).
Petitions received.
4. **AGE OF CONSENT**:—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the “age of consent” in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—
(1.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain inhabitants of Wallsend and Plattsburg.
(2.) By Mr. Macdonald—From certain inhabitants of Coonamble.
(3.) By Mr. Lee—From certain inhabitants of Tenterfield.
(4.) By Mr. Bavister—From certain inhabitants of Summer Hill.
(5.) By Mr. Rose—From certain inhabitants of Crookwell and District.
(6.) By Mr. E. M. Clark—From certain inhabitants of North Willoughby.
(7.) By Mr. McLean—From certain inhabitants of Marrickville.
(8.) By Mr. McLean—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
(9.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain inhabitants of Yass and District.
(10.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain inhabitants of Liverpool and District.
(11.) By Mr. Leven—From certain inhabitants of Quirindi.
(12.) By Mr. M. T. Phillips—From certain inhabitants of Cowra.
(13.) By Mr. Haynes—From certain inhabitants of Hill End and Tambaroora.
(14.) By Mr. Smailes—From certain inhabitants of Rookwood and Auburn.
(15.) By Mr. Smailes—From certain inhabitants of Granville and Harris Park.
(16.) By Mr. Edden—From certain inhabitants of Wallsend and District.
(17.) By Mr. Griffith—From certain inhabitants of Lambton.
(18.) By Mr. Rigg—From certain inhabitants of St. Peters.
(19.) By Mr. Bull—From certain inhabitants of Picton.
(20.) By Mr. Dick—From certain inhabitants of Stockton.
(21.) By Mr. Gould—From certain inhabitants of Singleton and District.
Petitions received.
5. **EVIDENCE BEFORE THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION BY MR. H. C. L. ANDERSON**:—Mr. O’Sullivan presented a Petition from Thomas Michael Slattery, of Sydney, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the evidence given before the Civil Service Commission by Mr. H. C. L. Anderson; and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.
Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
6. **GORE AND ARTARMON ESTATES, NORTH SHORE**:—Mr. Howarth presented a Petition from John Henry Oscar Ffrench, of Greenwich, near Sydney, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the Gore and Artarmon Estates, North Shore; and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.
Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
7. **PAPERS**:—
Mr. Cook laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Revenue and Expenditure in connection with the Post Offices at Adamstown, Gundaroo, Kelso, Munderoran, Tabulam, Tinonee, and Tumbulgum.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 23rd July, 1896,—“Bail and Justification Bonds—Regina v. Crick, Mcagher, and others—Regina v. Deacon.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—
(1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Gunnedah.
(2.) By-laws of the Borough of Lane Cove, under the Municipal Wharves Act of 1893.
(3.) Names of Lodges of the United Ancient Order of Druids that have registered a new By-law, binding them to accept the general laws of the Order, and all amendments thereof.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**:—Mr. Reid, referring to a promise made by him, announced that it was the intention of the Government to proceed with Mr. Cook’s Notice of Motion for the introduction of the Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill early on Thursday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th August, 1896.

9. PLEBISCITE ON THE FISCAL QUESTION :—Mr. McGowen moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House,—

(1.) The commercial and financial unrest consequent upon the uncertainty of the tenure of any fiscal policy calls for the immediate taking of a plebiscite vote upon the advisability of the present policy remaining unaltered for a period of five years.

(2.) That in the event of a majority declaring themselves against the present policy, and in favour of a protective tariff, immediate action be taken to adjust the fiscal policy in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the people.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Waddell moved, That the Question be amended by adding to paragraph (2) the words "and such protective policy shall remain in force for a period of five years."

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be added be so added.

Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 26 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Greene moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by adding thereto the words "(3) That the Government are requested to take steps for carrying out the foregoing resolutions on the first suitable opportunity."

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be added to the proposed amendment be so added.

Debate continued.

Point of Order :—Mr. Chanter submitted that the amendment last proposed was inconsistent with the original motion, and was therefore out of order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the proposed amendment was only explanatory, and not inconsistent.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be added to the proposed amendment be so added.

The House divided.

Ayes, 47.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Schey.
Mr. Hughes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ball,	
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Bavierster.
Mr. McGowen,	

Noes, 21.

Mr. Perry,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. See,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Huys.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Lee.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question put,—That the words, as amended, proposed to be added to the original motion be so added.

The House divided.

Ayes, 45.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Bavierster,	Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Cook.
Mr. Waddell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Greene,	Mr. McLean.
Mr. Russell Jones,	

Noes, 22.

Mr. Perry,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. See,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Cotton.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Levien.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question

25th August, 1896.

Question then put,—

That, in the opinion of this House,—

(1.) The commercial and financial unrest consequent upon the uncertainty of the tenure of any fiscal policy calls for the immediate taking of a plebiscite vote upon the advisability of the present policy remaining unaltered for a period of five years.

(2.) That in the event of a majority declaring themselves against the present policy, and in favour of a protective tariff, immediate action be taken to adjust the fiscal policy in accordance with the wishes of the majority of the people, and such protective policy shall remain in force for a period of five years.

(3.) That the Government are requested to take steps for carrying out the foregoing resolutions on the first suitable opportunity.

The House divided.

Ayes, 45.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Schey,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Griffith.
Mr. Bavister,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ball,	
Mr. Black,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Watson,	

Noes, 21.

Mr. Perry,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. See,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Pyers.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Willis.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

10. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Affleck moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Government Railways Act Amendment Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Young,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Jessep,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Newman,	
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.

Noes, 21.

Mr. M. T. Phillips,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLaughlin,	
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Dacey.
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Levien,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Hayes.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 1st September.

11. DISTRESS FOR RENT ABOLITION BILL:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to abolish distress for rent.

Question put and passed.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at four minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 47.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 26 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Mining on Private Property :—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that gold-miners have great difficulties in getting on private property to mine for gold where the property is mortgaged?

(2.) Will he give instructions to the Wardens to use their best endeavours to prevent the great delay in getting possession of private properties to mine for gold?

(3.) Has a man named Graham brought this matter before him; if so, will he give instructions to the proper authorities to have Graham placed in possession of the property he has applied for, and when will he be able to start work?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The Act requires that certain notices must be served on the mortgagee, and great delay is sometimes caused through owners and mortgagees not disclosing their title. It is impossible to serve the prescribed notices until this has been done.

(2.) Delay does not take place in the Warden's Office. The difficulty in getting on the land is caused by the different provisions of the Act having to be complied with before a lease can be issued.

(3.) An application for a lease was made by Alonza Graham, but it has been delayed owing to difficulties as to the title. It is expected that these will be cleared away in a short time, and the issue of the lease will be expedited as much as possible.

(2.) Inspection of Queensland Stock crossing into New South Wales :—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. Pyers, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that Stock Inspectors are instructed to inspect at the proclaimed crossings all Queensland stock passing into New South Wales?

(2.) Is he aware that various mobs of cattle have crossed into New South Wales at Mount Lindsey since the appointment of the present Inspector, without inspection by that officer?

(3.) Did the lessee of the holding at Lindsey Crossing notify this fact to the Stock Department in May last?

(4.) In view of the culpable neglect shown by the local Inspector, will he insist on this officer carrying out his duties as laid down by the Act?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes; two lots did so, but they were inspected afterwards. The Inspector did not receive sufficient notice to enable him to inspect the cattle before they crossed.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Yes, every care will be taken to see that the regulations are not broken; but I am not aware that the Inspector neglected his duty. He was entitled to seven days' notice, and he got only three days.

(3.) Gratuities to Retrenched Civil Servants :—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that a number of Civil Servants retrenched on the 1st July have not yet been paid their gratuities?

(2.) Will he expedite such payments?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Owing to the large number of claims arising there has necessarily been some delay, but steps have already been taken to expedite the matter. (4.)

26th August, 1896.

- (4.) Road Expenditure for 1895-6:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he supplement the financial information given last week by stating—(a) The amount of the road expenditure for 1895-6 which was derived from Treasury Bills and charged back to past years; (b) the actual cash deficiency on the 30th June, 1895?

Mr. Reid answered,—The information as to road expenditure during 1895-6, and the Votes from which expended, can be readily ascertained by the Honorable Member from the Quarterly Statements in the *Government Gazette*; the balance at the debit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund (exclusive of Loans), if that is what the Honorable Member means by the expression "actual cash deficiency," is also to be found in the same way.

- (5.) Government Land Valuers under the Land and Income Tax:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In the event of the Government land valuers under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act valuing land at a less value than the owner in his return, is it the intention of the Commissioners to tax the person owning the land at his own valuation or the valuer's valuation?

(2.) Should the valuers value land at a higher rate than the owner, which value will be accepted by the Commissioners, and on which value will the tax be imposed?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Commissioners of Taxation will not necessarily adopt any particular estimate of value. In all cases they will fix such values at what they consider, according to the best of their judgment and information, to be the fair value in each case.

- (6.) Inglewood Bridge over the Lachlan River:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) On what date were tenders for the Inglewood Bridge, over the Lachlan River, sent in to the Department?

(2.) Is it his intention to resume land for the approaches to the said bridge?

(3.) If so, what is the reason for the delay in gazetting the notice for the resumption of the said land?

(4.) If not already gazetted, will such appear in the next issue of the *Gazette*?

(5.) If so, how long will it be then before the tenders for the bridge will be accepted?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) On the 8th April last.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) There has been no unnecessary delay in respect to this resumption.

(4.) It will be gazetted on the 1st proximo.

(5.) The tender will now be accepted.

- (7.) Inspector R. G. Reid:—Mr. Howarth asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to recommend the reinstatement of Inspector R. G. Reid; if so, when; and, if not, why not?

Mr. Young answered,—The employment of Inspectors rests with the Public Service Board. I understand Mr. R. G. Reid is on their list for employment when a suitable vacancy occurs.

- (8.) Retirements effected by the Public Service Board:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does the Public Service Board, in cases where they recommend the enforced retirement of an officer, furnish the Minister of the Department to which the officer belongs, or the Governor and Executive Council, with specific reasons for their recommendation, and the evidence upon which such reasons are based?

(2.) If so, is the officer made aware of the specific reasons?

(3.) Is the officer given an opportunity of questioning the correctness of the evidence and sufficiency of the reasons?

(4.) Is the evidence given on oath?

(5.) Is the officer given an opportunity of rebutting such evidence?

(6.) Is the evidence placed on record, and available for reference?

(7.) Has the Governor, in terms of sub-section 6 of section 5 of the Public Service Act, directed the form in which the Board are to keep minutes of their proceedings; if so, will the Minister lay a copy of such direction upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) In carrying out the reorganisation of the Service, the adoption of such a course would have been quite impracticable. The powers conferred upon the Board in this behalf are to be found in section 8 of the Public Service Act.

(2 and 3.) No; the officers whose services are dispensed with are not discharged by reason of any offence, and they have compensation provided under the Act.

(4, 5, and 6.) In most instances the reorganisation of the Service has been attained by the abolition of offices, in which the question of the qualifications of individual officers has necessarily not come into account. The decisions of the Board have been arrived at after the most careful inquiry, in the course of which it was not necessary to examine on oath. This is done in cases where an offence is involved, a record of the evidence being in such a case kept, and is, of course, available for reference.

(7.) No, but the matter is under consideration. Minutes of the proceedings of the Board have, however, been kept.

- (9.) Mining on Private Property:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that miners experience considerable difficulty in getting on to mortgaged lands for the purpose of mining on private property?

(2.) Can he take any steps to remedy the difficulty complained of?

(3.) Has he the power to grant a lease under the Mining on Private Property Act irrespective of the mortgage, provided all the other legal conditions of the application are fulfilled?

Mr.

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Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Considerable difficulty is sometimes experienced by miners in getting on mortgaged lands. The consent of the mortgagee has to be obtained in all cases, and if the mortgagee refuses to consent his interest in the land has to be appraised, and the requisite notices served on him. Delay is sometimes occasioned by the mortgagee holding the title deeds and declining to produce them, so that his interest in the land may be determined, and the owner's title investigated.

(2.) As the Mining on Private Lands Act stands there is no way in which the difficulty can be remedied.

(3.) No.

(10.) Gundagai Bridge:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Were tenders recently invited by him for the construction of a bridge over the river at Gundagai?

(2.) How many tenders were received?

(3.) The names of the tenderers, and the amount of their tenders?

(4.) Was the tender of H. McKenzie & Sons the lowest?

(5.) Was that tender sent to him by the Tender Board for acceptance?

(6.) Did he accept that tender; if not, will he give reasons why it, being the lowest, was not accepted?

(7.) Did he invite tenders for the bridge through the columns of any newspaper outside the Colony; if so, will he name them?

(8.) Did he cause plans and specifications of said bridge to be sent to Melbourne for convenience of contractors desirous of tendering?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Twenty.

(3.) (1) H. McKenzie and Son, £12,518 18s. 3d.; (2) W. Pickering, £12,591 15s. 6d.; (3) J. B. and W. Farquharson, £13,028 18s. 3d.; (4) C. McClure, £13,169; (5) G. Raffan, £13,285; (6) H. Reid, £13,457; (7) J. Stewart & Co., £13,490; (8) W. F. Oakes, £13,495; (9) S. McGill, £13,518; (10) C. Wadey, £13,962 9s. 7d.; (11) Barton and Cooper, £13,993; (12) McEvoy and Keefe, £14,170 6s. 6d.; (13) W. J. Lansdown, £14,193; (14) J. Ahearn, £14,300; (15) E. Taylor and Murphy, £14,500; (16) C. J. Foord, £14,500; (17) A. B. Espley, £14,938 6s. 6d.; (18) A. Ringholm and Co., £15,235; (19) Ritchie Bros., £16,100 18s. 4d.; (20) T. C. Hector (wire), £27,000.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) No. As the difference was so slight, viz., £72 17s. 3d., in a total of £12,518 18s. 3d., between the lowest and the next tender, and Mr. Pickering was known to be a very satisfactory contractor—Messrs. McKenzie and Son being unknown to the Department—I decided to accept Mr. Pickering's tender.

(7.) No.

(8.) No.

(11.) Civil Servants over the age of 60:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many Civil Servants over the age of 60 years have been dismissed at the instance of the Public Service Board?

(2.) What are the names of the officers so dismissed, the amount of salaries they were receiving, and the Departments in which they were performing their duties?

(3.) How many Civil Servants over the age of 60 years are now retained in the Service?

(4.) What are their names, the amount of salary they are receiving, and the Departments they belong to?

Mr. Reid answered,—A return will be prepared and laid upon the Table, giving the required information, if moved for in the ordinary way.

(12.) Public Works Inquiry Commission:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Referring to previous Questions and Answers, what has been the total cost or liability for the Parkes Commission to date?

(2.) Is it his intention to grant Mr. Varney Parkes any further sums, or extension of time, to conclude the inquiry?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The total amount paid to date is £194 7s. 7d. The total cost or liability cannot at present be ascertained.

(2.) A further extension of time for two months from the 21st instant has been granted. As already intimated, the Government have decided that the total sum which they will contribute to Mr. Parkes' expenses is not to exceed £500.

(13.) Leases on Pastoral Holding of Pericoota and Moira, Deniliquin:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) When do the leases on the pastoral holding of Pericoota and Moira, in the Land District of Deniliquin, terminate?

(2.) Does he purpose to make the land on those holdings available for settlement; if so, under what conditions?

(3.) When will the land be so made available?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) The lease of Pericoota expired on the 10th, and that of Moira on the 30th ultimo.

(2.) Yes; the conditions will be duly notified when decided upon.

(3.) With the least possible delay.

(14.)

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(14.) Police Reward and Superannuation Funds :—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) How many policemen who were injured and incapacitated in the execution of their duty were provided with pensions or gratuities from the Police Reward and Superannuation Funds since the formation of those Funds?
- (2.) How many widows and orphans of policemen killed in the execution of their duty were in like manner provided with pensions or gratuities from the same Funds?
- (3.) Has not the amount available for the payment of pensions and gratuities been considerably reduced by the granting of rewards to civilians and others for the prosecutions and arrests of offenders?
- (4.) What would the sum total of those pensions, gratuities, and rewards amount to up to the present date with 4 per cent. interest added?
- (5.) Is it a fact that the Funds are now nearly exhausted, although the police have since 1868 voluntarily contributed an extra 1 per cent. beyond the 2 per cent. imposed by the Police Regulation Act, and that there will be no funds to pay any pensions after March next?
- (6.) Is it also a fact that no contribution or subsidy has ever been given from the Consolidated Revenue to those Funds, although provision was made in Act 14 Vic. No. 38 (since repealed), under which they were founded, that any deficiencies occurring should be paid from "the General Revenue of the Colony"?
- (7.) Having in view the fact that so many persons whose maintenance is the duty of the State have been provided for out of the said Funds and without contribution from the Consolidated Revenue, will he bring in a Bill to place the Funds in a solvent state?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This information is being prepared, and will be laid upon the Table in the form of a return as early as possible.

(15.) Overhead Bridge at Nyngan Railway Station :—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that twice during the last few months serious accidents have nearly occurred at Nyngan Railway Station owing to the want of an overhead bridge?
- (2.) When will the promised overhead bridge be constructed?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that the Commissioners are not aware that serious accidents have nearly occurred at Nyngan recently through the want of a bridge.
- (2.) An overhead bridge will be erected as soon as possible consistent with the orders preceding it being executed.

(16.) Post Office, Cobar :—Mr. Waddell asked the Postmaster-General,—Will he, in view of the urgent need of better accommodation for the delivery of letters being provided at the Post Office, Cobar, see that steps are taken immediately to carry out the long-promised work of providing suitable accommodation?

Mr. Cook answered,—It is the intention of the Department to make provision for better accommodation for the delivery of letters at Cobar, and to this end certain suggestions of the Inspector for the district were forwarded to the Works Department, for the consideration of the Government Architect, on the 21st instant.

(17.) Refreshment Room at Nyngan :—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has any complaint been made to the Secretary for Railways as to the keeper of the railway refreshment room at Nyngan getting supplies by rail for the refreshment room, without paying the usual railway charges for same?
- (2.) If so, was a thorough investigation made of the complaint?
- (3.) Will strict precaution be taken to prevent the possibility of such abuses occurring at this or any other such refreshment room?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I am informed that representations have been made, and have received the necessary attention.
- (3.) Strict precautions are always taken to prevent abuse in this and other matters.

(18.) Lachlan Downs Pastoral Holding, Cobar :—Mr. Hughes asked the Secretary for Lands,—Who is the present lessee or lessees of Lachlan Downs Pastoral Holding, Local Land District of Cobar?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Hannah Mackinnon, Margaret Mackinnon, and Alexander Macrae are the lessees of the leasehold area of this holding. The occupation license of the resumed area has not been renewed.

(19.) Gundagai Bridge :—Mr. Wood asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the lowest tender has been passed over by the Government for the construction of the Gundagai Bridge, whilst a higher tender has been accepted?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the former tender was rejected on the grounds that the tenderer was not a resident of the Colony?
- (3.) If such was the case, do the Government intend to follow out this policy in connection with the construction of all public works?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) I would refer the Honorable Member to my reply to Question No. 10, asked by the Honorable Member for Deniliquin.
- (3.) Each case will be dealt with on its merits.

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- (20.) Model Farms :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What policy does the Government intend to pursue with respect to the model farms?
 - (2.) Is it the intention of the Government to increase them, or to decline any further extension of them for the present, in view of the need for financial economy?
 - (3.) Are there any applications now in for the establishment of model farms; and, if so, what are the intentions of the Government regarding them?
 - (4.) Is the Government aware of an effort at Bathurst, asking the Member for the district, his colleague the Minister for Mines, to establish a Government smelting depôt in connection with the model farm at that place; if so, what are the intentions of the Government in regard to the matter?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1, 2, and 3.) The policy of the Government is to establish farms in suitable localities, to afford the fullest technical and practical instruction, upon lines adopted in all progressive countries. They have proved of incalculable good in other parts of the world, and, judging from the work and experiments now being conducted, they are likely to do so here. The increase expected from the use of improved varieties of seed and better cultivation, as demonstrated by the experiments made at Wagga Wagga, prove that in wheat culture alone it is possible to augment our production by at least £150,000 annually. A number of applications are before the Department, and the intention of the Government is to increase these institutions as the necessity arises.
- (4.) This matter has not yet been considered by the Government.

- (21.) Inquest held at Maitland Hospital on Body of Child :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the proceedings in connection with an inquest held recently at Maitland Hospital, on the body of a child whose death was caused by a surgical operation performed on the mother by a duly qualified medical man in the presence of other qualified medical men—the said operation being for an abdominal tumour, while the mother was only *enciente*?
- (2.) Does he propose to refer the matter to the Medical Board, or to the Attorney-General, with a view to such steps being taken as will preclude the possibility of a recurrence of such a death?
- (3.) Who was the operator in this case, and who were the medical men present at the operation?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes, and the matter is under reference to the Minister of Justice.

- (22.) New Parliament Houses :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that, in regard to the new Parliament Houses, the Government have departed from the arrangement sanctioned by Parliament with respect to Governmental architectural work, and have shut out all competitions for designs, confining the work entirely to a Departmental official?
- (2.) On what grounds, if such is the case, have the Government declined outside competition with respect to the designs; if the plans of the Government Supervisor of Architecture are to be taken, by whom are his plans or his work to be supervised, or are they to be subject to no supervision?

Mr. Young answered,—I have no knowledge of the arrangement the Honorable Member speaks of as having been sanctioned by Parliament.

- (23.) Sale of Tram Tickets :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the Answers to the Questions of Mr. E. M. Clark, on the 20th and 25th August,—If it is a public convenience that tram tickets should be sold at Milson's Point, North Sydney, why is such right confined only to one shopkeeper and not generally to all shopkeepers in the neighbourhood?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that, as pointed out on the 20th instant, further licenses are not necessary on the North Shore, as the cash system is in operation on the local trams, and ordinary tram tickets are not required. One person, whose place of business is at the Milson's Point Ferry Wharf, is allowed to sell tickets for the convenience of passengers proceeding to Sydney, and intending to use the steam trams in the city.

- (24.) Retired Civil Servants :—Mr. Dugald Thomson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the Public Service Board power to recall to the Service, as opportunity offers—(a) ex-officers who were retired on the ground of ill-health only, but have now regained their health, and are actively engaged in other occupations while drawing Civil Service pensions; (b) ex-officers retired for any reason, who, though qualified by age and fitness for employment in the Service, are in receipt of pensions?
- (2.) If such ex-officers fail to respond to a recall, has the Board power to withdraw their pensions?
- (3.) If the Board possesses these powers, will it exercise them?

Mr. Reid answered,—The 47th section of the Civil Service Act gives power to the Governor to order an officer, on restoration to health, to resume his duties or any other duties that he may be qualified to perform, at his former salary. The only case in which an officer who has been pensioned can be recalled to the Service is provided for in section 47 of the Civil Service Act, which reads as follows :—“If the health of any officer, superannuated by reason of infirmity of body or of mind, become so restored as to enable him to perform his duties, the Governor may require him to resume such duties, or any other duties for which he is qualified, at his former salary, and if he decline to undertake the same such officer shall forfeit his right to his superannuation allowance, and if he resume his duties such allowance shall be discontinued. But in the event of a recurrence of his infirmity he shall be entitled to his superannuation allowance, together with any prescribed increase to which he would be entitled from additional length of service.”

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(25.) Export of Fruit:—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Were tenders called for the purchase of large quantities of fruit for export by the Export Board; if not, what system was adopted?
- (2.) Is the Mr. Jessep mentioned as having been appointed to purchase fruit a Member of this House; and, if so, is that gentleman engaged as a fruit agent?
- (3.) Is he aware that the mode of purchasing the fruit was most unfair to a large number of fruit-growers?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Tenders were not called, the object being to get representative samples from various districts. The system adopted was to visit the districts and secure the required supplies from the growers and those who had purchased the crops in various orchards.
- (2.) Mr. Jessep is a Member of this House; but I cannot say anything as to his private business. I know, however, that no more capable man could have been obtained to select the fruit, and I consider, as did the Board for Exports, that it was an advantage to secure, gratuitously, a gentleman of Mr. Jessep's well-known experience and probity to undertake this duty.
- (3.) Nothing unfair was done to growers in obtaining this small shipment, as an opportunity was afforded them by public advertisement of meeting the Board in Conference and arranging for the necessary fruit. Only three growers attended, and the Board then adopted the best method which the circumstances permitted.

(26.) Report on Japan by Attorney-General:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the report of the Attorney-General on Japan been received?
- (2.) If so, what date will the report be laid upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Reid answered,—Mr. Want forwarded to the Board of Exports, through the Premier, a report on the trade of Japan in the month of May last. This report was made by Mr. Want in his private capacity for the information of the members of the Board of Exports; but if the Honorable Member moves for a return in the usual way I do not at present see any objection to its production.

LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Fegan—From certain inhabitants of Newcastle.
 - (2.) By Mr. Fegan—From certain inhabitants of Tighe's Hill, Islington, and Hamilton.
 - (3.) By Mr. Fegan, for Mr. Frank Farnell—From certain inhabitants of Ryde.
 - (4.) By Mr. McMillan—From certain inhabitants of Burwood.
 - (5.) By Mr. Travers Jones—From certain inhabitants of Tumut.
 - (6.) By Mr. Travers Jones—From certain inhabitants of Adelong.
 - (7.) By Mr. Gillies—From certain inhabitants of West Maitland.
 - (8.) By Mr. Reid—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 - (9.) By Mr. Anderson—From certain inhabitants of Sydney.
 - (10.) By Mr. Anderson—From certain inhabitants of Alexandria.
 - (11.) By Mr. Jessep, for Mr. Knox—From J. W. Hedges, Chairman of a Public Meeting of residents of Wollahra, held on 17th August, 1896.
 - (12.) By Mr. Davis—From certain inhabitants of Pymont.
 - (13.) By Mr. Alexander Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Kiama and District.
- Petitions received.

3. **AGE OF CONSENT:**—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Fegan—From certain inhabitants of Tighe's Hill, North Waratah, and Islington.
 - (2.) By Mr. Fegan, for Mr. Frank Farnell—From certain inhabitants of Ryde and Carlingford.
 - (3.) By Mr. Travers Jones—From certain inhabitants of Tumut.
 - (4.) By Mr. Archibald Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Wollongong and District.
 - (5.) By Mr. Gillies—From certain inhabitants of West Maitland.
 - (6.) By Mr. James Thomson—From certain inhabitants of Newcastle.
 - (7.) By Mr. Reid—From certain inhabitants of Sydney and Suburbs.
 - (8.) By Mr. Davis—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 - (9.) By Mr. Alexander Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Kiama and District.
- Petitions received.

4. **CASE OF STAFF-SERGEANT W. JIFFKINS:**—Mr. Waddell, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 30th June, 1896. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. **PAPERS:**—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of alterations in the Regulations under the Crown Lands Acts.
 - (2.) Copy of *Gazette* Notice, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the dedication of certain lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No. 21.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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6. STATE CHILDREN RELIEF BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Dr. Graham, read a third time, and *passed*,
Dr. Graham then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend an Act to establish a system of Boarding-out Children.*"
Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend An Act to establish a system of Boarding-out Children,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th August, 1896.*

STATE CHILDREN RELIEF BILL.

Schedule of Amendment referred to in Message of 26th August, 1896.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Page 2, clause 10. *Add at end of clause "and with the approval of the Colonial Secretary."*

Examined,—

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Chairman of Committees.

7. MORUYA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Council of the Municipality of Moruya to recover rates for the year 1895 to 1896 on the basis of the rate imposed for the year 1894 to 1895, and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th August, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

8. NET-FISHING IN PORT HACKING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Net-fishing in Port Hacking Prohibition Act of 1886, and the Net-fishing in Port Hacking Prohibition Act Amendment Act of 1894,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th August, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Reid, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Clarence, Mr. McFarlane, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"That it is imperative that immediate steps be taken to preserve the sugar industry in the northern districts of the Colony."

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. McFarlane moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 20.

Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Chanter,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. See,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. M. T. Phillips,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Ewing.

Tellers,

Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Waddell.

Noes, 49.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Ashton,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Edden,	Tellers,
Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. McLean.
Mr. Wilks,	

And so it passed in the negative.

10.

26th August, 1896.

10. RAILWAY FROM MOREE TO INVERELL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Moree to Inverell.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 27 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

Question put and passed.

11. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation, and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony.
Question put and passed.

12. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1893.
Question put and passed.

13. GEORGE-STREET AND HARRIS-STREET ELECTRIC TRAMWAY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of an electric tramway from Circular Quay, in the City of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street, in the said city.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of an electric tramway from Circular Quay, in the City of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street, in the said city.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of an electric tramway from Circular Quay, in the City of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street, in the said city*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

14. ADDITIONS TO TREASURY BUILDING BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the carrying out of additions to the Treasury Building in Macquarie-street, Sydney.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the carrying out of additions to the Treasury Building, in Macquarie-street, Sydney.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the carrying out of additions to the Treasury Building, in Macquarie-street, Sydney*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

15. RABBIT BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunner, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make better provision for the destruction of rabbits; for the erection and maintenance, and to provide for contributions towards the expense of rabbit-proof fences; to constitute and define the powers and duties of Rabbit Boards; to enable rates to be imposed; to amend the Crown Lands Acts; and for other purposes.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to make better provision for the destruction of rabbits; for the erection and maintenance, and to provide for contributions towards the expense of rabbit-proof fences; to constitute and define the powers and duties of Rabbit Boards; to enable rates to be imposed; to amend the Crown Lands Acts; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Brunner, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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(2.) Mr. Brunker then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make better provision for the destruction of rabbits; for the erection and maintenance, and to provide for contributions towards the expense of rabbit-proof fences; to constitute and define the powers and duties of Rabbit Boards; to enable rates to be imposed; to amend the Crown Lands Acts; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 9th September.

16. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Brunker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Brunker, *passed*.

Mr. Brunker then moved, that the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Electoral Law*."

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Electoral Law*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 27th August, 1896, a.m.

17. NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 27.

Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Black,	Mr. Wilke.
Mr. Dick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McCourt,	
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Ashton.
Mr. Hawthorne,	

Noes, 9.

Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Gillies.

Tellers,

Mr. Price,
Mr. Fegan.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

18. SUPREME COURT FEES BILL:—Mr. Gould, pursuant to leave granted on 12th June, 1896, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to repeal section 14 of the Act 10 Victoria No. 10; to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

19. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-one minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 48.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 27 AUGUST, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Hornsby to Milson's Point Railway Line:—Mr. Howarth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the working expenses of the Hornsby to Milson's Point line is stated in the Annual Report of the Railway Commissioners, 1895-94, for the year ending 31st December, 1894, as being £11,226, and in the Report for 1896-95, as being £11,510; if so, how is the difference to be accounted for?

(2.) Is it a fact that the total earnings of the same line for the same year in the 1895-94 Report is stated as being £11,328, and in the 1896-95 Report as being £10,712; if so, how is the difference to be accounted for?

(3.) Is it a fact that the loss, after providing for working expenses and interest of the same line for the same year, in the 1895-94 Report, is stated as being £20,867; and in the 1896-95 Report as being £20,183; if so, how is the difference to be accounted for?

(4.) If the 1895-94 Report is correct, why have the items referred to above not been brought forward into the 1896-95 Report, as stated in the 1895-94 Report?

(5.) Did the total earnings of the Railways for the year ending 30th June, 1896, amount to £2,820,417, and the total earnings, exclusive of special earnings, amount to £2,784,486 14s. 4½d.; and does the balance of £35,930 5s. 7½d. represent special earnings; if so, what are those special earnings, and where are they shown in the Report?

(6.) Why are accounts respecting certain lines cast up to the 31st December in each year, while the return of revenue and expenditure of each station is cast up to 30th of June in each year?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 to 4.) I am informed that the returns embrace two different periods—the earnings for certain lines in the 1894-95 Report being given for the year ending 30th June, 1895, so as to show the transactions for a completed year, while the sectional returns in the Report for 1895-96 cover the year ending 31st December, 1895.

(5.) Yes; the special earnings are for various miscellaneous services, such as rents for property, advertising spaces on the line, hire of plant to contractors, &c., and cannot be allocated to particular stations. They are included in the amounts shown under the different headings of the Expenditure and Revenue Account, page 17 of the Appendix to the Annual Report.

(6.) Owing to the time necessary in preparing the details that have to be worked out, the sectional returns are shown for the year ending 31st December. If the returns were brought up to the 30th June in each year, and published in the Annual Report, it would delay the publication of the railway results generally. I may point out that the Railway Act provides that the Annual Report may be laid before Parliament six months after the close of the year dealt with, but the Commissioners, anxious that the public should be informed of the position of the railways as soon as possible, publish the Annual Report much earlier than the date referred to, the report for the year ending 30th June, 1896, being printed on the 6th August, and laid before Parliament the same day.

- (2.) Men Escorted by Police from Dubbo to Buttabone Station:—Mr. Millen, for Mr. Macdonald, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a party of men engaged to work on the Buttabone Station, Lower Macquarie, were given a police escort from Dubbo at public expense?

(2.) Were these men accommodated with quarters by the police at Warren?

(3.) Was one of these men arrested for making use of obscene language, and subsequently liberated without trial?

Mr.

27th August, 1896.

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police :—

(1.) A party of shearers were given police protection from Nevertire to Butterbone Station, as there were 170 odd men, who had refused work at Butterbone, camped on the road within 2½ miles of Butterbone Station.

(2.) The men were not accommodated with quarters by police.

(3.) Two of the men were arrested at Warren, one for drunkenness, who was admitted to bail, and having failed to answer to his bail was fined. The other man, for drunkenness and obscene language, was admitted to bail, and having failed to answer to his bail was fined on both charges. The fines in each case were paid.

(3.) Sewerage System for Willoughby :—Mr. Howarth asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When is the necessary survey for the extension of the sewerage system to Willoughby to be commenced?

Mr. Young answered,—The survey will be commenced in a month.

(4.) Roads on Church and School Lands, Randwick :—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. Storey, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) What is the total mileage of roads made by the Government on the Church and School Lands, Randwick?

(2.) Is the Government going to throw the responsibility of maintaining these roads on the Borough of Randwick?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) 3½ miles formed and metalled; 3½ miles cleared and formed.

(2.) Under the provisions of the Municipalities Act the Council are custodians of all streets and roads within the municipality.

(5.) Long Bay Road, Randwick :—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. Storey, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Why did the Government consider it necessary to obtain a bond from the Randwick Council to maintain the Long Bay Road, from the Belmore Road to the Cemetery, when such road is situate within the Municipality of Randwick?

(2.) Was it not understood that, at the time the Randwick Borough executed the said bond, the balance of the road, viz., from the Cemetery outwards, should be maintained as before by the Government?

(3.) What is the length of the Long Bay Road from the Cemetery outwards?

(4.) In what way does this road benefit the Borough of Randwick?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) I am not aware.

(2.) No.

(3.) 1 mile 67 chains.

(4.) I am not aware.

(6.) Reserves on Buckinbah Run, Molong District :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that several portions of land or reserves on Buckinbah Run, Molong District, county of Gordon, have lately been revoked and thrown open for selection; if so, will he state the number and area of each portion of land so revoked?

(2.) Is it a fact since the land was revoked and thrown open for selection that the Government have again reserved the said land, and, if so, for what purpose; or was it done in order to exchange the land with Mr. McCulloch, the owner of Buckinbah Run?

(3.) Is he aware by doing so that he is depriving a number of intending selectors from taking up the land?

(4.) Is it a fact that a camping reserve, No. 2,069, at Obloy, Molong District, and county of Gordon, is portion of the land that is intended to be exchanged?

(5.) Is railway reserve, No. 14,344, also another portion that is intended to be exchanged, and for what reason?

(6.) In the interest of land settlement, will he see that such lands are set apart for conditional purchases in place of being exchanged, as proposed?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Yes; reserves 2,090, 2,064, 21, 14,344, 2,069, and 15, aggregating 8,415 acres.

(2.) An area of 1,745 acres out of the above was renotified pending consideration of an outstanding exchange application on the recommendation of the District Surveyor; but such reservation was made before the land actually became available for selection.

(3.) I am not aware.

(4, 5, and 6.) I am not aware; but the exchange will not be approved until after a report has been made by the local Land Board as to its merits.

(7.) Wives of Post and Telegraph Masters :—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) The names and addresses of wives of Post and Telegraph Masters whose services have been dispensed with under recommendation of the Public Service Board, the salary such Postmasters' wives received, length of service, and the revenue from the Post and Telegraph Office to which they were attached?

(2.) How many wives of Post and Telegraph Masters have still been retained in the Service, the names of the offices to which they are attached, the salary they receive, length of service, and the revenue from the office to which they are attached?

Mr. Cook answered,—If the Honorable Member will move for a return, I will have the information prepared.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (8.) Stock-owner's Board of Advice:—*Mr. Hassall*, for *Mr. Mackay*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is the Bill to form a stock-owner's Board of Advice being drafted?
 - (2.) If so, when will it come before the House?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—A Bill has been prepared, and will be introduced on an early date.
- (9.) Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages at West Maitland:—*Mr. Watkins* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What was the total amount paid by the Government to the Registrar of Births, Deaths, and Marriages, at West Maitland, for the years, 1893, 1894, and 1895?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The Registrar for Births, Deaths, and Marriages, at West Maitland, received the following fees:—For the year 1893, £42 4s.; for the year 1894, £50 10s.; for the year 1895, £56 14s.; total, £149 8s. And also as Registrar for the Hunter, year 1893, £14; grand total, £163 8s.
- (10.) Railway Employees contesting Municipal Elections:—*Mr. Watkins* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Referring to the Question asked by *Mr. Sleath*, on 30th July, will he give the name of the person who made verbal representation to the Railway Commissioners, with a view to preventing one of their employees from contesting a municipal election at Maitland in February last?
 - (2.) Will he in future see that the railway employees are not interfered with should they wish to contest municipal elections?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—I am informed that it has not been stated by the Railway Commissioners that any representation was made to them with a view of preventing one of their employees from contesting a municipal election, at Maitland, in February last. As regards the name of the individual who referred to the Maitland election, in February last, it is not remembered with sufficient clearness to permit of a name being given. During municipal contests it is not unusual for such representation to be made, and they are dealt with as described in the Answer given on the 30th ultimo.
- (11.) Wharf adjoining Public Wharf, Neutral Bay:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has an application from the North Shore Ferry Company, to erect a wharf on property adjoining the public wharf, Neutral Bay, been granted?
 - (2.) Was *Captain Jackson*, in charge of public wharves, consulted on the matter; and what objection, if any, did he offer to same?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—
- (1.) No application has been received.
 - (2.) *Captain Jackson* has not been consulted in this matter.
- (12.) North Shore Ferry Company:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his Answer to *Mr. E. M. Clark's* Question of 26th August, on the question of permitting the North Shore Ferry Company to erect a book-stall on their wharf at the Circular Quay, that the same was permitted as a matter of public convenience,—has it lately been brought under his notice that the Borough of North Sydney (a public body) has lately landed by mistake a quantity of metal for public purposes, and that this company has confiscated same?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—Statements to the effect mentioned have been brought under the notice of the Department.
- (13.) Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Price* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Was a report prepared on the Civil Service Superannuation Fund by *Mr. R. Teece*; if so, upon what date, and what did he estimate the liability of the Fund?
 - (2.) Similar information with regard to *Mr. J. B. Trivett's* inquiry?
 - (3.) The like information in reference to *Mr. Coghlan's* report?
 - (4.) What are the the total charges upon the Fund since the last report?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that the Fund is now practically insolvent; if so, to what extent?
 - (6.) Will any of the recent retrenchments be made a charge upon the Fund; if so, to what extent?
 - (7.) Have all salaries, allowances, and gratuities been paid to retired and reduced officers; if not, what is the reason for the delay?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1 to 3.) Reports were prepared and laid upon the Table of this House on 17th June, 1890; 30th November, 1892; 21st March, 1895. To these documents I refer the Honorable Member, as the information sought should be taken in connection with the whole reports.
- (4, 5, and 6.) These Questions cannot be correctly answered until an actuarial valuation has been made.
- (7.) In reply to this Question, I refer the Honorable Member to the Answer given to a similar Question from *Mr. Rose* yesterday.
- (14.) Kensington Racecourse:—*Mr. Price* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Was a lease prepared for the portion of land at present used as the Kensington Racecourse; if so, what were the terms of such lease, and upon what date was the lease ready?
 - (2.) Has the lease been signed by the parties in whose favour it was drawn; if not, are the grounds being occupied without a lease, and what reason has been given for not completing the lease?
 - (3.) Is there a provision in the lease dealing with the harbouring of improper characters on the ground; if so, has the provision been enforced; has any report been received by the police dealing with this matter?
 - (4.) Will he call for a report from the Inspector-General as to the class of persons frequenting the course, and, if it is found that improper characters frequent the course, will he take steps to forfeit the lease?
 - (5.) Is pony-racing still carried on on the ground, and are intoxicating liquors sold on the course; if so, does this meet with the approval of the Members of the Cabinet?

Mr.

27th August, 1896.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No, it is not the practice of the Department to issue formal leases in such cases.
- (2.) See reply to No. 1.
- (3.) There is a provision in the conditions attached to the special lease prohibiting the harbouring of improper characters on the ground, and no complaints as to the non-fulfilment of this condition have been received from the police authorities.
- (4.) The local Police-Inspector gave evidence before the Land Appeal Court in April last as to the class of people frequenting this course, whom he describes as being the same as attend the Flat and Leger enclosures at Randwick.
- (5.) Pony-racing is carried on each week, and licenses for two booths for the sale of intoxicating liquors are granted by the Licensing Bench.

- (15.) **Electors' Rights:**—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—What has been the cost approximately of the issuing and serving of the electoral rights under the existing electoral law?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The approximate cost of issuing and delivering electors' rights under the Electoral Act of 1893 to the present date is £11,700, which includes salaries and allowances to registrars and deputies (amounting to £8,924), who, besides issuing electors' rights, carry out other provisions of the Act, and a special allowance to the Police (amounting to £778) for delivering the first issue in 1894. The remuneration to registrars, which exceeded £3,000 per annum, is now under £400, as the duties are performed by official registrars.

- (16.) **Civil Service Superannuation Fund:**—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it his intention to introduce a Bill during the present Session to amend and put on a proper basis the Civil Service Superannuation Act?
- (2.) Has he considered that the delay in passing such legislation places many Civil Servants in an unfair position, and makes it difficult for them to decide whether to comply with section 62 of the Public Service Act of 1895 or not?
- (3.) Is he aware that, when the Public Service Bill of 1895 was being discussed in this House, he promised early legislation dealing specially with the Superannuation Act?
- (4.) Will he extend the time during which Civil Servants may cease to contribute or otherwise under section 62 until after such legislation has been passed?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) There is no special urgency in regard to the matter—indeed, no such legislation can be attempted until another valuation of the Fund has been made. This valuation, it is proposed, shall be undertaken at the expiration of twelve months from the passing of the Public Service Act.
- (2.) The delay does not put public servants in an unfair position as suggested. The provisions of section 62 were inserted, not with a view of the insolvency of the Fund, but in order to relieve public servants of what some of them considered a hardship, viz., compulsory contributions to the Superannuation Account.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) No.

- (17.) **Tamworth Gaol:**—*Mr. Travers Jones* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that instructions have been given to make additions to the Tamworth Gaol by convict labour?
- (2.) If so, does he approve personally of bringing convict labour to perform work that generally has been carried out by skilled free labour?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes; the work referred to is to be carried out within the walls of the gaol.
- (2.) It has been the practice for a considerable period to utilise prison labour in carrying out additions or improvements to gaol premises, not only on the ground of economy, but also on account of the beneficial effect of such labour upon the prisoners themselves. I see no ground for disapproving of such a practice.

- (18.) **Electoral Rolls:**—*Mr. McCourt* asked the Colonial Secretary,—What was the cost, under the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, for preparing the first Electoral Rolls?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The inauguration of the present electoral system, including the re-arrangement of Electoral Rolls, cost £10,724 4s. 10d. The cost of preparation of the Rolls, exclusive of printing and cost of Revision Courts, was £3,114 approximately.

2. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC:**—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By *Mr. Rose*—From certain inhabitants of Crookwell.
- (2.) By *Mr. McCourt*—From certain inhabitants of Bowral Electorate.
- (3.) By *Mr. McCourt*—From certain inhabitants of Moss Vale.
- (4.) By *Mr. See*—From certain inhabitants of Grafton.
- (5.) By *Mr. See*—From certain inhabitants of Grafton.
- (6.) By *Mr. McLean*—From George Toyer, Chairman of a Public Meeting of residents of Marrickville, held on 25th August, 1896.

Petitions received.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th August, 1896.

3. AGE OF CONSENT:—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the “age of consent” in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—
 (1.) By Mr. McCourt—From certain inhabitants of Bowral Electorate.
 (2.) By Mr. McCourt—From certain inhabitants of Moss Vale.
 Petitions received.
4. PIONEER DAIRY COMPANY—CASE OF JAMES v. GREY:—Mr. Alexander Campbell presented a Petition from William Grey, Hugh S. Robb, and others, representing the circumstances connected with a case tried before Mr. Justice Fitzhardinge, on the 30th August, 1895, in which the Petitioners are interested; and praying the protection of the House that it may, by Commission or other means as may seem expedient, make such inquiries as may be necessary to ascertain the truth or otherwise of the statements in their Petition, and, if found to be true, that their rights as citizens and British subjects may be restored to them.
 Petition received.
5. PAPER:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Schedule to the Estimates for 1896-7, showing the total remuneration estimated to be received by all public officers who hold more than one office, or who received any fees, special allowance, quarters, fuel or light, in addition to their fixed annual salaries, for the financial year 1896-7.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. CIVIL SERVANTS OVER SIXTY YEARS OF AGE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice,—That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The number of Civil Servants over 60 years of age who have been dismissed by the Public Service Board.
 (2.) The names of the officers so dismissed, the amount of salary they were receiving, and the Departments in which they were performing their duties.
 (3.) The like information in regard to officers over 60 years of age retained in the Service.
 Question put and passed.
7. RETIREMENT OF MR. ROBERT MCCLELLAND FROM DEPARTMENT OF LANDS (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers in connection with the retirement or removal of Mr. Robert McClelland from the Department of Lands.
 Question put and passed.
8. CASE OF POLICE v. WILLIAM BARBER, TRIED AT POLICE COURT, OBLEY:—(*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers, depositions, police reports, and correspondence in the case of the Police v. William Barber, lately tried at the Police Court at Obley.
 Question put and passed.
9. JOINT STOCK COMPANIES REGISTRATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to compel the registration in New South Wales of all Joint Stock Companies carrying on business within the Colony.
 Question put and passed.
10. STATE CHILDREN RELIEF BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Assembly in the Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend an Act to establish a system of Boarding-out Children.*”
 Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 27th August, 1896. JOHN LACKEY,
 President.
11. NEVERTIRE TO WARREN RAILWAY BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes.*”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
 Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 27th August, 1896. JOHN LACKEY,
 President.

27th August, 1896.

12. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fifteenth Report from the Printing Committee.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Flinders Division, Mr. Nelson, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The necessity for some alteration in the Prisons Department.”

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Nelson moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Point of Order:—Mr. Reid submitted that the Notice did not disclose a “definite matter,” as required by the Standing Order.

And Mr. Nelson stating that he proposed to deal with the subject of the treatment of the Warders at Darlinghurst Gaol, Mr. Speaker allowed him to proceed, that being a definite matter, to which the debate would be restricted.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

14. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL**:—Mr. Cook moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make provision in substitution for some, and in aid of other, provisions in the Sale of Liquors Licensing Acts as to the voting in respect of licenses; and to enable electors in electorates to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, or otherwise to have effective control over the drink traffic within such areas.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 50.

Noes, 19.

Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Simcon Phillips,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Ball,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. McLean.

Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Chanter.
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. Bull.

Tellers,

Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hassall.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

15. **HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892*,”—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

16. **GEORGE-STREET AND HARRIS-STREET ELECTRIC TRAMWAY BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th August, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 34.

Mr. Brunker,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Caun,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Lonsdale,	

Noes, 29.

Mr. Schey,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Pyers,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Chapman.
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Gillies,	
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. Dacey,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

17. ADDITIONS TO TREASURY BUILDING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

18. FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read, Mr. Reid moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Garrard moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1, 17, "38, sub-clauses (1) and (3) of clause 45, and second Schedule,"—instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate ensued.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted.

Mr. Affleck moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by adding "clauses 2, 37, 45, and "46."

Question put,—That the words proposed to be added to the proposed amendment be so added.

The House divided.

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Ashton.
Mr. Ball,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Thomas.
Mr. Whiddon,	
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. McMillan,	
Mr. Collins,	
Mr. Black,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Davis,	

Noes, 33.

Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Lonsdale.
Mr. Reid,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Newman.
Mr. Gillies,	
Mr. Young,	

And so it passed in the negative.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then put,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1, 17, 38, sub-clauses (1) and (3) of clause 45, and second Schedule.

The

27th August, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 39.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Collins,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Chanter.
Mr. Waddell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. McMillan,	

Noes, 15.

Mr. Schey,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Davis,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Law.

Tellers,

Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Cann.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 28 AUGUST, 1896, A.M.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^d with further amendments.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

The House adjourned, at nineteen minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 49.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 1 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Buffalo Creek Bridge:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. Wright*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Was it a fact that all the work required to be done on the Buffalo Creek Bridge (Field of Mars), when the contract was cancelled, comprised the following items and quantities:—Cement concrete, cement 250 lb. to inch, 10 cubic yards; tarred metal, 20 cubic yards; fixing rivets and bolts, 6 cwt.; rough timber curbing, 54 cubic feet; painting, 220 square yards; placing two fitting lengths on screw piles, equal to one day's work?
 (2.) What is the present Government schedule rates for each item of the above?
 (3.) What was the actual sum said to be paid for the above work, and to whom paid?
 (4.) Is it not a fact that the contractor was charged a sum exceeding £400 for the above work as the actual cost thereof, or (say) £80 for each item?
 (5.) Is it not a fact that the contractor for the said bridge was unable to complete the same in consequence of the Government failing to deliver the ironwork?
 (6.) Had *Mr. Brunton*, who had charge of the work, any previous knowledge of such work; if so when, and where?
 (7.) Is it not a fact that the contractor had to do a large amount of extra work below the bed of the creek to secure a good foundation, and that such work was neither shown on plan nor described in specification?
 (8.) Is it not a fact that no money whatever was paid to the contractor on account of this contract, as agreed upon in the bond?

Mr. Young answered,—I would refer the Honorable Member to the reply given on 12th August to somewhat similar Questions asked by the Honorable Member for Durham, as follows:—"I must ask the Honorable Member to move for the production of these papers, as giving the information in the form of Answers to Questions will not be satisfactory. If the Honorable Member will move that the papers be laid upon the Table of this House I shall have much pleasure in having them laid upon the Table." I may state that the matter referred to occurred eleven years ago.

- (2.) Mining Bill Amendment:—*Mr. Moore* asked the Secretary for Mines,—When does he intend to introduce the promised Amending Mining Bill?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Mining Bill will be introduced as soon as the state of public business will allow.

- (3.) *Mr. Aubrey Mowle*, late of the Bankruptcy Department:—*Mr. O'Sullivan*, for *Mr. Chapman*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) The number of years *Mr. Aubrey Mowle* was engaged in the Public Service, and in the various positions held by him—(a) Total service; (b) in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Department; (c) Chief Clerk in Bankruptcy; (d) Taxing Officer in Bankruptcy?
 (2.) How many reviews of taxation were heard by the Judge in Bankruptcy during the time *Mr. Mowle* was performing the duties of Taxing Officer?
 (3.) Were the principles upon which *Mr. Mowle* taxed upheld by the Judge?
 (4.) On the taxation of costs, is it not possible for a difference of opinion to arise between the Taxing Officer and the solicitor whose bill was being taxed?
 (5.) If such a difference should arise, what would be the proper and regular course to adopt?
 (6.) Was any complaint ever made by any solicitor, except in the regular way by review, as to *Mr. Mowle's* mode of taxation?
 (7.) What was the nature of the reports furnished from time to time by the Judge in Bankruptcy and Registrar in Bankruptcy as to *Mr. Mowle's* efficiency in the discharge of his public duties?

Mr

1st September, 1896.

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by the Registrar in Bankruptcy :—

- (1.) (a) 32 years; (b) since 1871; (c) since 1st January, 1890; (d) the only Taxing Officer in Bankruptcy is the Registrar. Mr. Mowle was therefore never Taxing Officer—but as the Registrar's other duties made it practically impossible for him to tax, Mr. Mowle was, for the convenience of the profession and by their consent, to save delay, deputed by the Registrar to tax bills of costs subject to reference to and approval by him. The Registrar's allocatur was necessary in all cases.
- (2.) While Mr. Mowle was acting as above mentioned, there were eight applications for orders for the Registrar to review his taxation.
- (3.) When solicitors were dissatisfied with Mr. Mowle's taxation, the items disputed were referred to the Registrar. If the solicitor was dissatisfied with the Registrar's decision, he applied to the Judge for review. In some cases the Registrar was directed to review his taxation; in some, not. A review can only be had of the taxation of the Registrar upon principles of taxation.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) If a difference of opinion arose when a bill of costs was taxed by Mr. Mowle, the proper and regular course to adopt was to refer the question to the Registrar. If a difference of opinion arises when a bill of costs is taxed by the Registrar, the proper and regular course to adopt is for the solicitor to apply to the Judge for a review.
- (6.) Yes.
- (7.) There is no record here of any reports furnished by the Judge in Bankruptcy or the Registrar as to Mr. Mowle's efficiency in the discharge of his public duties.

(4.) Customs and Excise Duties on Beer :—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is imported draught beer charged a duty of 6d. per gallon, as against 3d. per gallon charged on that locally-made?
- (2.) Is Colonial beer therefore protected?
- (3.) Is he aware that a company is now being floated to establish a new industry, viz., lager beer brewing, under the so-called Free-trade tariff?
- (4.) Will he warn the promoters that, if their venture is a success, owing to the protection given to it, that he will at once equalise the Customs' and Excise Duties on beer, or remove the duty on imported beer, and so prevent the establishment of the industry?

Mr. Reid answered,—I think in this business Assembly jocular Questions should be avoided.

(5.) *Mr. Garrard*, late of Colonial Secretary's Department :—*Dr. Ross*, for *Mr. M. T. Phillips*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What was the salary of *Mr. Garrard*, who was retrenched from the Colonial Secretary's Department?
- (2.) Is it a fact that he was appointed shortly after his retrenchment to a position in the Taxation Department at an increased salary without undergoing the usual competitive examination?
- (3.) Have other retrenched officers had to submit to a competitive examination?
- (4.) Was *Mr. Garrard* retrenched on account of his incapacity?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) £75.
- (2.) No competitive examination was held, but a test one was, which *Mr. Garrard* passed. The officers employed were paid in accordance with the assessed value of their work, which in *Mr. Garrard's* case was £100 per annum. The employment was only of a temporary character. *Mr. Garrard* is not now in the Service. A subsequent examination was instituted to test candidates for a special class of work.
- (3.) No; but they had to submit to the test examination previously referred to.
- (4.) He was retrenched from the Chief Secretary's Department because it was found practicable to reduce the number of officers employed therein. *Mr. Garrard* is eligible for re-employment when a suitable vacancy occurs. The time must arise when some similar Questions should be asked with reference to the connections of honorable gentlemen opposite. There is too much of this sort of thing being done.

(6.) Burning off Scrub at Ganmain :—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. Schey*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What price is now being paid at Ganmain for burning off scrub previously cut?
- (2.) Has he lately increased the price?
- (3.) What wages per day do the Departmental officers estimate can be made at the present rate?
- (4.) Have the overseers on the ground been called upon to report as to what would be a fair price for the work which has to be done?
- (5.) If so, what price did they consider a fair one?
- (6.) If they have not reported, will he at once call upon them to do so?
- (7.) If by actual experience it is found that the new rate will not permit of 6s. a day being earned, will he increase it?
- (8.) If so, when; and to what amount?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) One shilling per acre.
- (2.) Yes; from 9d. to 1s.
- (3.) Estimated at 6s. per diem, but it was found in practice to be short of that estimate.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) See Answer to (4).
- (6.) No; it would not be advisable.
- (7 and 8.) As it has been found difficult to estimate the value of the work, the contracts have been cancelled, and the men employed upon it will be paid day wages at 6s. per diem.

(7.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st September, 1896.

- (7.) Stock-yards and Crushes on the Queensland Border:—Mr. Hassall asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Have stock-yards and crushes been erected along the Queensland Border for the purpose of inspecting cattle crossing into New South Wales?
 - (2.) If so, will he state at what crossing-places such yards and crushes have been erected?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—No; but it is intended to erect these stock-yards and crushes at the crossing-places where Queensland stock are admitted. In the meantime permission has been obtained from the Queensland Government to use the pound-yards and crushes near the crossings, and cattle are examined there in some cases, and in others the use of private yards and crushes have been obtained.
- (8.) Crushes on the Queensland Border:—*Mr. Fegan*, for Mr. Greene, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he state at what places on the Queensland Border all stock have to go through crushes which permit of close inspection by the New South Wales Inspectors?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—All stock are not put through crushes, but portions of the different lots are put through the yards and crushes at Tullabudgera, Wallangarra, Boggabilla, Mungindi, and Barrington, and arrangements are being made for this being done near the Mount Lindsay Crossing.
- (9.) Mr. J. B. Byrnes, late of the Railway Service:—Mr. O'Reilly asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that J. B. Byrnes, a railway official, for many years in the Service, recently retired on account of ill-health, and now at the point of death, has been granted a pension of £52 per annum?
 - (2.) If the Public Service Board have no power to substitute a gratuity, will the Government take into consideration the peculiar circumstances surrounding this case, with a view to affording the family relief at least equivalent to the amount Byrnes has contributed to the Superannuation Fund?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) A pension of £52 ls. has been granted to J. B. Byrnes, late of the Railway Department, on the recommendation of the Public Service Board.
 - (2.) The law does not permit of this being done.
- (10.) Brands Bill Amendment:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for Mr. Howarth, asked the Secretary for Mines,—When does he intend introducing an amending Brands Bill?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—I hope to do so at an early date.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. McLean—From certain inhabitants of Marrickville.
 - (2.) By Mr. Wilks—From certain inhabitants of Balmain.
 - (3.) By Mr. Wilks—From certain inhabitants of Balmain and Petersham.
 - (4.) By Mr. McElhone—From certain inhabitants of Sydney and Suburbs.
 - (5.) By Mr. Perry—From certain inhabitants of Picnic and German Creek.
 - (6.) By Mr. A. B. Piddington—From certain inhabitants of Tamworth.
 - (7.) By Mr. Morgan—From certain inhabitants of Richmond.
 - (8.) By Mr. McCourt—From certain inhabitants of Sutton Forest, Moss Vale, and the neighbourhood.
 - (9.) By Mr. McCourt—From certain inhabitants of Barber's Creek.
- Petitions received.
3. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN:—The following seven Petitions from residents of New South Wales,—stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men, and praying the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners,—were presented by the Members named:—
- Mr. Garrard, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Whiddon, Mr. A. B. Piddington, Mr. Cotton, and Mr. O'Reilly.
- Petitions received.
4. AGE OF CONSENT:—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. A. B. Piddington—From certain inhabitants of Tamworth.
 - (2.) By Mr. A. B. Piddington—From certain inhabitants of Tamworth and Armidale.
 - (3.) By Mr. Cruickshank—From certain inhabitants of Inverell.
- Petitions received.
5. PENNY POSTAGE—POSTAGE ON NEWSPAPERS:—Mr. A. B. Piddington presented a Petition from residents of New South Wales,—representing that country residents of this Colony are compelled to pay twice as much for postage of their letters as residents in Sydney; and praying that the House will pass a measure equalising the postage in town and country by making a general rate of one penny upon all letters not exceeding half-an-ounce in weight, posted and delivered in the Colony, and that, if it be necessary to raise further revenue, a half-penny postage rate be imposed upon all newspapers posted for delivery in the Colony, save and except those sent free as exchanges, and those delivered free within the electorate in which they are printed and published.
- Petition received.

1st September, 1896.

6. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) No-liability Mining Companies Bill (*Council Bill*) ; third reading ;—until Wednesday, 9th September.
 (2.) Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make provision in substitution for some, and in aid of other, provisions in the Sale of Liquors Licensing Acts as to the voting in respect of licenses ; and to enable electors in electorates to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, or otherwise to have effective contro over the drink traffic within such areas ;—until To-morrow.
7. **CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.
 Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being a Quorum present, the Committee resumed.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to some, amended one, and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Fitzpatrick, the report was adopted.
8. **MUNICIPAL BATHS BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Dugald Thomson moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Thomson, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Thomson, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
9. **RANDWICK CEMETERY BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Storey moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Storey, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Storey, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
10. **CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL** :—Ordered, on motion of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
 The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 17th June, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Capertee Tramway Bill,—
 Agrees to the amendments in the Preamble, in clause 1, and in clause 2, line 41.
 Disagrees to the amendment in clause 2, lines 45 and 46, which omits the words " and the " pavements of the same between the rails of the said tramway, and for the space of one foot six " inches on each side of the said rails,"—because it is considered that the retention of these words is necessary in order to ensure the keeping of the pavements in a proper state of repair by the promoter.
 Agrees to the remaining amendments in clause 2, and to those in clause 6, but proposes to amend the last amendment in that clause by omitting the word " sixpence " and inserting " two-pence " instead thereof, and by adding the words " per truck load,"—in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.
 Agrees to the insertion of a new clause to follow clause 6, and to the amendments in clauses 11, 12, 14, and 37.
 Disagrees to the amendment in clause 39,—because it is deemed undesirable that legislative facilities should be afforded the promoters of Private Bills to dispose of their interests in projects of the character of the Capertee Tramway prior to the commencement and completion of the work ; and it is considered that the enforcement of this condition will tend to discourage the promoting of such undertakings solely for speculative purposes.
 Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.
- Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 1st September, 1896.*
11. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st September, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 35.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Millard,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Morgan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Russell Jones,	Mr. Hogue.
Mr. Jessep,	
Mr. Newman,	

Noes, 16.

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Law,
Mr. McGowen.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Fegan.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twelve minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

Act of South Wales.

No. 50.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Mr. T. A. Coghlan, late Government Statistician:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Chapman, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What salary did Mr. T. A. Coghlan receive as Government Statistician?

(2.) What was the amount received by him (a) as a total, and (b) for each year as Registrar of Friendly Societies?

(3.) Did not Mr. Coghlan's appointment as Registrar stipulate that he was to receive no payment as Registrar; if so, how was it that he appropriated the fees?

(4.) What sums have been paid to Mr. Coghlan as bonuses since his appointment as Statistician, and for what reason in each case?

(5.) Did Mr. Coghlan receive £250 for reporting on the Civil Service Fund?

(6.) Is it a fact that such report was actually prepared by an actuary named Raleigh, since deceased; if so, by whom was Mr. Raleigh paid?

(7.) Is it not a fact that Mr. Coghlan is not an actuary at all, but that all the actuarial calculations were made by Mr. A. Davis, now created Registrar of Friendly Societies?

(8.) What amount has Mr. Coghlan received, or what amount is he to receive, for services rendered to the Statistician's Department since his appointment as a member of the Public Service Board?

(9.) Why was a member of the Public Service Board allowed to hold any other official appointment or perform other official duties?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—*Mr. Coghlan* is an officer in the Department of the Treasury. The Question should, therefore, be addressed to the Colonial Treasurer, not to me. I have referred the matter to my honorable colleague, and if the Question is placed for Tuesday next the Honorable Member will receive the required information.

- (2.) Wharf at Hayes-street, Neutral Bay:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has permission been lately given for the construction of a wharf adjoining the public wharf at Hayes-street, Neutral Bay?

(2.) Who were the applicants; and is it a fact that a wharf has been erected and is now in the occupation of the North Shore Ferry Company?

(3.) Was the Marine Board consulted in regard to this application; and, if so, did they offer any objection to same?

(4.) Was Captain Jackson, in charge of Public Wharves, consulted in regard to this application; and, if so, did he offer any objection to same?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) A special lease has been granted for the erection of a wharf at a site distant about 40 feet north-east from the public wharf.

(2.) Messrs. Alt and Dawson were the applicants, the wharf has been erected, and the lease transferred to the North Shore Ferry Company.

(3 and 4.) No; the usual procedure was adopted in this case, viz., to refer the papers to the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the Works Department, whose concurrence was obtained before the lease was granted.

- (3.) Agricultural College at Richmond:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that tenders were lately invited, through the Public Works Department, for additions to the Agricultural College at Richmond?

(2.)

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- (2.) Is it a fact that a large number of tenders were received, and that, after waiting for some considerable time, it was decided by the Mines Department to carry out the work by day labour?
- (3.) What saving (if any) does he expect to make by carrying out the work as proposed, and what special qualifications have the Mines Department for carrying out work of this kind?
- (4.) Have tenders been invited for some of the materials, such as bricks, lime, and cement, required in connection with the work; and, if so, why has the largest item, viz., timber, been omitted?
- (5.) Is it a fact that the supply of timber is to be obtained from a firm of timber merchants at Parramatta; and, if so, why?
- (6.) Is it a fact that the supply of cement is confined to one brand only, viz., "Anchor"; and, if so, why?
- (7.) Who is the person responsible for the carrying out and control of this work; and what special qualifications has he over and above the officers of the Public Works Department to control this work and carry it out at a less cost than they can?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Tenders were invited through the Public Works Department for these additions, but, as the lowest tender was some £357 in excess of the money at the disposal of the Department and the amount for which it was estimated the work could be carried out under the supervision of the foreman at the College, it was decided to decline the tenders received. It is not only expected that the Department will save the difference named, but that the experimental store, valued at £200, will be obtained in addition. The officer to whom the work is to be entrusted is quite competent to carry it out, as he prepared the plans, and supervised the erection of the original buildings, which were destroyed by fire some months ago. Offers have been invited from well-known firms for all the materials required, and the lowest will be excepted in each case. Messrs. Hart and Hitchcocks, of Parramatta, submitted the lowest offer for the timber, and it has been accepted. The "Anchor" brand has been named for the cement, but there is no objection to accept any other bearing the Government test. The whole cost of this item will not exceed £12.

- (4.) Agricultural College at Richmond:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What was the estimate of the Department for the carrying out of additions to the Agricultural College, Richmond?
- (2.) How many tenders were received for this work, and what was the amount of the lowest tender?
- (3.) Has the Mines Department now determined to carry out the work under the supervision of its own carpenter at the Agricultural College, Richmond; and, if so, what control has the Public Works Department over this work?
- (4.) If the work, as now being carried out, exceeds the amount of the lowest tender, who will be responsible for same?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) £1,800.
- (2.) Ten; lowest for carrying out in wood, £1,870; in brick, £2,079.
- (3.) Yes; the Public Works Department will have no control.
- (4.) The Honorable Member will perhaps address this Question to my honorable colleague, the Minister for Mines, under whose Department the work is to be carried out.

- (5.) Trustees of Cemetery at Gundaroo:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) The names of the present trustees of the various denominational portions of the cemetery at Gundaroo?
- (2.) Is the full number for each denomination of the said portions at present filled up; if not, will he see that the full complement are appointed without delay?
- (3.) Will he apply to the trustees of the various portions, asking them to make out a code of rules, and submit to him for approval, so that the trustees may have something to guide them in their duties?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Church of England—Messrs. Stephen Osborne, Thomas Coleman, Samuel John Galloway; Roman Catholic—The Rev. H. M. Finnegan, Messrs. Patrick Donnelly, Joseph Leahy; Presbyterian—Messrs. John W. C. Affleck, William Affleck, Archibald McKechnie; Wesleyan—Mr. John Southwell, junior; Independent—Messrs. Josiah Mullens, Phillip Sydney Jones, M.D., James Reading Fairfax.
- (2.) There are three trustees for each of the said grounds excepting the Wesleyan, on the Trust of which there are two vacancies, and the agent of the church (Rev. G. Lane) has been asked to nominate two persons for appointment.
- (3.) It is not usual to ask trustees to do so, but a copy of the model code will be sent to each denomination, with the suggestion that they be adopted and put in force.

- (6.) Bridge over Colligan Creek, near Deniliquin:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Did he receive a petition from a number of selectors asking for the construction of a bridge over the Colligan Creek, near Deniliquin?
- (2.) Is he aware that selectors are for several months each year prevented from taking their stock and produce to market in consequence of the flooded state of this creek?
- (3.) Will he give the estimated cost for constructing said bridge?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) I am not aware, and as a matter of fact the report from the local Officer of the Department shows that there are only four selectors and eight homestead lessees settled in the locality, and they have only been in occupation a very short time.
- (3.) £350.

(7.)

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(7.) Weekly Abstracts of Revenue and Expenditure:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Schey*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) For what reason did he cease the publication of Weekly Abstracts of Revenue and Expenditure?

Mr. Reid answered,—Because experience showed that Monthly Statements would enable the public to make fair comparisons between a current year and its predecessor, whilst Weekly Statements did not, and were to a certain extent misleading.

(8.) Chinaman known as "G. Y., alias A.G.":—*Mr. Ashton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is the Chinaman officially known as "G. Y., alias A. G.," amongst those recently deported from the Little Bay Lazaret?

(2.) Is this the Chinaman about whose leprous condition, or otherwise, there is a difference of opinion between medical experts?

(3.) Did *Mr. Anderson Stuart, M.D.*, ex-President of the Board of Health, in a paper recently laid upon the Table of this House, state that whilst *Dr. Taylor* said "G. Y." was not, *Drs. Ashburton Thompson* and *Goode* asserted that he was, a leper; and that the joint opinion of such eminent practitioners as the two last-named gentlemen warranted *Dr. Taylor's* opinion being set aside?

(4.) Is it not a fact that *Dr. Goode* never certified to "G. Y.'s" leprosy?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) *Mr. Taylor* has denied that this man has leprosy.

(3.) Yes. *Dr. Goode's* name was mentioned inadvertently in a memorandum adopted by the Board of Health on the 12th May last, and laid upon the Table of this House.

(4.) Yes. "G. Y." was certified to be a leper in 1892 by *Dr. Pierce*, then Medical Superintendent of the Coast Hospital (now Assistant Health Officer at *Watson's Bay*), who had charge of the Lazaret from 1886 to 1894.

(9.) Tobacco and Cotton Expert:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has the Government yet appointed a tobacco expert from the United States at a proposed salary of £400 per annum?

(2.) If this appointment has not been made, will he consider the advisability of combining the two offices tobacco expert and cotton expert?

(3.) Is he aware that parts of this Colony have been pronounced equal to the United States for the growth and culture of cotton?

(4.) In view of the near approach of spring (the time for planting cotton), will he consider the expediency of at once entering into negotiations, with a view of carrying out the foregoing suggestion?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) No; but applications have been called for.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Steps are being taken to obtain the services of the best man available. There is only one application before the Department at present, and I am not disposed to consider it until all the applications are received.

(10.) Taxation Notices sent to Mortgagors:—*Mr. Knox* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that notices have been sent by the Commissioners of Taxation to mortgagors requiring them to make further and fuller returns on forms attached to such notices, and to forward such further returns to the office of the Commissioners of Taxation within twenty-one days of the respective dates of such notices?

(2.) Is he aware that such notices contain the following sentence:—"In the event of your failing to furnish the fullest information required within the time specified, no deduction will be made from Land Tax of 1896 in respect of Income Tax leviable upon the interest derivable from the mortgage of the land"?

(3.) What authority have the Commissioners to impose the penalty specified in such notices?

(4.) By what section of the Act is the power given?

(5.) If not, will he cause the threat contained in such notices to be omitted from notices to be sent in future?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I am aware that such notices have been issued.

(2.) Yes.

(3 to 5.) The honorable gentleman misunderstands the object of the circular, which was to inform land owners that no deduction would be allowed in the assessments for Land Tax, which it is the duty of the Commissioners to make, unless satisfactory information was furnished. This position is, in my opinion, a most proper one to take, and, if Honorable Members and the public had any conception of the transparent attempts which are being made to evade the tax, I think that, if there is any sympathy to spare, the Commissioners will be fairly entitled to all of it in the discharge of their most difficult duties.

(11.) Endowments to Municipalities:—*Mr. Knox* asked the Colonial Secretary,—When is it probable that the promised endowment to the municipalities will be paid?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Regulations relating to the payment of this endowment will be ready in the course of a few days, and the issues to the Councils will be made by the Treasury on the certificates of the Public Works officers as the works proceed.

(12.)

2nd September, 1896.

- (12.) Public Service Board Examination :—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Cruickshank*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the intention of the Public Service Board to hold a public examination on Friday next, at Sydney, for the purpose of enabling temporary clerks to qualify themselves, will he ask the Board to make immediate arrangements for the holding of similar examinations in the principal centres of population, so that those eligible in country districts may have an opportunity of qualifying themselves for similar employment in the Government Service?

Mr. Reid answered,—The examination referred to is for temporary appointments only, and is not the competitive one contemplated in section 25 of the Public Service Act, which provides that “persons living in country districts shall have reasonable facility in the district in which they reside for competing for employment or passing such examinations without the necessity of attendance in Sydney.” The Board, however, are quite prepared, if it be found necessary, to arrange for examinations in suitable centres of population in the country.

- (13.) Reward for Eradication of the Tick Pest :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has any application been received claiming the £5,000 offered as a reward for the discovery of an effective cure or remedy for the eradication and destruction of the tick pest; if so, have any of the proposed remedies been accepted, or proved to be satisfactory?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Several letters have been received, in which the writers, with a view to a reward, state that they are in possession of specifics for tick fever; but no remedy has been accepted or proved to be satisfactory.

- (14.) Fees received by the Sheriff's Bailiffs :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Justice,—Has he any objection to lay a return upon the Table of this House showing the number and amount of fees received annually by each respective Sheriff's Bailiff, District Court Bailiff, and Small Debts Court Bailiff throughout the Colony?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—To obtain this information it would be necessary to make reference to the records of every Court in the Colony, and it is doubtful whether it would be of sufficient value to justify the expense and trouble which would be incurred.

- (15.) The Police Act :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) How long has the present Police Act been in existence?
- (2.) Is it the intention of the Government to amend or make better provision in the Act for the promotion of old and efficient officers who have rendered valuable services in the Force?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police :—

- (1.) The Police Regulation Act was passed on the 20th January, 1862.
- (2.) Promotions of efficient officers are constantly being made as vacancies occur.

- (16.) Business of the House :—*Mr. Whiddon* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In view of the frequent interruption of public business, caused by motions for adjournment, is it his intention, as leader of the House and head of the Government, to take such steps as will for the future prevent so much waste of public time by curtailing the length of such debates, in order that the business of the House and the country may be done within reasonable limits each sitting day?
- (2.) If so, will such steps be taken this Session?
- (3.) If not, when?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member brings under notice an abuse which calls for remedy. I am very reluctant to propose changes in our rules; but, if there be no change for the better in our experience, it will, I think, become the imperative duty of the Government to take the matter up promptly, in order to protect from unduly late sittings those Honorable Members who have no desire to occupy the time of the House except in useful legislation.

- (17.) *Post-mortem* Examination on case of Treleven :—*Mr. Cann* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is the Department satisfied with the *post-mortem* examination made by the house surgeon of Broken Hill and District Hospital on the case of Treleven?
- (2.) What action does he propose to take to have future examinations made by the Government Medical Officer of Broken Hill?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This matter is now under reference to the Chief Medical Officer for action.

- (18.) Locomotive Branches of the Railways and Tramways :—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to *Mr. McGowen's* Questions of 23rd July, 1896, with respect to the drivers and firemen on the tramways,—

- (1.) How many motors were engaged working traffic on 26th December, 1895?
- (2.) How many were similarly engaged on 1st January, 1896?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that ninety-five motors were at work on the 26th December, 1895, and ninety-four on the 1st January, 1896.

- (19.) Tenders for Road Works :—*Mr. Wood* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has the Works Department accepted any tenders for road works since the 1st July last?
- (2.) What is the total amount of money appropriated for works initiated on the roads of the Colony during the first two months (just expired) of the financial year 1896-7?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House in the form of a return if moved for in the ordinary manner.

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- (20.) Country Towns Fire Brigades :—Mr. Ball asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is he aware of the technical and legal difficulties the country towns fire brigades are under, by which the fire insurance companies can evade paying towards the support of the brigades?
 (2.) If so, will he bring in a short amending Fire Brigades Bill this Session?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Yes; and the matter is now engaging my attention.

- (21.) Permanent Force Band :—Mr. Millen asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Are the services of the Permanent Force bandmen utilised to furnish the music at Government House balls?
 (2.) Are the bandmen required to render this service gratuitously?
 (3.) Is the same gratuitous service required from the same bandmen in connection with church bazaars and similar functions under distinguished patronage?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Military Authorities :—
 (1 and 2.) Yes, on State occasions.

(3.) Yes.

- (22.) Railway from Gregra to Cudal :—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he yet arrived at any decision in regard to the construction of the railway from Gregra to Cudal, as promised a deputation that waited upon him last November?

Mr. Young answered.—The matter is still under consideration, and I will inform the Honorable Member as soon as any decision has been arrived at.

- (23.) Food and Liquor Adulteration :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—When is a comprehensive Bill dealing with the important question of food and liquor adulterations likely to be introduced?

Mr. Bruncker answered.—This Question should have been addressed to the Colonial Treasurer.

- (24.) Artesian Bores :—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) How many applications have been received from selectors to erect artesian bores on their combined holdings?
 (2.) Has anything been done to carry out the object the Minister had in view to assist the selectors with respect to artesian bores, to be paid for on the co-operative principle?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Three.

(2.) In two cases the Department was prepared to proceed with the bores, but the selectors would not agree to the conditions. The third case is now being inquired into, and will be dealt with on an early date.

- (25.) Shorthand-writing in Public Schools :—Mr. Collins asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) Is he aware that, in most of the commercial houses, it is necessary to employ shorthand-writers in connection with the correspondence branch of their business?
 (2.) In view of this fact, will he take steps to have shorthand-writing taught in the Public Schools?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) I gather from the Question that it is so.

(2.) I do not think it is desirable at present to increase the number of subjects taught in the schools.

- (26.) Expenditure on Roads of the Colony :—Mr. Lyne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House the detailed amounts of special appropriations for the months of July and August, 1896, for expenditure on the roads of the Colony?
 (2.) Will he also lay upon the Table of this House the total amount expended on the roads of the Colony for the months of July and August, 1896?

Mr. Young answered,—Yes, if moved for in the ordinary way.

2. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN :—The following ten Petitions from residents of New South Wales,—stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men, and praying the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners,—were presented by the Members named :—
 Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Cook, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Watson, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Storey, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. Cann, Mr. Griffith, and Mr. Bavister.
 Petitions received.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—

- (1.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. McElhone—From certain inhabitants of Sydney and Suburbs.

(2.) By Mr. H. H. Brown—From certain inhabitants of Dungog.

(3.) By Mr. Hughes—From certain members of the Central Methodist Mission, and others in attendance at the Centenary Hall, Sydney.

(4.) By Mr. Wilks—From certain inhabitants of Balmain.

Petitions received.

- (2.) The following Petitions,—praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. Newman—From certain members of the Baptist Congregation in the Electoral District of Goulburn.

(2.) By Mr. Newman—From certain members of the Baptist Congregation at Spring Hill, in the Electoral District of Orange.

(3.) By Mr. Newman—From certain members of the Baptist Congregation at Orange.

Petitions received.

2nd September, 1896.

4. AGE OF CONSENT :—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the “age of consent” in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named :—

(1.) By Mr. H. H. Brown—From certain inhabitants of Dungog and Thalaba.

(2.) By Mr. McMillan—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
Petitions received.

5. MUNICIPAL BATHS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Dugald Thomson, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Thomson then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to lease and acquire lands, and to erect baths thereon or thereover and to lease and acquire baths already erected; to validate the acts of Municipal Councils which have already erected, leased, or acquired baths beyond the bounds of their Municipalities; and for other purposes.*”

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to lease and acquire lands, and to erect baths thereon or thereover, and to lease and acquire baths already erected; to validate the acts of Municipal Councils which have already erected, leased, or acquired baths beyond the bounds of their Municipalities; and for other purposes.*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 2nd September, 1896.

6. POSTPONEMENT :—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Orange Show Ground Bill postponed until To-morrow.

7. BOARD OF ADVICE RELATING TO STOCK AND PASTURES BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Sydney Smith, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 39.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to constitute a Board of Advice in matters relating to the Stock and Pastures of the Colony; and to define the powers and duties of the said Board.

Government House,

Sydney, 31st August, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill

8. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Sydney Smith, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 40.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation; and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony.

Government House,

Sydney, 31st August, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

9. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “*An Act to amend and extend the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, and to amend the Mining Act, 1874, and the Mining Act of 1889; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*”—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 2nd September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 2nd September, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 2, lines 12 and 13. Omit “the area of land which may be occupied and used for
“prospecting purposes”

Page 1, clause 2, line 14. Omit “shall” insert “the area of land which may be entered upon may”

Page 1, clause 2, line 16. Omit “worked” insert “sought for”

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- Page 1, clause 2, line 16. *Omit* "the" *insert* "an"
- Pages 1 and 2, clause 2, lines 16 to 1. *Omit* "land prescribed in section twenty-six thereof having regard to the class of the deposit to be sought for" *insert* "twenty acres"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 3. *After* "Act" *insert* "nor any land occupied for mining purposes under the said Act or this Act"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 5. *After* "may" *insert* "subject to the payment to the owner quarterly in advance of rent at the rate of twenty shillings per acre per annum from the date of occupation by the holder of such authority"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 8. *After* "warden" *insert* "on the same terms"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 15. *After* "rights" *insert* "of ingress, egress, and regress"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 19. *Omit* "mining" *insert* "prospecting"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 26. *After* "deposited" *insert* "with the warden"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 27. *After* "land" *insert* "and to any improvements thereon"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 28. *Omit* "mining" *insert* "prospecting"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 30. *After* "aforesaid" *insert* "and paying to the owner three months rent in advance at the rate aforesaid"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 30. *Omit* "mine"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 31. *Omit* "mining"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 33. *After* "deposit" *insert* "as provided by this Act"
- Page 2, clause 2, lines 34 to 44. *Omit* "Provided that if such mining operations shall be carried on for a greater period than six months the holder of such authority shall also pay to the owner of the land such sum by way of rent as shall be determined by the warden, and such rent shall be paid quarterly in advance during such period as the holder of the said authority shall occupy the said land or until he has been granted a lease under the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894 or any amendment thereof: Provided that the amount of such rent shall not exceed that provided in clause eight hereof."
- Page 2, clause 2, line 44. *Omit* "also"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 45. *Omit* "mining"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 47. *Omit* "have power to enforce the same in all cases" *insert* "deal with the deposit in the manner prescribed by regulations under this Act"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 53. *After* "authority" *insert* "be not commenced within fourteen days from the date thereof or"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 54. *Omit* "without the written permission of the warden" *insert* "or if the rent of the land occupied thereunder be not paid within one month after it falls due, or if the holder of the authority has failed to observe any of the stipulations or conditions imposed by the warden"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 55. *After* "warden" *insert* "If such holder continue in occupation of the area after being notified in writing of the cancellation of the authority he shall be deemed a trespasser"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 57. *Omit* "to the land" *insert* "as aforesaid and paid all rents due thereon to date"
- Page 3, clause 2, line 10. *Omit* "to the land" *insert* "as aforesaid and has paid all rents due thereon to date"
- Page 3, clause 2, line 14. *After* "he" *insert* "without the consent of the warden"
- Page 3, clause 2, line 19. *After* "authority" *insert* "while he pays rent as aforesaid"
- Page 3, clause 2, line 21. *After* "refused" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 3, clause 3, line 31. *After* "may" *insert* "with the consent of the owner either at law or in equity"
- Page 3, clause 3, lines 32 and 33. *Omit* "and any adjoining or adjacent land"
- Page 3, clause 3, line 36. *After* "notification" *insert* "and such land shall thereupon become Crown land within the meaning of the Mining Act, 1874, or any Act amending the same, and shall be reserved from sale or lease until such reservation be revoked by the Governor"
- Page 3, clause 3, line 45. *After* "of" *insert* "possession by such holder for the purpose of making an"
- Page 3, clause 3. At end of clause *add* "Provided further that such power of resumption shall not apply to any land occupied under any lease or agreement for mining purposes under the provisions of this or any other Act. Provided always that such consent as aforesaid shall be by deed, and should the property be under mortgage, shall be given by both the owner and any mortgagee"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 53. *Omit* "or some other competent person"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 54. *Before* "value" first occurring *insert* "market"
- Page 3, clause 4, lines 56 and 57. *Omit* "but the value so assessed shall not exceed the market value of the land for other than mining purposes"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 59. *Omit* "a tenant or rightful occupier of such land" *insert* "any person"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 60. *After* "owner" *insert* "having interest in such land"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 60. *After* "them" *insert* "in the prescribed manner"
- Page 4, clause 4, line 2. *Omit* "tenant or other rightful occupier" *insert* "or other person interested in the land"
- Page 4, clause 4, line 2. *After* "assessed" *insert* "or the apportionment made"
- Page 4, clause 4, line 3. *After* "proceed" *insert* "either in the Supreme Court or"
- Page 4, clause 4, lines 5 and 6. *Omit* "tenant or other rightful occupier" *insert* "or other person as aforesaid"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 15. *Omit* "determine" *insert* "after full inquiry deem to be sufficient to prevent damage to the surface"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 26. *After* "gold" *omit* remainder of clause *insert* "silver, lead, tin, or antimony"

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Page 4, clause 6, line 38. *Omit "two" insert "five"*
 Page 4, clause 7, line 44. *After "leased" insert "under any Land Act"*
 Pages 4 and 5, clauses 8 and 9. *Omit clauses 8 and 9.*
 Page 5. *After clause 10 insert the following new clauses:—*

Mining on
Private Lands
Act of 1894 to
extend to
minerals other
than coal.

"Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, the owner of any private land containing a deposit of any mineral other than coal, to which the said Act does not apply, may, without any 'authority to enter' or any lease under the said Act or this Act, mine for, win, and remove such mineral, notwithstanding that there may be associated with such mineral any mineral (hereinafter called 'associated mineral') to which the said Act does apply, provided the value of any associated mineral does not exceed fifty per centum of the value of the mineral in this section first mentioned. And the owner aforesaid may grant to any person by lease or otherwise the right to mine for, win, and remove such mineral and any associated mineral as aforesaid from his private land, and no prospecting license shall be granted in respect of any land upon which such mining operations have been commenced."

Governor may
make regula-
tions.

"The Governor may exercise for the purposes of this Act the powers conferred on him by section forty-three of the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894."

Owners may
lease lands for
mining purposes.

"The owner of any private land, other than alluvial, not applied for or occupied for mining purposes under the provisions of fifty-seventh Victoria, number thirty-two, or this Act, shall be at liberty, with the concurrence of the Minister, to enter into any lease or agreement, in writing, with any holder of a miner's right or mineral license for such term or terms of years, or lesser period or periods, as may be agreed on between the parties, and may by such lease or agreement give such holder power to take possession of such land for mining purposes. The area of such lease shall not exceed the extent prescribed in section twenty-six in the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, and such lease or agreement shall be subject to the performance by the lessee or holder of a miner's right or mineral license so entering into such agreement with such owner as aforesaid of the labour conditions contained in this Act: Provided that every such agreement shall, within fourteen days thereafter, be registered with the Mining Registrar for the district in which such land is situated."

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Waratah, Mr. Griffith, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The unsatisfactory manner in which the Department of Justice has dealt with the case of Thomas Suffield."

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Griffith moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

11. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Berrigan to Finley. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

12. CROWN LANDS (APPLICATIONS) BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to better regulate applications for land and the disposal of such applications, and to restrict the right of applications in certain cases, and to amend the Crown Lands Acts accordingly. Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to better regulate applications for land and the disposal of such applications, and to restrict the right of applications in certain cases, and to amend the Crown Lands Acts accordingly,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

13. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Cook, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make provision in substitution for some, and in aid of other, provisions in the Sale of Liquors Licensing Acts as to the voting in respect of licenses; and to enable electors in electorates to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, or otherwise to have effective control over the drink traffic within such areas.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported a *Point of Order*, and obtained leave to sit again so soon as the decision of the House had been given.

Point of Order:—The Chairman explained that an amendment was proposed by Mr. Copeland to add to the resolution the words "and to provide, a system of compensation, to all owners and occupiers who may be affected by the closing of any hotel thereunder," whereupon Mr. Ashton moved the omission of the words "a system of compensation" with a view to insert the words "for equitable time notice being given," instead thereof. On the question being put the Committee decided that the words proposed to be omitted should stand part of the proposed amendment. Mr. Ashton then proposed to insert the words "or equitable time

"notice

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"notice being given" after the word "compensation." The Chairman ruled that the proposed amendment was practically identical with that on which the Committee had already decided, and was therefore out of order,—from which the Committee dissented, and appealed for the decision of the House thereon. Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

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Mr. Speaker stated that in his opinion the Chairman was perfectly correct in his ruling.

On motion of Mr. Cook, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to make provision in substitution for some, and in aid of other, provisions in the Sale of Liquors Licensing Acts as to the voting in respect of licenses; and to enable electors in electorates to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, or otherwise to have effective control over the drink traffic within such areas; and to provide a system of compensation to all owners and occupiers who may be affected by the closing of any hotel thereunder.

On motion of Mr. Cook, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

14. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for the regulation of Coal Mines and Collieries, and for other purposes connected therewith*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 2nd September, 1896.

• JOHN LACKEY,
President.

COAL MINES REGULATION BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 2nd September, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 8. *Omit "August" insert "October"*

Page 2, clause 2, line 11. *After "that" insert "(a) the owner or agent of the mine shall not be liable to any such fine if he proves that he had taken all reasonable means by the enforcement of this section to prevent the mine being worked in contravention of this section."*

Page 2, clause 5. *Omit clause 5, insert the following new clause:—*

(I) There shall be two descriptions of certificates of competency under this Act—(1) first-class certificates—that is to say, certificates of fitness to be manager; and (2) second-class certificates—that is to say, certificates of fitness to be under-manager; but no person shall be entitled to a certificate of competency under this Act unless he shall have had practical experience in a mine for at least five years. Certificates of competency to managers and under-managers.

(II) For the purpose of ascertaining the persons to receive certificates of competency for the purposes of this Act, examiners shall be appointed by a Board consisting of— Constitution of Board for appointing examiners.

(a) Three persons being owners or agents of mines in the Colony of New South Wales.

(b) Three persons employed or who have been employed in or about any mine in this Colony not being owners, agents, or managers of a mine; and

(c) Three persons practising as mining engineers, or managers of mines in this Colony; and

(d) One inspector under this Act.

(III) The members of the Board shall be appointed and may be removed by the Minister, and shall hold office during his pleasure.

Page 3, clause 6, line 5. *Before "certificates" omit "the"*

Page 3, clause 6, line 6. *Omit "aforesaid" insert "under this Act"*

Page 3, clause 6, lines 12 to 14. *Omit "The examination for certificates for competency under this Act shall be partly by examination papers and partly by oral examination"*

Page 3, clause 7, line 20. *Before "certificates" omit "the"*

Page 3, clause 7, line 20. *Omit "aforesaid" insert "under this Act"*

Page 3, clause 8, line 28. *Omit "in New South Wales"*

Page 4, clause 9. At end of clause *add* "(II) A register of the holders of certificates of competency or service under this Act, and under any of the Imperial Acts aforesaid within the Colony, shall be kept by such person and in such manner as the Minister from time to time directs." Register of Certificates.

Pages 4 and 5, clauses 10, 11, and 12. *Omit clauses 10, 11, and 12.*

Page 5, clause 13, line 6. *After "manager" insert "or"*

Page 5, clause 13, lines 6 and 7. *Omit "or engine-driver"*

Page 5, clause 13, line 11. *After "manager" insert "or"*

Page 5, clause 13, line 11. *Omit "or engine-driver"*

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- Page 5, clause 13, line 20. *After* "manager" *insert* "or"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 20. *Omit* "or engine-driver"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 24. *After* "manager" *insert* "or"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 24. *Omit* "or engine-driver"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 29. *Omit* "fourteen" *insert* "eleven"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 35. *After* "manager" *insert* "or"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 35. *Omit* "or engine-driver"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 39. *After* "manager" *insert* "or"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 40. *Omit* "or engine-driver"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 41. *After* "manager" *insert* "or"
- Page 5, clause 13, line 41. *Omit* "or engine-driver"
- Page 6, clause 15, line 13. *After* "manager" *insert* "or"
- Page 6, clause 15, lines 13 and 14. *Omit* "or engine-driver"
- Page 6, clause 18, line 50. *After* "manager" *insert* "or"
- Page 6, clause 18, lines 50 and 51. *Omit* "or engine-driver"
- Page 7, clause 19. *Omit* clause 19.
- Page 7, clause 21, line 16. *After* "as" *insert* "he may think fit, or"
- Page 7, clause 21, lines 27 and 28. *Omit* "and to the persons who at the commencement of this Act
"are acting as inspectors under the Act hereby repealed"
- Page 7, clause 23, line 41. *Omit* "at least once in six weeks"
- Page 7, clause 23, lines 44 to 46. *Omit* "the compulsory visits to be made without notification
"direct or indirect to the officials of the mine"
- Page 7, clause 23, lines 49 and 50. *Omit* "except when absolutely necessary"
- Page 8, clause 23, lines 2 to 14. *Omit* "an inspector shall enter in a book to be provided by the
"owner or manager a report of any defect, or anything in or about the mine tending to
"endanger the safety or health of the miners employed therein."
- (v) He may also require the manager to withdraw the men from the mine if at any time he
"finds that, by reason of inflammable gases prevailing in any mine or any part thereof, or
"of any cause whatever, the mine or the said part is dangerous; and no person shall,
"except so far as is necessary for exploration or inquiry into the cause of danger or the
"removal thereof, be readmitted into the mine or such part thereof as was found
"dangerous, until the same is stated by the inspector to be safe."
- Page 8, clause 24, line 32. *Omit* "and enter such report in a book at the mine"
- Page 9, clause 26, line 4. *After* "accident" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 10, clause 28, line 6. *Omit* "shall" *insert* "may"
- Page 13, clause 32, line 10. *Omit* "shall supply the inspector on request with" *insert* "in
"addition to the above-mentioned plan there shall also be provided"
- Page 13, clause 32, line 13. *Omit* "boundaries of the mine" *insert* "said boundary"
- Page 13, clause 32, lines 19 and 20. *Omit* "the whole or any part of such plan" *insert* "any part
"thereof respectively"
- Page 13, clause 32, lines 41 and 42. *Omit* "coal-fields" *insert* "principal"
- Page 14, clause 33, line 1. *Before* "personal" *insert* "serious"
- Page 14, clause 33, line 10. *Before* "personal" *insert* "serious"
- Page 14, clause 34, line 40. *Omit* "fourteen days" *insert* "one month"
- Page 15, clause 36, line 25. *Omit* "thirty-two" *insert* "twenty-eight"
- Pages 15 and 16, clause 38. *Omit* clause 38.
- Page 16, clause 39, line 5. *Omit* "forty" *insert* "thirty-five"
- Page 16, clause 39, line 8. *After* "boys" *insert* "between the age of fourteen years and eighteen
"years"
- Page 16, clause 39, line 9. *Omit* "eight" *insert* "ten"
- Page 16, clause 39, line 10. *After* "on" *insert* "one Saturday and eight hours on the next"
- Page 16, clause 39, line 13. *Omit* "provisions" *insert* "regulations"
- Page 16, clause 39. *After* line 18 *insert*—
" (c) A week shall be deemed to begin at midnight on Saturday night and to end at midnight
"on the succeeding Saturday night"
- Page 16, clause 40. At end of clause *add* "nor
" (III) Prevent a competent male person above the age of eighteen years who, before the
"commencement of this Act, is lawfully employed in working the machinery used for
"lowering and raising persons in a mine from continuing to be so employed"
- Page 19, clause 46, line 39. *Omit* "agent"
- Page 19, clause 47, lines 52 and 53. *Omit* "test by standard weight" *insert* "examine"
- Page 22, clause 52, line 21. *After* "which" *insert* "air"
- Page 22, clause 52, lines 22 and 23. *Omit* "the face of" *insert* "along the airways and be forced
"as far as the face of and into"
- Page 22, clause 52, line 24. *After* "excepted" *omit* remainder of clause *insert*—
"Every mine, except such as are worked on the long-wall system, shall be divided into districts
"or splits of not more than seventy men in each; and each district shall be supplied with
"a separate current of fresh air. The intake air shall travel free from all stagnant water,
"stables, and old workings. In the case of mines required by this Act to be under the
"control of a certificated manager, the quantity of air in the respective splits or currents
"shall at least once in every month be measured and entered in a book to be kept for the
"purpose at the mine.
- "Rule 2. Where a fire is used for ventilation in any mine newly opened after the commencement
"of this Act, the return air, unless it be so diluted as not to be inflammable, shall be
"carried off clear of the fire by means of a dumb drift or airway.
- "Rule 3. Where a mechanical contrivance for ventilation is introduced into any mine after
"the commencement of this Act, it shall be in such position and placed under such
"conditions as will tend to insure its being uninjured by an explosion.

Miners may be
withdrawn if
inspector finds
cause of danger.

Ventilation by
fire.

Ventilation by
machinery.

"Rule

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- " *Rule 4.* A station or stations shall be appointed at the entrance to the mine, or to different parts of the mine, as the case may require, and the following provisions shall have effect:—
- " (I) As to inspection before commencing work:—
- " A competent person or competent persons appointed by the owner, agent, or manager for the purpose, not being contractors for getting minerals in the mine, shall, within such time immediately before the commencement of each shift as shall be fixed by special rules made under this Act, inspect every part of the mine situate beyond the station or each of the stations, and in which workmen are to work or pass during that shift, and shall ascertain the condition thereof so far as the presence of gas, ventilation, roof, and sides, and general safety are concerned.
- " No workman shall pass beyond any such station until the part of the mine beyond that station has been so examined and stated by such competent person to be safe.
- " The inspection shall be made with a locked safety-lamp, except in the case of any mine in which inflammable gas has not been found within the preceding twelve months.
- " A report specifying where noxious or inflammable gas, if any, was found present, the condition of the ventilation, and what defects, if any, in roofs or sides, and what if any other source of danger were or was observed, shall be recorded without delay in a book to be kept at the mine for the purpose, and accessible to the workmen, and such report shall be signed by, and so far as the same does not consist of printed matter, shall be in the handwriting of the person who made the inspection.
- " For the purpose of the foregoing provisions of this rule, two or more shifts succeeding one another without any interval are to be deemed to be one shift.
- " (II) As to inspection during shifts:—
- " A similar inspection shall be made in the course of each shift of all parts of the mine in which workmen are to work or pass during that shift, but it shall not be necessary to record a report of the same in a book: Provided that in the case of a mine worked continuously throughout the twenty-four hours by a succession of shifts, the report of one of such inspections shall be recorded in manner above required.
- " *Rule 5.* A competent person or competent persons, appointed by the owner, agent, or manager for the purpose, shall, once at least in every twenty-four hours, examine the state of the external parts of the machinery, the state of the guides and conductors in the shafts, and the state of the head gear, ropes, chains, and other similar appliances of the mine which are in actual use both above ground and below ground, and shall once at least in every week examine the state of the shafts by which persons ascend or descend; and shall make a true report of the result of such examination; and every such report shall be recorded without delay in a book to be kept at the mine for the purpose, and shall be signed by the person who made the inspection.
- " *Rule 6.* Every entrance to any place which is not in actual use or course of working and extension shall be properly fenced across the whole width of the entrance, so as to prevent persons inadvertently entering the same.
- " *Rule 7.* If at any time it is found by the person for the time being in charge of the mine, or any part thereof, that by reason of inflammable gases prevailing in the mine, or that part thereof, or of any cause whatever, the mine or that part is dangerous, every workman shall be withdrawn from the mine or part so found dangerous, and a competent person appointed for the purpose shall inspect the mine or part so found dangerous, and if the danger arises from inflammable gas, shall inspect the mine or part with a locked safety-lamp; and in every case shall make a true report of the condition of the mine or part; and a workman shall not, except in so far as is necessary for inquiring into the cause of danger or for the removal thereof, or for exploration, be readmitted into the mine, or part so found dangerous, until the same is stated by the person appointed as aforesaid not to be dangerous. Every such report shall be recorded in a book which shall be kept at the mine for the purpose, and shall be signed by the person who made the inspection.
- " *Rule 8.* No lamp or light other than a locked safety-lamp shall be allowed or used,—
- " (a) In any place in a mine in which there is likely to be any such quantity of inflammable gas as to render the use of naked lights dangerous; or
- " (b) In any working approaching near a place in which there is likely to be an accumulation of inflammable gas.
- " And when it is necessary to work the coal in any part of a ventilating district with safety-lamps, it shall not be allowable to work the coal with naked lights in another part of the same ventilating district situated between the place where such lamps are being used and the return airway.
- " *Rule 9.* Wherever safety-lamps are used, they shall be so constructed that they may be safely carried against the air current ordinarily prevailing in that part of the mine in which the lamps are for the time being in use, even though such current should be inflammable.
- " *Rule 10.* In any mine or part of a mine in which safety-lamps are required by this Act, or by the special rules made in pursuance of this Act to be used,—
- " (I) A competent person appointed by the owner, agent, or manager for the purpose shall, either at the surface, or at the appointed lamp station, examine every safety-lamp immediately before it is taken into the workings for use, and ascertain it to be in safe working order and securely locked; and such lamps shall not be used until they have been so examined and found in safe working order and securely locked.
- " (II) A safety-lamp shall not be unlocked except either at the appointed lamp station or for the purpose of firing a shot, in conformity with the provisions hereinafter contained.

Stations and inspection of condition as to ventilation, &c.

Inspection of machinery, &c., above and below ground.

Fencing of entrances.

Withdrawal of workmen in case of danger.

Use of safety-lamps in certain places.

Construction of safety-lamps.

Examination of safety-lamps.

" (III)

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- (III) A person, unless he has been appointed either for the purpose of examining safety-lamps, or for the purpose of firing shots, shall not have in his possession any contrivance for opening the lock of any safety-lamp.
- (IV) A person shall not have in his possession any lucifer match or apparatus of any kind for striking a light except within a completely-closed chamber attached to the fuse of the shot.
- Rule 11.** Where safety-lamps are required to be used, the position of the lamp stations for lighting or relighting the lamps shall not be in the return air.
- Rule 12.** Any explosive substance shall only be used in the mine below ground as follows:—
- (a) It shall not be stored in the mine.
- (b) It shall not be taken into the mine, except in cartridges in a secure case or canister containing not more than five pounds: Provided that on the application of the owner, agent, or manager of any mine, the Minister may, by order, exempt such mine from so much of this rule as forbids taking an explosive substance into the mine except in cartridges.
- (c) A workman shall not have in use at one time in any one place more than one of such cases or canisters.
- (d) In the process of charging or stemming for blasting, a person shall not use or have in his possession any iron or steel pricker, scraper, charger, tamping rod, or stemmer; nor in any mine or part of a mine in which safety-lamps are required by this Act to be used shall dry coal or coal-dust be used for tamping.
- (e) No explosive shall be forcibly pressed into a hole of insufficient size, and when a hole has been charged the explosive shall not be unrammed; and no hole shall be bored for a charge at a distance of less than six inches from any hole where the charge has missed fire: Provided that in cases where a fuse is used no person shall return to a place where such charge has missed fire until a period of eight hours has elapsed from the lighting of the fuse attached to such charge.
- (f) In any place in which the use of a locked safety-lamp is for the time being required by or in pursuance of this Act, or which is dry and dusty, no shot shall be fired except by, or under the direction of, a competent person appointed by the owner, agent, or manager of the mine; and such person shall not fire the shot or allow it to be fired until he has examined both the place itself where the shot is to be fired and all contiguous accessible places of the same seam within a radius of twenty yards, and has found such place safe for firing.
- (g) If in any mine, at either of the inspections under rule four recorded last before a shot is to be fired, inflammable gas has been reported to be present in the ventilating district in which the shot is to be fired, the shot shall not be fired,—
- (i) Unless a competent person, appointed as aforesaid, has examined the place where gas has been so reported to be present, and has found that such gas has been cleared away, and that there is not at or near such place sufficient gas issuing or accumulated to render it unsafe to fire the shot; or
- (ii) Unless the explosive employed in firing the shot is so used with water or other contrivance as to prevent it from inflaming gas, or is of such a nature that it cannot inflame gas.
- (h) If the place where a shot is to be fired is dry and dusty, then the shot shall not be fired unless one of the following conditions is observed, that is to say:—
- (i) Unless the place of firing and all contiguous accessible places within a radius of twenty yards therefrom are at the time of firing in a wet state from thorough watering or other treatment equivalent to watering, in all parts where dust is lodged, whether roof, floor, or sides; or
- (ii) In the case of places in which watering would injure the roof or floor, unless the explosive is so used with water or other contrivance as to prevent it from inflaming gas or dust, or is of such a nature that it cannot inflame gas or dust.
- (i) If such dry and dusty place is part of a main haulage road, or is a place contiguous thereto, and showing dust adhering to the roof and sides, no shot shall be fired there unless,—
- (I) Both the conditions mentioned in sub-head (h) have been observed; or
- (II) Unless such one of the conditions mentioned in sub-head (h) as may be applicable to the particular case has been observed, and moreover all workmen have been removed from the seam in which the shot is to be fired, and from all seams communicating with the shaft on the same level, except the men engaged in firing the shot, and such other persons, not exceeding ten, as are necessarily employed in attending to the ventilating furnaces, steam-boilers, engines, machinery, winding apparatus signals, or horses, or in inspecting the mine.
- (k) In this Act 'ventilating district' means such part of a seam as has an independent intake commencing from a main intake air-course, and an independent return air-way terminating at a main return air-course; and 'main haulage road' means a road which has been, or for the time being is, in use for moving trams by steam or other mechanical power.
- (l) Where a seam of a mine is not divided into separate ventilating districts, the provisions in this Act relating to ventilating districts shall be read as though the word 'seam' were substituted for the words 'ventilating district.'
- Rule 13.** Where a place is likely to contain a dangerous accumulation of water, the working approaching that place shall not, at any point within forty yards of that place, exceed eight feet in width, and there shall be constantly kept at a sufficient distance, not being less than five yards in advance, at least one bore-hole near the centre of the working, and sufficient flank bore-holes on each side.

Lamp stations

Use of explosives below ground.

Water and bore-holes.

" Rule

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- " *Rule 14.* Every underground plane on which persons travel, which is self-acting or worked by an engine, windlass, or gin, shall be provided (if exceeding thirty yards in length) with some proper means of communicating distinct and definite signals between the stopping-places and the ends of the plane, and shall be provided in every case with sufficient man-holes for places of refuge, at intervals of not more than twenty yards, and of not less than six feet high, three feet wide, and four feet deep, or if there is not room for a person to stand between the side of a tub and the side of the plane, then (unless the tubs are moved by an endless chain or rope) at intervals of not more than ten yards. Signalling and man-holes for travelling planes worked by machinery.
- " *Rule 15.* Every road on which persons travel underground, where the load is drawn by a horse or other animal, shall be provided, at intervals of not more than fifty yards, with sufficient man-holes, or with places of refuge, and every such place of refuge shall be of sufficient length, and at least three feet in width between the waggons running on the road and the side of such road. There shall be at least two proper travelling ways into every steam-engine room and boiler gallery. Man-holes for other travelling roads.
- " *Rule 16.* Every man-hole and every place of refuge shall be constantly kept clear, and no person shall place anything in any such man-hole or place of refuge. Man-holes to be kept clear.
- " *Rule 17.* Every travelling road on which a horse or other draught animal is used underground shall be of sufficient dimensions to allow the horse or other animal to pass without rubbing against the roof or timbering. Dimensions of travelling roads.
- " *Rule 18.* The top of every shaft which for the time being is out of use, or used only as an air-shaft, shall be, and shall be kept, securely fenced. Fencing of shafts.
- " *Rule 19.* Every shaft in course of sinking shall be provided with a trolley to run over the pit's mouth and receive the load when brought to the surface. Such trolley to be large enough to cover the opening at the pit top. Trolley over pit mouth.
- " *Rule 20.* The top and all entrances between the top and bottom, including the sump, if any, of every working, ventilating, or pumping shaft shall be properly fenced, but this shall not be taken to forbid the temporary removal of the fence for the purpose of repairs or other operations, if proper precautions are used. Fencing of entrances to shafts.
- " *Rule 21.* Where the natural strata are not safe, every working or pumping shaft shall be securely cased, lined, or otherwise made secure. Every shaft in course of sinking shall be kept clear of all noxious gases by a fan or some other appliance. Securing of shafts.
- " *Rule 22.* The roof and sides of every travelling road and working place shall be made secure, and a person shall not, unless appointed for the purpose of exploring or repairing, travel or work in any such travelling road or working place which is not made so secure. Sinking pit to be cleared of gas.
- " *Rule 23.* Where the timbering of the working places is done by the workmen employed therein, suitable timber shall be provided at the working place, gate end, pass bye, siding, or other similar place in the mine convenient to the workmen; and the distance between the sprags or holing props, where they are required, shall not exceed six feet or such less distance as may be ordered by the owner, agent, or manager. Securing of roofs and sides.
- " *Rule 24.* Where there is a downcast and furnace shaft to the same seam, and both such shafts are provided with apparatus in use for raising and lowering persons, every person employed in the mine shall, on giving reasonable notice, have the option of using the downcast shaft. Timbering.
- " *Rule 25.* In any mine which is usually entered by means of machinery, a competent male person not less than twenty-two years of age shall be appointed for the purpose of working the machinery which is employed in lowering and raising persons therein, and shall attend for that purpose during the whole time that any person is below ground in the mine. Option of using downcast shaft.
- " Where any shaft, plane, or level is used for the purpose of communication from one part to another part of a mine, and persons are taken up or down or along such shaft, plane, or level by means of an engine, windlass, or gin driven or worked by steam or any mechanical power, or by an animal, or by manual labour, the person in charge of such engine, windlass, or gin, or of any part of the machinery, ropes, chains, or tackle connected therewith, must be a competent male person not less than eighteen years of age. Attendance of engineman.
- " Where the machinery is worked by an animal, the person under whose direction the driver of the animal acts shall for the purpose of this rule be deemed to be the person in charge of the machinery.
- " *Rule 26.* Every working shaft used for the purpose of drawing minerals or for the lowering or raising of persons shall, if exceeding fifty yards in depth, and not exempted in writing by the inspector of the district, be provided with guides and some proper means of communicating distinct and definite signals from the bottom of the shaft, and from every entrance for the time being in use between the surface and the bottom of the shaft to the surface, and from the surface to the bottom of the shaft, and to every entrance for the time being in use between the surface, and the bottom of the shaft. Means of signalling for working shafts.
- " *Rule 27.* If in any mine the winding apparatus is not provided with some automatic contrivance to prevent overwinding, then the cage when men are being raised shall not be wound up at a speed exceeding three miles an hour after the cage has reached a point in the shaft to be fixed by the special rules. Overwinding.
- " *Rule 28.* A sufficient cover overhead shall be used for every cage or tub employed in lowering or raising persons in any working shaft, except where the cage or tub is worked by a windlass, or where persons are employed at work in the shaft, or where a written exemption is given by the inspector of the district. Cover overhead.
- " *Rule 29.* A single-linked chain shall not be used for lowering or raising persons in any working shaft or plane, except for the short coupling chain attached to the cage or tub. Chains.
- " *Rule 30.* There shall be on the drum of every machine used for lowering or raising persons, such flanges or horns, and also, if the drum is conical, such other appliances as may be sufficient to prevent the rope from slipping. Prevention of rope slipping on drum.
- Rule*

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Brake and indicator.

" Rule 31. There shall be attached to every machine worked by steam, water, or mechanical power, and used for lowering or raising persons, an adequate brake or brakes and a proper indicator (in addition to any mark on the rope), showing to the person who works the machine the position of the cage or tub in the shaft. If the drum is not on the crank shaft there shall be an adequate break on the drum shaft.

Fencing machinery.

" Rule 32. Every fly-wheel and all exposed and dangerous parts of the machinery used in or about the mine shall be and shall be kept securely fenced.

Safety-valves and gauges for boilers.

" Rule 33. Each steam boiler, whether separate or one of a range, shall have attached to it a proper safety-valve and also a proper steam-gauge and water-gauge to show respectively the pressure of steam and the height of water in each boiler.

Barometer, &c.

" Rule 34. A barometer and thermometer shall be placed above ground in a conspicuous position near the entrance to the mine.

Stretchers.

" Rule 35. Where persons are employed underground, ambulances or stretchers, with splints and bandages, shall be kept at the mine ready for immediate use in case of accident.

Wilful damage.

" Rule 36. No person shall wilfully damage, or without proper authority remove or render useless, any fence, fencing, manhole, place of refuge, casing, lining, guide, means of signalling, signal, cover, chain, flange, horn, brake, indicator, steam-gauge, water-gauge, safety-valve, or other appliance or thing provided in any mine in compliance with this Act.

Observance of directions.

" Rule 37. Every person shall observe such directions with respect to working as may be given to him with a view to comply with this Act or the special rules in force in the mine.

Books and copies thereof.

" Rule 38. The books mentioned in these rules shall be provided by the owner, agent, or manager, and the books, or a correct copy thereof, shall be kept at the office of the mine, and any inspector under this Act, and any person employed in the mine may, at all reasonable times, inspect and take copies of and extracts from any such books; but nothing in these rules shall be construed to impose the obligation of keeping any such book, or a copy thereof, for more than twelve months after the book had ceased to be used for entries therein under this Act. Any report by this Act required to be recorded in a book may be partly in print (including lithograph) and partly in writing.

Periodical inspection on behalf of workmen.

" Rule 39. The persons employed in a mine may from time to time appoint two of their number, or any two persons not being mining engineers, who are practical working miners, to inspect the mine at their own cost; and the persons so appointed shall be allowed once at least in every month, accompanied, if the owner, agent, or manager of the mine thinks fit, by himself or one or more officers of the mine, to go to every part of the mine, and to inspect the shafts, levels, planes, working places, return air-ways, ventilating apparatus, old workings, and machinery. Every facility shall be afforded by the owner, agent, and manager, and all persons in the mine, for the purpose of inspection, and the persons appointed shall forthwith make a true report of the result of the inspection and that report shall be recorded in a book to be kept at the mine for the purpose, and shall be signed by the persons who made the inspection; and if the report states the existence, or apprehended existence, of any danger, the owner, agent, or manager shall forthwith cause a true copy of the report to be sent to the inspector of the district.

Person not to be employed in coal getting without experience.

" Rule 40. No person not now employed as a coal getter shall be allowed to work alone as a coal getter in the face of the workings until he has had two years experience of such work under the supervision of skilled workmen, or unless he shall have been previously employed for two years in or about the face of the workings of a mine.

Penalty for interference with office of check-inspector or check-weigher.

" Rule 41. If the owner, agent, or manager of any mine, or any persons employed by or acting under the instructions of any such owner, agent, or manager, interferes with the appointment of a check-inspector or check-weigher, or refuses to afford proper facilities for the holding of any meeting for the purpose of making such appointment, or attempts, whether by threats, bribes, promises, notice of dismissal, or otherwise howsoever, to exercise improper influence in respect of such appointment, or to induce the persons entitled to appoint a check-inspector or a check-weigher, or any of them, not to reappoint any particular person, or to vote for or against any particular person, in the appointment of a check-inspector or check-weigher, such owner, agent, or manager shall be guilty of an offence against this Act.

Page 30, clause 54, line 21. After "non-compliance" omit remainder of clause.

Page 33, clause 70, line 42. After "manager" insert "or"

Page 33, clause 70, line 42. Omit "or employee."

Page 33, clause 70, line 43. After "manager" insert "or"

Page 33, clause 70, line 44. Omit "or employee"

Page 33, clause 70, line 47. After "manager" insert "or"

Page 33, clause 70, line 47. Omit "or employee"

Page 33, clause 70, line 50. After "manager" insert "or"

Page 33, clause 70, line 50. Omit "or employee"

Page 35, clause 79, line 34. Omit "eighteen" insert "sixteen"

Page 37, Schedule II, line 39. Omit "1 10 0" insert "2 0 0"

Page 37, Schedule II, line 42. Omit "0 15 0" insert "1 0 0"

Examined,—

ARCH. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

15. GEORGE STREET AND HARRIS STREET ELECTRIC TRAMWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. Copeland moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1, 2, and the Schedule," instead thereof.

Question

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate ensued.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and passed.

Original Question put,—That this Bill be now read a third time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 46.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Newman,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Law.
Mr. Reid,	
Mr. McGowen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Macdonald.

Noes, 32.

Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Lyno,	
Mr. Willis,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. F. Clarke.
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Travers Jones,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Edden,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of an Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, in the City of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street in the said city.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of an Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, in the City of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street in the said city,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 3rd September, 1896, a.m.*

16. ADDITIONS TO TREASURY BUILDING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the carrying out of Additions to the Treasury Building in Macquarie-street, Sydney.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the carrying out of Additions to the Treasury Building in Macquarie-street, Sydney,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 3rd September, 1896, a.m.*

17. FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garrard moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Watson moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 17, and the second Schedule," instead thereof.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted in the place of the words left out be so inserted.

Mr. Perry moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by adding the words "and clause 48."

Question put,—That the words proposed to be added to the proposed amendment be so added.

The

2nd September, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 39.

Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Black,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Law.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. Edden,	

Noes, 33.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Young,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Millen.
Mr. Anderson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ball,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Hogue.
Mr. Simcon Phillips,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Davis,	
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. Mahony,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in the place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 17, 46, and the second Schedule,—put and passed.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 4^o with further amendments.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

18. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at nine minutes before Three o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 51.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

VACANT SEAT :—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received a letter from James George Carroll, Esquire, resigning his Seat as Member for the Electoral District of The Lachlan.

Whereupon Mr. Reid moved, That the Seat of James George Carroll, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of The Lachlan, hath become and is now vacant, by reason of the resignation thereof by the said James George Carroll.

Question put and passed.

2. QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) First-class Teachers in Public Schools :—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Bavister*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he be good enough to supply a list giving the name of each first-class teacher who is in charge of a fifth-class school?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

Name of Teacher.	School.
Mr. Timothy Davis...	St. Ethel's, West Maitland.
Mr. Joseph Lynch ...	Homeville.
Mr. Edward Henry...	Camden.
Mr. W. T. Anderson ...	Rylstone.
Mr. Alexander Noble ...	Chatswood.
Mr. Edward Hayes...	Frederickton.
Mr. William Kennedy ...	Carlingford.
Mr. William Gray ...	Drummoyne.
Mr. John Douglass...	Katoomba.
Mr. J. J. Craig ...	Wallerawang.
Mr. William Carroll ...	Wyalong.
Mr. William Mahoney ...	Bombala.
Mr. William Black ...	Braidwood.

- (2.) Tenders for Telegraph Poles :—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Does the Telegraph Department call for tenders annually for a quantity of rough sapling poles—about 600?

(2.) Is it a fact that hundreds of poles besides the 600 poles contracted for are supplied annually, for which no tenders are called; who is the contractor that receives this concession, and the number of poles that have been supplied by him each year during the last twelve years, and the prices per pole, and at what stations were they delivered?

(3.) Is it a fact that no other contractor has an opportunity of competing for these poles?

(4.) Have repeated applications been made from other contractors to be allowed to compete for these poles, but without success?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Numbers of poles are purchased annually by local tenders, as they can be obtained in this manner at a more reasonable rate. No special concession is given to any contractor. The names of contractors who have supplied poles during the past twelve years, and the particulars, should, if required, be moved for in the shape of a return.

(3.) No.

(4.) No.

- (3.) Wilberforce Cattle-killing Case :—*Mr. Ball* asked the Minister of Justice,—What was the total cost incurred by the Crown in conducting the prosecution of persons accused of conspiracy in connection with the Wilberforce cattle-killing case?

Mr. Gould answered,—The witnesses' expenses amounted to £59 6s. 8d.

(4.)

3rd September, 1896.

(4.) Food and Liquor Adulteration Bill:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When is a comprehensive Bill dealing with the important question of food and liquor adulterations likely to be introduced?

Mr. Reid answered,—In a few days.

(5.) Improvement Leases:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—With reference to the improvement leases situated in country districts, and offered in Sydney, on the 26th August last, by Messrs. Hardie and Gorman,—

(1.) What was the total number of leases so offered?

(2.) How many leases were disposed of on that occasion?

(3.) How many leases realised more than the upset rental fixed by the Department?

(4.) What was the total number of leases offered on that occasion in the Condobolin and Parkes Land Districts?

(5.) How many of said leases were disposed of?

(6.) How many (if any) realised more than the upset rental fixed by the Department?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) Forty-six.

(2.) Eight.

(3.) None.

(4.) Five in the Condobolin and five in the Parkes district.

(5.) One in Condobolin and four in Parkes district.

(6.) None.

(6.) Customs Department:—*Mr. Moors*, for Mr. Wilks, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many persons under 60 years of age have been retired from the Customs Department since the 1st of July last?

(2.) How many persons over 60 years of age are there now in that Department?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) There were forty-five officers of the Customs Department retrenched recently under 60 years of age.

(2.) There are twelve officers still employed in the Customs Department over 60 years of age.

(7.) Sir Saul Samuel, Agent-General for the Colony:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How long has Sir Saul Samuel occupied the position of Agent-General for New South Wales?

(2.) Will he consider the advisability of recalling the gentleman referred to, and appointing some one in his place fresh from the Colony, and in close touch with all that has been going on in New South Wales up to the present time?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Since 12th August, 1880—sixteen years.

(2.) The Government do not propose to recall Sir Saul Samuel, but in connection with the arrangements for his successor it is intended that the office shall not be filled by any one representative for a period longer than three or five years.

(8.) Trial Survey from Narrabri to Walgett, *via* Wee Waa:—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he received the report from the Railway Survey Department in connection with the trial survey which was made from Narrabri West, *via* Wee Waa and north side of the Namoi, to Walgett?

(2.) If the report has been received, is it favourable to the construction of the line in question?

Mr. Young answered,—Neither an exploration nor survey has yet been made of the line referred to.

3. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL:—Mr. Watkins presented a Petition from Andrew Drummond, Mayor of Wallsend, and Adam Cook, Mayor of Plattsburg, stating that for many years mining under roads, streets, and property has been carried on within the Boroughs of Wallsend, Plattsburg, and the District of Newcastle, causing considerable damage to the public roads and streets, depreciating the value of property and endangering the lives of citizens; and praying the House will, with a view to prevent expensive and fruitless litigation, and to conserve the interests of the property holders, cause a provision dealing with the subject, which they submit, and which has been approved of by the Municipal Association of New South Wales, to be inserted in the Coal Mines Regulation Bill now under consideration.
Petition received.

4. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN:—Mr. Ashton presented a Petition from residents of New South Wales, stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men; and praying the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners.
Petition received.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Gunning and Merrill, county of King, for approaches to Bridge over the Lachlan River at Inglewood.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Substituted Form No. 64, under the Crown Lands Acts.

(2.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of August, 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd September, 1896.

6. MUNICIPAL LOANS FURTHER VALIDATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Brunker moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable the Governor to validate certain loans to Municipalities, and the securities, if any, therefor.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Brunker then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Governor to validate certain loans to Municipalities, and the securities, if any, therefor,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
7. EXPENDITURE ON THE ROADS OF THE COLONY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The detailed amounts of special appropriations for the months of July and August, 1896, for expenditure on the roads of the Colony.
 (2.) The total amount expended on the roads of the Colony for the months of July and August, 1896.
 (3.) The moneys for the two months named expended upon the roads of the Colony from appropriations for the year 1896-7.
 Question put and passed.
8. REGISTRATION OF FIRMS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Russell Jones moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the Registration of Firms.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Jones then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the Registration of Firms,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
9. PROSECUTIONS AGAINST THE LATE M. S. MONTEAGRISTI (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Ashton moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers, reports, &c., in connection with the cases of Australian Joint Stock Bank, the Crown, and the late M. S. Monteagrismi.
 Question put and passed.
10. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community.
 Question put and passed.
11. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Hayes brought up the Sixteenth Report from the Printing Committee.
12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Yass, Mr. Affleck, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The inequitable manner in which country Postmasters have been dealt with under the classification of the Public Service Board."
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Affleck moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Point of Order:—Mr. Carruthers took exception to this notice on the ground that it anticipated the discussion of the Estimates in the Committee of Supply, that being an Order of the Day on the Notice Paper for to-day.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Speaker said he must rule, in accordance with the practice in the House of Commons, that the motion was out of order, as the grievance referred to in the notice could be ventilated in the Committee of Supply.
13. FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garrard moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 42.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Lee,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Cruickshank.
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Waddell,	
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Fergusou,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	

Noes, 5.

Mr. Barnes,
 Mr. Travers Jones,
 Mr. McElhone.

Tellers,

Mr. Crick,
 Mr. Sleath.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
 Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Garrard, *passed*.

Mr.

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Mr. Garrard then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make provision for the supervision and regulation of factories, bakehouses, laundries, dye-works, and shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein; and for the stamping of furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to make provision for the supervision and regulation of factories, bakehouses, laundries, dye-works, and shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein; and for the stamping of furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 3rd September, 1896.

14. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had amended one, disagreed to one, and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.

Ordered that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

15. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation, and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows :—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation, and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Smith then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation, and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday next.

16. EVIDENCE BEFORE THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION BY MR. H. C. L. ANDERSON:—Mr. Lyne presented a Petition from Henry Charles Lennox Anderson, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the evidence given before the Civil Service Commission by Mr. H. C. L. Anderson, and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses and adduce evidence, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence before the said Committee.

Petition received.

Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.

17. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-nine minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 52.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Public School Teacher at Kingswood School:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What rent is allowed to the Public School teacher at Kingswood School?
- (2.) (a) The size of the house the teacher lives in, and (b) the cost of the building?
- (3.) What would be the cost of a house built on the 10 acres, owned by the Education Department, on which the school is built, similar to the house the teacher lives in?
- (4.) Is it a fact that a four-roomed house and kitchen can be built for £200 on the land owned by the Education Department?
- (5.) What is the interest paid for moneys to build teachers' residences?
- (6.) What would be the saving to the country in interest if a teacher's residence was built by the Department?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) £35 per annum, included in salary of £206 per annum.
- (2.) (a) Five rooms and a kitchen; (b) I am not aware.
- (3.) I am unable to say.
- (4.) This would depend upon the character and material of the building.
- (5.) No special interest is paid for the purpose stated.
- (6.) I am not aware.

- (2.) Mr. T. A. Coghlan, late Government Statistician:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Chapman, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What salary did Mr. T. A. Coghlan receive as Government Statistician?
- (2.) What was the amount received by him (a) as a total, and (b) for each year as Registrar of Friendly Societies?
- (3.) Did not Mr. Coghlan's appointment as Registrar stipulate that he was to receive no payment as Registrar; if so, how was it that he appropriated the fees?
- (4.) What sums have been paid to Mr. Coghlan as bonuses since his appointment as Statistician, and for what reason in each case?
- (5.) Did Mr. Coghlan receive £250 for reporting on the Civil Service Fund?
- (6.) Is it a fact that such report was actually prepared by an actuary named Raleigh, since deceased; if so, by whom was Mr. Raleigh paid?
- (7.) Is it not a fact that Mr. Coghlan is not an actuary at all, but that all the actuarial calculations were made by Mr. A. Davis, now created Registrar of Friendly Societies?
- (8.) What amount has Mr. Coghlan received, or what amount is he to receive, for services rendered to the Statistician's Department since his appointment as a member of the Public Service Board?
- (9.) Why was a member of the Public Service Board allowed to hold any other official appointment, or perform other official duties?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) £825 until 1891, and from that date £762 10s.
- (2.) Approximately, £120 per annum.
- (3.) The fees referred to are statutory fees appertaining to the office. Mr. Coghlan urgently requested that he should be relieved of the post of Registrar, but the Chief Secretary was unable to comply with his request, and, as some slight recompense for his services, decided that he should draw the emoluments of his office.

(4.)

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- (4.) No bonuses have been paid. On various occasions bonuses were offered to Mr. Coghlan, and refused, as incompatible with the delicate and confidential position he occupied in relation to the various Premiers and Treasurers. I presume the Honorable Member refers to the allowance authorised to be paid in consideration of extra duties in connection with the last census, viz., £300.
- (5.) No. He was requested to make a report on the Fund, and the sum referred to was barely sufficient to cover expenses connected therewith.
- (6 and 7.) These insinuations are devoid of truth.
- (8.) Nothing. I consider the country is under an obligation to Mr. Coghlan for performing gratuitously these services in his leisure time.
- (9.) These reasons have been fully stated more than once.

(3.) Locomotive Branches of the Railways and Tramways:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Mr. McGowen's Questions of 18th August last, with respect to drivers and firemen on the railways,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that, on the occasions when the cleaners worked the train, Hornsby Junction to Eveleigh, ditto Hornsby Junction to Gordon, competent drivers were available at Hornsby Junction, and were acting as firemen?
- (2.) Is it a fact that cleaners have recently acted as drivers at Armidale and district?
- (3.) Is it a fact that cleaners were some time ago placed in the position of drivers, and acted as such in the Goulburn district?
- (4.) Referring to the Answer to Question 11, to the effect that the driver and fireman had been booked off because they had worked thirteen hours, is it a fact that the cleaners who did work the train were on duty on that occasion nearly seventeen hours, and also that a competent driver was available in that district who was acting as fireman?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that it was not a fact that competent men were available without incurring overtime or delays to trains.
- (2.) Yes; one man at Tenterfield, who has had previous experience as fireman, has been temporarily authorised to act as occasional driver in emergency cases, between Tenterfield and Jennings, so as to prevent long hours to the regular men.
- (3.) It is a fact that cleaners with previous experience as regular firemen, and that firemen with previous experience as temporary drivers, have occasionally acted as drivers, and been paid at drivers' rates in the Goulburn district and elsewhere during very busy seasons.
- (4.) Yes, it is a fact that one of the temporary fireman referred to was treated as on duty sixteen and three-quarter hours, and paid accordingly; but that time included an interval of four hours' rest before taking charge of the engine in question at Campbelltown. The other temporary fireman was on duty thirteen and three-quarter hours when relieved at Eveleigh. There was no other man competent to act as driver available at Campbelltown at the time. The arrangement was the best that could be made to meet the emergency in this case of accident.

(4.) Lieutenant Holmes, of the Head-quarters Staff:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Ferguson, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Lieutenant Holmes, an officer of the Head-quarters Staff, was recently adjudged guilty as co-respondent and ordered to pay costs in the recent divorce case of Matthews v. Matthews, tried in Sydney?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the said Lieutenant Holmes stowed away his furniture in the military prison, in order to avoid seizure by the Sheriff?
- (3.) If so, by whose authority was the prison, in question, placed at his disposal?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Military Authorities:—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) Permission was given by the Assistant Adjutant-General for Lieutenant Holmes to temporarily place some of his furniture in the provost at Victoria Barracks.

(5.) Appeals by Officers in the Post and Telegraph Department:—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Affleck, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Has the Public Service Board yet considered any of the appeals sent in by officers in his Department?
- (2.) If so, what cases have been dealt with, and what is the result of the Board's consideration?
- (3.) Should many of the cases be dealt with, and too many to particularise, will he give the results of appeals in the cases of country Post and Telegraph Masters?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Public Service Board inform me that they have not yet dealt with individual appeals, as they consider it desirable to complete their work of grading the Service before doing so. The Board have passed a regulation, a copy of which I will presently lay upon the Table, which it is hoped will afford relief to many of those officers in the Postal Department whose duties do not justify a salary sufficient to fully maintain them.

(6.) Mr. Aubrey Mowle, late of the Bankruptcy Department:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Chapman, asked the Minister of Justice,—Referring to his Answers to Mr. Chapman's Questions of the 2nd instant, "that there were no records in the Bankruptcy Department as to Mr. Aubrey Mowle's efficiency in the discharge of his public duties,"—

- (1.) Did not letters pass between the Department of Justice, the Judge in Bankruptcy, and Registrar in Bankruptcy, on 28th December, 1892, on 4th January, 1893, and on 22nd January, 1893, in reference to Mr. Mowle's efficiency?
- (2.) Is he aware by whom the complaints were made as to Mr. Mowle's mode of taxation; if so, will he furnish the name or names of the parties so complaining?

Mr.

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Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) There is no record of any official letters on the subject.

(2.) On inquiry I have been informed that formal complaints were made during last year to the Judge in Bankruptcy by Mr. Perkins, of Messrs. Perkins and Williams, and by Mr. E. A. Gaden, of Messrs. Norton, Smith, and Co. Informal complaints were made by several solicitors, of whom Mr. H. A. Russell, of Messrs. Sly and Russell, and Mr. Mark Mitchell, were the most prominent.

(7.) Deaths from Snake-bites:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Referring to the Questions asked by Dr. Ross, on 1st March, 1893, and 14th November, 1895, relating to deaths from snake-bite,—

(1.) When will the publication of the chromo-lithographs of the snakes in the Colony, distinguishing the venomous from the non-venomous, and promised on those occasions, be likely to be ready and available for the use of Public Schools and the public?

(2.) How far have the Museum authorities proceeded with the work, and when is it likely to be in readiness for publication?

(3.) What has been the result of experiments made at the University in regard to the most reliable treatment in cases of snake-bite or poison?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1 and 2.) Preparatory work of collecting information specimens for illustration, &c., is being attended to as opportunity offers, but the work itself cannot yet be put in hand as no funds are available, and consequently no idea can be given as to when it will be ready for publication.

(3.) Experiments in this subject are still being made by Dr. Martin. The results, so far as they are ready for publication, will be found in a paper read by Dr. Martin on 3rd July, 1895, before the Royal Society of N.S.W., and appearing in that Society's journal for 1895.

(8.) Chinese in the Colony:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the estimated number of Chinese in the Colony at the time of the passing of the Chinese Immigration Restriction Act?

(2.) What is the estimated number now in the Colony?

(3.) How many have paid the Poll Tax since the passing of the said Act?

(4.) Is any account kept of those who leave the Colony; and, if so, how many have left since the said Act was passed?

(5.) Is he aware that the numbers of Chinese in the Colony seem to be increasing, and that they are entering into serious competition with our own people, not only industrially, but also commercially?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

(1, 2, and 5.) The estimated number of Chinese in the Colony in July, 1888, was 15,876, and at the end of that year 15,445. At the time of the Census, April, 1891, the number enumerated was 14,156. Since then the following are the estimates at various dates:—31 December, 1891, 13,388; 31 December, 1892, 12,464; 31 December, 1893, 11,760; 31 December, 1894, 11,040; 31 December, 1895, 10,561; 30 June, 1896, 10,314.

(3.) Nineteen.

(4.) Yes; five thousand one hundred and sixty.

(9.) Customs and Excise Duties on Beer:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the duty per gallon on imported draught beer?

(2.) What is the excise duty per gallon on beer brewed in the Colony?

(3.) Is he aware that a company is now being floated to establish a new industry, viz., lager beer brewing, under the existing difference?

(4.) In the event of this and other companies making a success of beer-brewing, will he take steps to equalise the Customs and Excise Duties, and so give full effect to his free-trade policy?

(5.) Will he seriously consider the advisableness of cautioning the wine-growers of the Colony that the protection under which they now exist must be withdrawn under a free-trade policy?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Six-pence per gallon.

(2.) Three-pence per gallon.

(3.) It is so stated.

(4 and 5.) I have nothing to say with reference to 4 and 5.

(10.) Statement in Newspaper called *St. George's Advocate*:—Mr. McFarlane, for Mr. Chapman, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has the report of the Police Department been received in reference to the Questions asked on the 29th July, viz.,—Question 11, dealing with the statements made in the newspaper (*St. George's Advocate*), charging the Hurstville Council with having obtained the sum of £200 from the Government by means of fraudulent returns; if so, what is the nature of the same?

(2.) Is it a fact that the charge of fraud is sustained by the Police report; if so, what steps do the Government propose to take?

(3.) Have overtures been made to the Hurstville Municipal Council, with a view to prevent the prosecution of the persons implicated in the Police reports?

(4.) Is it a fact that the Minister has intimated that he intends to deduct the sum of £200 from the next subsidy to be paid to the Council for the purpose of reimbursing the Crown for the amount paid by reason of the representations made?

(5.) Have any representations been made by the Secretary for Lands in this case; if so, what was the nature of same?

(6.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of report of all papers connected with this case?

Mr.

8th September, 1896.

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1 and 2.) No police report has been obtained.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) Yes, by Treasury letter of 24th ultimo.
- (5.) No.
- (6.) This can only be done upon motion.

(11.) Case of Arthur Henry (Glebe Police Court):—Mr. Schey asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to a case reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald* of Wednesday, 2nd September (Glebe Police Court), of a person named Arthur Henry being fined 5s. and costs, in default three days' gaol, for riding a bicycle on the footpath of the Broadway, Glebe?
- (2.) Is the Arthur Henry mentioned the same Arthur Henry who holds the position of Registrar in Bankruptcy?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the fine and costs were paid, and subsequently remitted?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) The fine and costs were paid, but they have not been remitted, nor has any application been made for their remission.

(12.) Customs and Excise Duties on Brandy:—Mr. Hayes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—As the present Customs and Excise Acts provide for a higher duty on imported beer than on that brewed in the Colony, will he consider the advisability of dealing in the same way with brandy distilled in the Colony from locally-grown grapes?

Mr. Reid answered,—My financial proposals for the current year are fully before the House.

(13.) Persons employed in Land and Income Tax Office:—Mr. Lyne, for Mr. Sec, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How many persons, including assessors, are at present employed in taking the necessary steps to collect the Land Tax?
- (2.) The like information in regard to the Income Tax?
- (3.) What amount has been expended to date in connection with the Land and Income Tax?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Three hundred and twenty-eight, nearly all of whom are employed for a limited period only.
- (2.) Thirty-one.
- (3.) £29,076.

(14.) Agricultural College, Richmond:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Referring to the Question of Mr. E. M. Clark, of the 2nd September, on the subject of the additions to the Agricultural College, Richmond, what is the estimated value of timber required for the work?
- (2.) If it is considered necessary to call for tenders for the supply of cement to the value of £12, why is it not also necessary to call for tenders for the supply of timber?
- (3.) Will he call for tenders for the supply of timber?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) £450.
- (2.) Tenders were not specially called for cement, but it was included with other items for which quotations were asked.
- (3.) This has already been done. Quotations were obtained from well-known firms, and the lowest accepted.

(15.) Settlement Leases on Bullerawa Holding:—Mr. Collins asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) How many settlement leases were withdrawn from Bullerawa Holding on Thursday, the 28th ultimo?
- (2.) What was the reason for the withdrawal after the leases were advertised as open for settlement?
- (3.) Does he intend to again throw open for settlement-leasing the land in question; if so, when, and in what form?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) None; but one farm was withdrawn on the 12th and four on the 19th ultimo.
- (2 and 3.) The farms were withdrawn because I considered it inexpedient to dispose of the frontage to the river without at the same time dealing with the back lands, which would be rendered comparatively useless if severed from the river frontages. Moreover, the farms withdrawn had valuable improvements such as a woolshed worth £1,000, and for the areas, as designed, such an improvement would be almost wasted. Proposals for an exchange have also been lodged which will clear out several freehold blocks hitherto not available, and the result of the exchange will be to permit of a much better subdivision being made. The land will be thrown open to settlement shortly in larger blocks and in better shape.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Mackay—From certain inhabitants of Harden and Murrumburrah.
- (2.) By Mr. Perry, for Mr. Ewing—From certain inhabitants of Lismore.

Petitions received.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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3. AGE OF CONSENT:—The following Petitions,—representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the “age of consent” in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. F. Clarke—From certain inhabitants of Kempsey.
 (2.) By Mr. Perry, for Mr. Ewing—From certain inhabitants of Lismore.
 Petitions received.

4. PAPERS:—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Amended Regulations for Private Telephone Lines.
 (2.) Regulation permitting certain official Postmasters to become non-official Postmasters.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Moruya Municipal Council Enabling Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 41.

A Bill, intituled “An Act to enable the Council of the Municipality of Moruya to recover rates for the year 1895 to 1896 on the basis of the rate imposed for the year 1894 to 1895, and for other purposes in connection therewith,”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
 Sydney, 4th September, 1896.

(2.) Nevertire to Warren Railway Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 42.

A Bill, intituled “An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Nevertire to Warren; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; and for other purposes,”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
 Sydney, 4th September, 1896.

6. REGISTRATION OF BICYCLES (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Rose moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the registration of bicycles.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 24.

Noes, 35.

Dr. Ross,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Collins,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Mr. Hayes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. McElhone,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Edden,	

Mr. Wright,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Chanter.
Mr. Gould,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Dr. Graham,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Millen.
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Parkes,	

And so it passed in the negative.

7. ALLEGED SALE OF POISON CASES, LISMORE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Kelly moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with an alleged sale of poison case, committed by Dr. W. Finsellbach, Murwillumbah (15th April, 1896, Lismore); also all papers in connection with another alleged sale of “white precipitate” (14th June, 1896, Lismore).

Question put and passed.

8. PRINTING COMMITTEE (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Bruncker moved, pursuant to Notice, That Mr. Reid be discharged from attendance upon the Printing Committee.

Question put and passed.

9.

8th September, 1896.

9. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday, 29th September:—
 (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community.
 (2.) Orange Show Ground Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
10. **PROPOSED STANDING ORDER—COMMITTEE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS**:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Standing Orders Committee be requested to consider the question of preparing a Standing Order to the following effect:—
 (1.) At the commencement of every Session of Parliament the Legislative Assembly, according to the practice of Parliament with reference to the appointment of Select Committees, shall appoint a Select Committee of seven members, to be called the Committee of Public Accounts, with power to send for persons, papers, and records. The duties of the Committee of Public Accounts shall be as follows:—(a) To examine the accounts of the receipts and expenditure of the Colony, and to bring under the notice of the Legislative Assembly any items in those accounts or any circumstance connected with them, to which it may consider the attention of the Legislative Assembly should be directed; (b) to report to the House any alteration which may appear to the Committee desirable to be introduced in the form of or method of keeping the public accounts, or in the mode of receipt, control, issue, or payment of the public money; (c) to inquire into and report upon any questions which may have arisen in connection with the public accounts; (d) to deal with any special references that may be made to them by the Legislative Assembly.
 (2.) Upon motion in the usual manner made by any Member of the Legislative Assembly, any matter of public account, or any question of finance, may be referred to the Committee. The Committee, as soon as conveniently practicable, shall deal with the matter so referred to them, and report to the Legislative Assembly the result of their inquiries.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 33.

Noes, 19.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Brunner,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Levien,
Mr. H. H. Brown,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Rose.
Mr. Watson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Storey,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. McLean.
Mr. Wheeler,	

Mr. Travers Jones,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Watkins.
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. See,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Willis,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Davis,	
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. Edden,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

11. **CONDITIONAL PURCHASES AND CONDITIONAL LEASES**:—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice,—

(1.) "That," in view of the fact that a large number of conditional purchases and additional conditional purchases which have been made at 20s. per acre are not now and were not at the respective dates of selection worth the price named, this House is of opinion that legislation should be passed empowering the Minister for Lands to have careful valuations made in all such cases, and, where it is found that land so conditionally purchased is not worth the price set upon it, to reduce such price to the appraised value, and to make a corresponding reduction in the annual payment on such land in each instance where further instalments will have to be paid before the appraised value has been reached, providing that when the appraised value of any conditional purchase is less than the amount of principal actually paid no refund will be made, but the conditional purchaser shall be entitled to a deed in fee simple of the land.

(2.) That such legislation should provide that no person shall be entitled to a reduction on a larger area than the maximum area allowed for conditional purchase in the division within which he had selected.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Moore moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words from the first word "That," and inserting the words "in the opinion of this House, in the interests of *bona fide* settlement, legislation should be introduced to provide for the re-appraisal of conditional purchases and conditional leases in certain cases,"—instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

Mr. See moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th September, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 32.		Noes, 17.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hayes,	Dr. Ross,	
Mr. Young,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Wood,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Price.
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Levien,	Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Willis,	
Mr. Sec,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Cann,	
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Davis,	
Mr. H. H. Brown,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Wright.	Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Mr. Copeland,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Watkins.	
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Wilks.		
Mr. Lync,			

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Waddell then moved, That the resumption of the Debate stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday, 27th October.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only two Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz. :—Mr. Price and Mr. Willis.

12. PUBLIC WORKS ACTS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend Part I of the "Public Works Act of 1888," the "Public Works Act Amendment Act of 1889," and the "Public Works Committee's Remuneration Act of 1889."

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

13. SENIOR-SERGEANT VAUGHAN'S REDUCTION, AND REMOVAL FROM NARRANDERA:—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon Senior-sergeant Vaughan's reduction, and removal from Narrandera in June, 1888.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Barnes, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Moore, Mr. Bavister, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

14. NOTICES OF RESUMPTION, LAND DISTRICT OF DENILQUIN:—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice,—That, in the opinion of this House, the Minister for Lands should at once give the necessary notices of resumption to pastoral tenants in the Land District of Denilquin that one half of their leases would be resumed for settlement, in accordance with the Land Act of 1895.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at fourteen minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 53.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 9 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Milson's Point Railway :—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a passenger named Mocatta was last week prosecuted by the railway authorities for travelling on the North Shore line in a first-class carriage with a second-class ticket, and was the case dismissed?
 - (2.) Did the evidence go to show that carriages on this line were frequently overcrowded?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that first-class carriages on this line are not of the same modern description as on the line to Parramatta, and only equal to the second-class accommodation on that line?
 - (4.) Have repeated representations been made by residents on this line for additional trains and accommodation, and have they been refused by the Commissioners, the main grounds of refusal being that the line is only taking traffic from other suburban lines?
 - (5.) Being a Government line, do not the Commissioners endeavour to suit the convenience of the people preferring to use it, particularly if they are residents on the line?
 - (6.) Was the line constructed as a public necessity and convenience, or not?
 - (7.) Was this line constructed purely as a passenger line, and to accommodate passenger traffic?
 - (8.) Why are not Sunday trains run to the Hawkesbury from Milson's Point and stations intermediate to accommodate residents of the northern suburbs desirous of visiting Cowan, Woy Woy, Berowra, and Hawkesbury, with the same facilities as upon other lines, and will the Railway Commissioners consider the advisability of granting this concession?
 - (9.) Is it a fact that workmen holding weekly tickets, missing the early morning trains on this line, are compelled to pay full fare; and, if so, why?
 - (10.) Is he aware that the trains arriving at Milson's Point at 8:36 and 9:15 a.m. are considerably crowded, as well as being inconvenient to those employed in shops and establishments of the kind; and will the Railway Commissioners consider the advisability of running a train to arrive at Milson's Point to suit this class of passengers?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that a passenger was proceeded against under the circumstances and with the result stated by the Honorable Member.
- (2.) The evidence did not prove that the carriages on the North Shore line are frequently overcrowded.
- (3.) The rolling-stock on the North Shore line is not equal to that on the main suburban line; but the existing rolling-stock is distributed throughout the railways to the best advantage.
- (4.) Many representations have been made and declined for sufficient reasons, but not for the reason stated by the Honorable Member.
- (5.) Yes.
- (6.) It is presumed that it was constructed for the convenience of the public.
- (7.) No; for passengers and goods.
- (8.) The Sunday trains referred to are not considered to be a public necessity.
- (9.) Throughout the railway system, if workmen miss the train for which their tickets are issued they must pay full fare.
- (10.) It is reported to the Commissioners that the trains referred to are not overcrowded. Requests have been made to the Commissioners for the running of an additional train in the morning, and the matter is under their consideration.

(2.)

9th September, 1896.

- (2.) Tramway Extension to Mosman's and Neutral Bay :—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What is the estimated cost of the present tram extension to Mosman's?
 - (2.) Having regard to an equally large and increasing population at Neutral Bay, will he also consider the advisability for a similar extension to that place?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) £8,250.
 - (2.) The matter has been considered quite recently.
- (3.) Cost of collecting Land Tax :—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the present estimated cost of preparing for and collecting the land tax?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—The cost of initiating the system of direct taxation can hardly be stated just at present, but it is hoped that it will not exceed the amount set down on the Estimates-in-Chief. After the first year, all competent authorities inform me that the cost of collection of land and income taxes, which must be taken together, will not exceed 3 per cent. of the revenue receivable.
- (4.) North Shore Ferry Company's Wharfs :—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the rental paid by the North Shore Ferry Company for the wharfs occupied by them at the Circular Quay?
 - (2.) Is this company allowed the right to advertisements on these wharfs; and, if so, what is their probable revenue from same?
 - (3.) What rental is charged by this company for book-stalls and ticket-offices sublet on such wharfs?
 - (4.) What is the term of leases of the company, and when do they expire?
 - (5.) Was the Government wharf at Neutral Bay lately leased to the North Shore Ferry Company, and did the terms of that lease carry with them the right to advertise?
 - (6.) Has the lease of this wharf been lately granted to the North Sydney Municipal Council, and is it proposed by his Department to withhold the right of advertising from that body?
 - (7.) Was Captain Jackson consulted in regard to this matter; if so, what is his report?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1.) The North Shore Ferry Company pay £1,400 per annum for the lease of wharfs at Circular Quay.
 - (2.) The company have the sole right to advertise on the wharfs. It is not known to the Government what revenue the company receive from this source.
 - (3.) The amount charged by the company for rental is not known to the Government.
 - (4.) Two wharfs are under lease to the company for a term of three years each, the leases expiring on 31st October, 1897, and 30th September, 1898, respectively.
 - (5.) Yes.
 - (6.) Yes.
 - (7.) Captain Jackson advises that as the North Sydney Municipal Council are only to pay £20 per annum, as against £50 per annum paid by the North Shore Ferry Company, the Government should retain the right of advertising on the wharf.
- (5.) Mining Leases :—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What is the reason of the laxity of his Department in not compelling the labour conditions on mining leases all over the country being fulfilled?
 - (2.) Will he furnish a report of all leases held, and the labour conditions not being carried out?
 - (3.) Will he have all such leases cancelled, so that they can be worked by *bona fide* miners?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that several of these leases have been held by speculators for over twelve months without the labour conditions being fulfilled?
- Mr. Gould* answered,—In all cases where it is brought under notice of the Department that the labour conditions on leases are not being complied with, immediate steps are taken to cancel same or enforce labour conditions. The Department is not aware that leases are held by speculators without fulfilling the labour conditions, but, if any case is brought under attention in which the conditions of the lease are being evaded, immediate steps will be taken to enforce same. As regards mineral leases, if the lessees expend £5 per acre within the first twelve months of their leases, the Department under the law cannot cancel until after the expiry of three years.
- (6.) Toll on Blacktown Road, near Windsor :—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has the toll been abolished on Blacktown Road near Windsor, and when?
 - (2.) Has a claim been sent in by the lessee for £100 for loss through the toll lease being cancelled without his getting notice?
 - (3.) Is it the intention of the Government to pay the lessee (Bowling) the compensation asked, or any other amount?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) Yes, from the first May last.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) No, as the Department is advised that no claim exists.
- (7.) Railway Officials contributors to Civil Service Superannuation Fund :—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Does he intend during the present Session to introduce a Bill to give railway officials the same privilege as is given to other Civil Servants in the Superannuation Act?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that several railway officials who are leaving the service are compelled to lose all the moneys they have paid into the Fund?

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- (3.) Is it a fact that some of the amounts exceed £100; and are these railway officials not entitled to the moneys they have paid in?
- (4.) Is it a fact that they are not allowed to withdraw from the Superannuation Fund, and that those who did withdraw, and received their moneys, have been compelled to either leave the Service or pay back the amounts they received?
- Mr. Reid answered,—As promised, I intend, at the earliest practicable date, to introduce a Bill which will place railway officials on the same footing, with regard to the Superannuation Fund, as other Civil Servants.
- (8.) Mining Laws Amendment Bill:—Mr. Watson asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that clause 2 of the Mining Laws Amendment Act recently passed takes away the right of renewal for fifteen years hitherto enjoyed by holders of miners' rights?
- (2.) If so, does he intend to take any action towards remedying this defect?
- Mr. Gould answered,—This matter is at present being looked into, and if found necessary provision will be made in the Amending Bill.
- (9.) Members of Hospital Committees:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that persons occupying the position of members of an hospital committee are allowed to take contracts for supplying hospitals with provisions, milk, meat, &c., while occupying the position of members of an hospital committee?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed by the Chief Medical Officer that it is not specifically allowed, and is not illegal.
- (10.) Members of the 2nd Regiment of Mounted Rifle Corps:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will the Government take into consideration the desirability of sending or rendering some assistance to eight selected members of the 2nd Regiment of our Mounted Rifle Corps to visit England next year, in order to compete with other Rifle Companies during the Annual Rifle Match contests?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—The application cannot at present be entertained.
- (11.) Reserve on Nanami Run, Eugowra:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Reserve No. 15,320, parish of Trajere (on the Nanami Run), Eugowra, district of Molong, county of Ashburnham, was lately thrown open for selection and afterwards withdrawn?
- (2.) For what purpose was the reserve withdrawn from sale?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the Bank has applied to get this land by way of exchange, or to have it put up to auction sale?
- (4.) Will he see that the reserve is thrown open for homestead lease or leases?
- (5.) What is the value of improvements on the reserve, and what do they consist of?
- (6.) Is any person at present in the possession of the reserve, or paying rent for the same?
- Mr. Brunker answered,—
- (1.) No.
- (2.) See reply to query No. 1.
- (3.) An application to have the land offered at auction was made by the lessees of the run on the 15th December, 1894.
- (4.) As the land is not situated in the Western Division it is not open to homestead lease. I may add that the area of this reserve is only 332 acres, of which 200 acres are comprised in a barren hill.
- (5.) £280, consisting of woolshed, sheepyards, gates and races, fencing, huts, clearing and grubbing.
- (6.) The Union Bank of Australia (Limited), who have paid the rent for the current year.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Storey—From certain inhabitants of Paddington.
- (2.) By Mr. Jessop—From certain attendants of the Wesleyan Church, Waverley.
- Petitions received.
3. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN:—Mr. Schey, for Mr. See, presented a Petition from residents of New South Wales,—stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men; and praying the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners.
- Petition received.
4. PAPERS:—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Notifications of substitution of amended Form No. 51, and additional Form No. 88, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (2.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (3.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (4.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. PUBLIC WORKS ACTS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Cann, pursuant to leave granted on 8th September, 1896, presented a Bill, intitled "A Bill to amend Part I of the 'Public Works Act of 1888,' the 'Public Works Act Amendment Act of 1889,' and the 'Public Works (Committee's Remuneration) Act of 1889,'"—which was read a first time.
- Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 10th November.

9th September, 1896.

6. **PRINTING COMMITTEE** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That Mr. Dick, Mr. Perry, and Mr. Schey be added to the Printing Committee.
Question put and passed.
7. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Randwick Cemetery Bill; third reading;—until Tuesday next.
(2.) Eight Hours Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 24th November.
8. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Alma, Mr. Thomas, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The urgent need of appointing more Government inspection at the Broken Hill mines, consequent on the large number of fatal accidents which have recently taken place there.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Thomas moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
9. **SUPPLY**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

10. **COAL MINES REGULATION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That the report from the Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Council's amendments in this Bill be now adopted.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, on motion of Mr. Smith, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 2nd September, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Coal Mines Regulation Bill,—

Agrees to the amendments up to and including that in clause 39, line 8.

Agrees to that part of the amendment in clause 39, line 9, which omits the word “eight,” but proposes to insert the word “nine” instead thereof in place of the word “ten,” as proposed by the Council,—in which amendment the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 39, lines 10 and 13.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 39, which inserts the words,—“(c) A week shall be deemed to begin at midnight on Saturday night and to end at midnight on the succeeding Saturday night,”—because the provision is unnecessary, for this Bill, unlike the English Act, contains no provision as to the number of hours a boy, girl, or woman may be employed in any one week.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 10th September, 1896, a.m.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter before Four o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 54.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Nanimi Run Dummying Cases—Inspector Battye:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Has any further action been taken *in re* the Nanimi Run land-dummying cases in the district of Molong; if so, will he state what further action (if any) has been taken or likely to be taken in the matter?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to take any further proceedings against the late Conditional Purchase Inspector Battye for having received a bribe; if so, when?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The whole matter is in the hands of the Crown Solicitor.

(2.) Unclaimed Moneys in the Treasury:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the total amount of unclaimed refund moneys held at the present time by the Treasury?

(2.) Under what account are such moneys held?

(3.) Have all reasonable efforts been made by the Treasury Department to refund such amounts to their rightful owners or legal representatives?

(4.) With a view of affording those who are entitled to refunds an opportunity of claiming same, will he cause to be prepared and laid upon the Table of this House a return showing—(a) The names and last-known addresses of those to whom money is owing; (b) the respective amounts owing in each case; (c) how long owing; (d) the nature of the service or transaction under which the money became due?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is considered inadvisable, for many reasons, to publish information respecting old unpaid vouchers in the Treasury. I may say, however, that every effort has been made by the Treasury officers to have the sums due paid to the persons entitled to receive the same. Regarding vouchers for refunds on account of land transactions, it is pointed out that at the time the vouchers are forwarded by the Lands Department to the Treasury for payment, a circular letter is also issued by that Department informing the persons concerned of the action taken, and requesting them to apply at the Treasury for the sums payable, so that the proper persons can obtain the money.

(3.) Expenditure on Country Roads:—Mr. F. Clarke asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the sum of £200,000, recently voted for Scheduled Roads in the three months' Supply Bill, been yet apportioned among the various districts, and made available for expenditure?

(2.) Has his attention been officially called to the urgent necessity of, and favourable opportunity for, expending this money on country roads?

(3.) If not yet available, when will it be?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) This amount is for construction and maintenance of roads and bridges generally, and not for scheduled roads only. £122,595 have been expended to the 31st August; the balance is in course of expenditure.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) It is, as stated, in course of expenditure.

(4.) Long-service Medals of the Volunteers:—Mr. Wright asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is the cause of the long delay in obtaining the long-service medals of the Volunteers?

(2.) Will he be good enough to instruct the Agent-General to request the Home authorities to send them out without further delay?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The delay does not rest with this Department.

(2.) Two reminders have already been sent to the Agent-General. Further representations will be made.

(5.)

10th September, 1896.

- (5.) Officers of the Military Force:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. O'Sullivan*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the present Officer Commanding Artillery, Lieut.-Col. H. P. Airey, and also Major Bridges, of the Artillery, have never qualified for the rank of major?
 - (2.) If so, is it true that both these officers were members of a Board of Examination lately assembled to pass officers for the rank of major, although they have never qualified themselves?
 - (3.) If the above is the case, why have these officers been exempted from qualifying, and all other officers had to pass the necessary examinations?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that, notwithstanding the proposed reductions in the Military Estimates, two highly-paid officers of the Artillery, viz., Major Bridges and Captain Le Mesurier, and also a warrant officer and sergeant instructor, are detailed to instruct about twenty non-commissioned officers and men in gunnery during the annual long course?
 - (5.) What was the rate per annum drawn by the late Major-General Hutton during his term of service in this Colony, and does the present Major-General receive the same or higher pay; if higher, what is the amount drawn by him per month?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) No. Lieutenant-Colonel H. P. Airey qualified by distinguished service in the field. Major Bridges passed so brilliant an examination at Shoeburyness that he was accorded his Majority.
- (2.) Yes, but they were qualified.
- (3.) Answered by No. 1.
- (4.) Major Bridges, besides being Commandant, School of Gunnery, is also Firemaster, hence Captain Le Mesurier is occasionally detailed to assist with the Long Course.
- (5.) £1,250 per annum in each case.

- (6.) Examination Fee for Employment in Land and Income Tax Department:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. O'Sullivan*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a charge of 5s. is now made for every applicant for examination for employment under the Land and Income Tax Department or other branches of the Civil Service?
- (2.) Is the 5s. returned to unsuccessful applicants?
- (3.) If not, to whom or into what fund is the 5s. paid?

Mr. Reid answered,—A fee of 5s. is charged to persons examined for temporary employment in the Public Service, in accordance with the regulations authorised under the terms of the Public Service Act. The fee is not returned to unsuccessful candidates, but is placed to the Consolidated Revenue.

- (7.) Free Passes to Delegates attending Municipal Conference:—*Mr. Wright* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners have declined to issue free passes to the country delegates attending the forthcoming Municipal Conference in Sydney?
- (2.) If so, will he grant the request, and make provision to enable the value of such passes to be credited to the Railway Commissioners?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that the Railway Commissioners declined to issue free passes, but granted the concession of half fares.
- (2.) The arrangements already made are considered to be of a liberal character.

- (8.) Employment of Persons in the Taxation Department:—*Mr. Wright* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that Civil Servants employed in the Taxation Department through the day are still employed on alternate evenings, and paid overtime at the rate of 2s. an hour?
- (2.) Is he aware that persons, taken on a few weeks ago for night service only, have had their services dispensed with without any notice and without any errors committed in their work, some of these persons being experienced Lands Department officers previously retrenched?
- (3.) Will he cause instructions to be given that these persons be again employed, and that no overtime payment be given to any one employed on day service?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes. The press of work is such that it has been found necessary that a portion of the more efficient and experienced officers should be so employed.
- (2.) The persons in question were not suitable for the work in hand, and for that reason their services were dispensed with.
- (3.) No.

- (9.) Payments made by the Treasury:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What amount has he paid away since the 1st July, 1896, for obligations due on or before the 30th June, 1896?

Mr. Reid answered,—Accounts paid since 1st July last for services performed prior to that date have been charged, in accordance with the Audit Act Amendment Act of 1895, to the votes for the current year. The precise amount cannot be stated, but I feel confident the event will prove that the Estimates of Expenditure submitted to the House will be fully equal to all claims, past and present. To show how clear the finances of the year are from the accounts for previous years, I may mention that the total for the six months of 1895 and previous years paid from 1st July last to the end of last month was under £1,100, and cannot possibly exceed £7,000 at any future time.

- (10.) Electors' Rights:—*Mr. Wheeler* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Are persons who obtain electors' rights in the interval between the date of making out the General List and the holding of the Revision Court, and are desirous of having their names inserted on the list under revision, compelled to personally apply to the Revision Court?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Persons in this position are compelled to personally apply to the Revision Court.

(11.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th September, 1896.

- (11.) Exchange of Lands by Lessee of Grahweed Holding :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has any proposal been made by the lessee of Grahweed Holding to exchange certain blocks of freehold land for Government land?
 - (2.) If so, has the proposal been dealt with, and what is the result?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) The lessee's proposal having been considerably modified, the matter is still under consideration.
- (12.) Land available for Settlement :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What is the estimated area of land which has become available for small settlement during the last twelve months, ending on the 30th June, 1896?
 - (2.) What area of that land has been thrown open for homestead selections and settlement leases?
 - (3.) What area has been thrown open for conditional purchase?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—
- (1.) About 1,843,290 acres.
 - (2.) 478,253 acres have been thrown open as homestead selections, and 1,365,037 acres for settlement lease.
 - (3.) This information cannot be given without the examination of a large number of papers, which would take up a very considerable time. A very large area, however, has been thrown open for conditional purchase.
- (13.) Whitney Powder Company of Victoria :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the agreement (if any) relative to the purchase of powder from the Whitney Powder Company of Victoria?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—A copy of the agreement referred to will be found with the papers which were laid upon the Table of this House on the 5th February, 1894.
- (14.) Pensions to Judges :—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does he intend to introduce legislation this Session to give effect to the resolution passed during the closing Session of last Parliament to abolish the system of granting pensions to Judges?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I have such a strong conviction against the object the Honorable Member seeks to secure, that I think a Bill to give effect to it would be safer in the hands of the Honorable Member.
- (15.) The Public Service Board :—*Mr. Wright*, for Mr. Schey, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it not a fact that, although the Public Service Board are supposed to act altogether independently of the Government, they have on many occasions consulted the Premier and other Ministers in regard to the retirements they proposed making from the Service before finally recommending the same?
 - (2.) Did not the Premier, or other Ministers, in some cases virtually suggest to the Board the names of the officers whom they thought might be retired?
 - (3.) Is it not a fact that the Board specially intimated by circular letter to the Under Secretaries, or other heads of Departments, that due notice would be given them of the day when the Board would pay their visits of inspection, but that, notwithstanding such written intimation, they in most cases paid their visits unawares, without any such promised notice being given?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) The Board acted independently of the Government in the matters referred to.
 - (2.) There is no truth whatever in the suggestion contained in this Question.
 - (3.) A letter containing such an intimation was addressed to the several Under Secretaries, and personal intimations were given to them of the visits of the Board.
2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—
- (1.) By Mr. Alexander Campbell—From certain inhabitants of Kiama.
 - (2.) By *Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Crick—From certain inhabitants of Blayney.
 - (3.) By *Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Crick—From certain inhabitants of Blayney and Neville.
 - (4.) By *Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Crick—From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 - (5.) By *Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Crick—From certain inhabitants of Blayney.
- Petitions received.
3. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN :—Mr. Hawthorne presented a Petition from residents of New South Wales,—stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men; and praying the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners.
- Petition received.
4. PAPERS :—
- Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Additional By-law of the Municipal District of Nyngan.
 - (2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Wentworth.
 - (3.) By-laws of the Borough of Willoughby, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
 - (4.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Berry, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
 - (5.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Aberdeen, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

10th September, 1896.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 21st July, 1896,—“Claims of Mr. Theophilus Stephens—*Regina v. Sugarman and Fernandez.*”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of completion of the Iron Cove Creek Stormwater Channel, Upper Ashfield Branch, Extension from Norton-street to Arthur-street; Point Piper Road to Rushcutters' Bay Stormwater Channel; Iron Cove Creek, Carshalton-street Branch, Culvert under George's River Road; and Iron Cove Creek, Carshalton-street Branch, Inlet to Culvert under George's River Road.

(2.) Reports, Minutes, Correspondence, &c., respecting the construction of Aqueducts in connection with Sewerage Contracts Nos. 64 and 101, Arncliffe.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Jamieson, county of Cook, for water supply for locomotives at Wentworth Falls.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Maitland, county of Northumberland, for additional accommodation at East Maitland Railway Station.

(3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Lett and Clwydd, county of Cook, for deviation of Railway line near Clarence Siding.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Seventeenth Report from the Printing Committee.

6. RYAN'S CONDITIONAL PURCHASES IN THE WAGGA WAGGA LAND DISTRICT:—Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 4th August, 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Waterloo, Mr. Anderson, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The want of adequate and convenient school accommodation for the district of Alexandria.”

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Anderson moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker, referring to his ruling given on 3rd instant, stated that as a sum of £35,000, to provide for additions, &c., to school buildings, appeared on the Estimates, and as this subject should be discussed in Committee of Supply on that item, he ruled this motion to be out of order.

8. GEORGE-STREET AND HARRIS-STREET ELECTRIC TRAMWAY BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to sanction the construction of an Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, in the City of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street in the said city.*”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 10th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

9. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being a Quorum present, the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Ashton reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

10. PAPER:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Schedules A to D (Roads, Bridges, and Buildings, &c.), Public Works Department, 1896-7 Estimates.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Bruncker moved,—That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-five minutes before Twelve o'clock, a.m., until Tuesday next, at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 55.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 15 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

ELECTORATE OF THE LACHLAN :—Mr. Speaker informed the House that upon the passing of the Resolution of the 3rd instant, declaring the seat of James George Carroll, Esquire, vacant, he had issued a Writ for the election of a Member to serve in the room of Mr. Carroll, and that such Writ had been duly returned, with a Certificate endorsed thereon by the Returning Officer of the election of James George Carroll, Esquire, to serve as Member for the Electoral District of The Lachlan.

2. **QUESTIONS** :—

(1.) Mr. Aubrey Mowle, late of the Bankruptcy Department :—*Mr. O'Sullivan*, for Mr. Chapman, asked the Minister of Justice.—Referring to his Answer to Mr. Chapman's Question in reference to Mr. Aubrey Mowle, on the 8th September, "that there is no record of any official letters on the subject,"—

(1.) Were not letters, official or otherwise, written—(a) By the Registrar in Bankruptcy to the Under Secretary of Justice, on the 29th December, 1892; (b) by the Judge in Bankruptcy to the Minister of Justice, on the 4th January, 1893, and 22nd or 23rd January, 1893; (c) by the Under Secretary of Justice to the Registrar in Bankruptcy, on the 4th February, 1893; and did not these letters contain statements as to Mr. Mowle's efficiency, zeal, and diligence?

(2.) Did not the recommendations referred to in these letters receive the approval of the then Minister of Justice?

(3.) What was the nature of the "formal and informal complaints," represented as having been made by the different solicitors as to Mr. Mowle's mode of taxation; was it by way of review or *ex parte* complaints?

(4.) Will he have any objection to lay copies of the above-mentioned letters, together with copies of letters referred to in the letter of the Registrar in Bankruptcy, of the 28th December, 1892, upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1 and 2.) Further search having been made, it has been found that a letter was written by the Registrar in Bankruptcy, on the 29th December, 1892, in which it was recommended that Mr. Mowle's salary should be increased by £25. This was approved by the Minister of Justice. A private letter, speaking of Mr. Mowle as a highly deserving officer, was addressed to the Minister of Justice by the Judge in Bankruptcy, on the 4th January, 1893. An official letter also was addressed by the Judge to the Minister, on the 23rd January, 1893, in which he spoke in high terms of Mr. Mowle's zeal and diligence, and recommended that he should be paid a gratuity, on account of his work in connection with the compilation of new rules in Bankruptcy. The Minister approved of Mr. Mowle being paid a gratuity of £15 for the work, which appeared to him to have been very well done, and the Registrar was so informed on 4th February, 1893. The Judge wrote an official letter to the Minister on 9th May, 1893, stating, *inter alia*, that Mr. Mowle had not the practice which would enable him to deal with taxations as speedily as could be desired, but no change was made.

(3.) The Registrar in Bankruptcy reports :—"The nature of the complaints made to the Judge was that Mr. Mowle was incapable and unfit to be entrusted with the duty of taxation of costs. Complaints were made by solicitors (one of whom was Mr. Gaden), who waited upon the Judge in "Chambers." Complaints were made by Messrs. Levy, Hemsley, and Perkins, in November, 1893, and by Messrs. Williams and Perkins in November, 1894.

(4.) I do not see that any good purpose would be served by tabling these papers.

(2.)

15th September, 1896.

- (2.) Erection of Gaols at Quirindi and Currabubula :—*Dr. Ross*, for *Mr. Levien*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to provide funds for the erection of lock-ups at Quirindi and Currabubula?
 - (2.) If so, will the necessary provision be made on the Estimates to provide for the erection of the buildings?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The matter will receive attention when the Additional Estimates are under consideration.
- (3.) The Zoological Gardens :—*Dr. Ross*, for *Mr. Waddell*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Have the Government any control over the management of the Zoological Gardens?
 - (2.) If so, will they consider the advisability of making the gardens available for the public on Sundays?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—The control of the Zoological Gardens is vested in a Council, the members of which are annually elected by the members of the Association, to whom they are responsible.
- (4.) Publication of Chromo-lithographs of Snakes for Public Schools :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In order to disseminate information of a valuable character, will he see that the necessary funds are allowed to his honorable colleague, the Minister of Public Instruction, to enable him to publish, for the information of the general public, but especially pupils attending our Public Schools, chromo-lithographs of the snakes of the Colony, showing the poisonous from non-poisonous?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—This matter will be referred for the consideration of the Honorable the Minister for Public Instruction.
- (5.) Locomotive Branches of the Railways and Tramways :—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the Answers to *Mr. McGowen's* Questions, with respect to the drivers and firemen, given on 16th July, 23rd July, 18th August, 2nd September, and 8th September, which show that the gazetted conditions and regulations have not been strictly adhered to, will he take such steps as will ensure the regulations being carried out in future?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—My honorable colleague is informed that the regulations are observed so far as the exigencies of the Service will permit.
- (6.) Salaries of Officers of Railway Department :—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to *Mr. McGowen's* Questions of 4th August, 1896, *re* salaries of officers of Railway Department,—
- (1.) What was the date of the *Gazette* which prevented the periodical increases being granted, and how long did such *Gazette* notice extend?
 - (2.) Have periodical increases been granted during the last twelve months to all employees receiving £100 per year and under?
 - (3.) In the 375 increases granted to salaried officers, how many were receiving between £100 and £140 per year salary; the same between £140 and £180; the same between £180 and £220; and how many at and over £220 per year?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—
- (1.) My honorable colleague is informed that the date of the *Gazette* referred to is 23rd December, 1892, the regulation being still in force.
 - (2.) Those receiving under £70 per annum were advanced in accordance with the classification and those in receipt of between £70 and £100 per annum were advanced according to merit;—163 were so advanced.
 - (3.) Ninety-three received advances between £100 and £140 per annum; fifty-four received advances between £140 and £180 per annum; twenty-four received advances between £180 and £220 per annum; forty received advances at or over £220 per annum. I may state with regard to the salaries of officers that although 427 miles of line have been opened since the Commissioners took office, and the earnings, Railways and Tramways, show an increase of £577,955, there are at the present time fewer officers receiving £250 and over per annum than was the case in 1888.
- (7.) Explosion of Boilers of Engines 496 and 437 :—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to *Mr. McGowen's* Questions as to explosion of boilers, engines 496 and 437, of 1st July, 8th July, 21st July, and 28th July,—
- (1.) What was the condition of the lead or safety plugs in the roof of the fire-box of engine 496 after the explosion took place?
 - (2.) When was this boiler washed out previous to the explosion?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that since these explosions considerable pocketing has been found in the fire-box roof-plates of engines, particularly of the American and P class?
 - (4.) If so, what is the cause of such pocketing?
 - (5.) Prior to the explosions, has it been a practice to cool down boilers by blowing out steam, removing wash-out plugs, allowing cold water to run in one and hot water to run out of the others?
 - (6.) If so, what depôts has this practice been in operation at, and who was responsible for such practice?
 - (7.) Is it a fact that, since the explosions referred to, the crown-sheet of another Baldwin engine collapsed at or near Armidale?
 - (8.) If so, what was the cause thereof?
- Mr. Brunker* answered.—My honorable colleague is informed,—
- (1.) The lead was melted in the safety-plug in consequence of the boiler being short of water.
 - (2.) The boiler was washed out on the 21st April.
 - (3 and 4.) It is not a fact that considerable pocketing has been found in the fire-box roof-plates of engines, as described.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th September, 1896.

(5 and 6.) It has not been the practice to cool down boilers in the way described in the question, except at Penrith, where the regulations were not carried out for boilers of some of the large engines, by allowing sufficient time to elapse so that they might cool down thoroughly before washing out. This irregularity was taken up as soon as it came under notice.

(7 and 8.) It is not a fact that the crown-sheet of another Baldwin engine collapsed at or near Armidale.

3. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Brunker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) State Children Relief Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No 43.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend an Act to establish a system of Boarding-out Children*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 10th September, 1896.

(2.) George-street and Harris-street Electric Tramway Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 44.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of an Electric Tramway from Circular Quay, in the City of Sydney, to the Redfern Railway Station, and along Harris-street from its intersection with George-street to its intersection with John-street in the said city*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 14th September, 1896.

4. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Reymond—From certain inhabitants of Parkes.

(2.) By Mr. Cook—From certain inhabitants of Mount Victoria.

(3.) By Mr. Hogue—From William Crispin, Chairman of a Public Meeting of residents of The Glebe, held on the 11th instant.

(4.) By Mr. Howarth—From certain inhabitants of Willoughby.

(5.) By Mr. McCourt—From certain inhabitants of Bowral.

Petitions received.

5. AGE OF CONSENT:—Mr. Reymond presented a Petition from certain residents of Parkes, representing that the law in this Colony for the protection of young girls is totally inadequate, and that consequently there is a deplorable amount of defilement of young females; and praying the House to take into consideration the expediency of so amending the law that the "age of consent" in this Colony may be raised to at least 18 years.
Petition received.

6. BOROUGH OF CUDGEGONG CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL:—Mr. Robert Jones presented a Petition from the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong to purchase land within the said Borough, and to erect and maintain Cattle Sale-yards thereon, and for other purposes in connection therewith.

And Mr. Jones having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald*, and *Mudgee Guardian*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.

7. RANDWICK CEMETERY BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Storey, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Storey then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to repeal so much of the Camperdown and Randwick Cemeteries Act of 1867 as relates to the Randwick Cemetery, and to the interment of bodies therein, and to prohibit burials in the said cemetery*."

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal so much of the Camperdown and Randwick Cemeteries Act of 1867, as relates to the Randwick Cemetery, and to the interment of bodies therein, and to prohibit burials in the said cemetery*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 15th September, 1896.

15th September, 1896.

8. **THE ABATTOIRS (*Formal Motion*)**:—Mr. Hawthorne moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Select Committee now sitting on "The Abattoirs" have leave to make visits of inspection, from time to time, accompanied by a shorthand-writer, to Abattoirs within the Colonies, for the purpose of holding inquiries and taking evidence, and that the Committee have leave to sit during the sittings of the House, or any adjournment thereof, for the purpose of making such visits of inspection.
Question put and passed.
9. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Government Railways Act Amendment Bill postponed until To-morrow.
10. **PAPER**:—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for certain drainage works for the Western Suburbs of Sydney.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
11. **NO-LIABILITY MINING COMPANIES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read, Mr. Haynes moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. Knox moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 3, 14, 19, 21, 23, 40, 48, and 69," instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 3, 14, 19, 21, 23, 40, 48, and 69,—put and passed.
On motion of Mr. Knox, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with further amendments.
On motion of Mr. Knox, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
12. **LEGAL PROFESSION AMALGAMATION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Schey moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.
Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only seventeen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, namely,—Mr. Affleck, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Copeland, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Edden, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Kelly, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Nelson, Dr. Ross, Mr. Schey, and Mr. Thomas,—
Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at two minutes after Seven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 56.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Tramway Extension to Mosman's Bay:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What is the estimated revenue and expenditure of the tramway extension to Mosman's Bay?
- (2.) At whose request was this work carried out, and has any guarantee been given should the line be unprofitable?
- (3.) With regard to a similar application for an extension to Neutral Bay, have the residents offered to guarantee interest on the line; and, if so, why has the offer not been accepted?
- (4.) Will he reconsider the question of tram extension to Neutral Bay, having regard to the offer of residents to contribute to any loss that may arise from same?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The estimated revenue of the Mosman's Bay Tramway is £1,400, and the working expenses £1,045 per annum.
- (2.) At the request of a deputation from the district—no guarantee has been given.
- (3 and 4.) An offer has been received and considered, with the result that it has been determined not to construct the line for the present.

(2.) Parliamentary Stationery:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a rule of this House that ex-Members should be, and are, supplied with Parliamentary stationery?
- (2.) If not, is he able to account for the use of such stationery by an ex-Member for the past twelve months?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) No. The stationery supplied in the Chamber, Library, and other rooms, is for the use of Members at the House, and no stationery is supplied for use elsewhere.

(3.) Mail Branch, General Post Office:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. H. H. Brown, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What was the amount for overtime paid to the Mail Branch, General Post Office, for the month of August, 1896?
- (2.) What is the cost of the all-night staff?
- (3.) What is the cost of keeping the Mail Branch open from 8 p.m. till 10 p.m. daily?
- (4.) What is the amount paid for Sunday attendance per month generally?
- (5.) Is he aware of the general dissatisfaction at the present existing arrangements of the Mail Branch?
- (6.) Will he give the names of the Sub-Committee who were empowered by the Public Service Board to regrade the telegraph division and also mail division of the Postal Service?
- (7.) What was the difference in amount of the first recommendation made by the Sub-Committee of the mail division and the one finally accepted by the Public Service Board?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) £126 1s. 4d.
- (2.) £3,140 per annum.
- (3.) This cannot be answered, as those officials who work until 10 p.m. are on duty from 3 p.m.
- (4.) £15 13s.
- (5.) No.

(6 and 7.) The Public Service Board alone are responsible for the grading of the Department; they, of course, availed themselves to the extent they thought proper of the assistance of the Principal Officer.

(4.)

16th September, 1896.

(4.) Collection of the Land Tax:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does he propose to credit the financial year of 1896-97 with the proceeds of the land tax collected for a period of eighteen months?

(2.) If yes, will landowners be called upon to make two separate payments before next July respectively for twelve and six months, or will the amount due for the eighteen months be collected in one payment?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) As to Question 1, the slightest reference to the Financial Statement will furnish an answer.

(2.) As to Question 2, landowners will be called upon to pay for the present year (1896) before the end thereof, if possible. The payment for next year (1897) will probably be in two half-yearly payments.

(5.) Harbour Steamers:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Are there any regulations as to the number of passengers steamers plying in the harbour are allowed to carry?

(2.) If so, are there any officers whose duty it is to see that such regulations are carried out?

(3.) Is he aware that steamers plying between Sydney and Manly and other parts of the harbour are sometimes crowded to a most dangerous extent?

(4.) Will he take action to see that in future no steamer carries more than the authorised number of passengers?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The Marine Board reports that each steamer is especially regulated as to the number of passengers she is allowed to carry, and a certificate to this effect is posted up in a conspicuous part of the vessel.

(2.) The responsibility of complying with the regulations rests with the owner and master, under a heavy penalty, but the police and officers of the Marine Board supervise. Prosecutions for breaches of the regulations are frequently instituted.

(3.) The vessels may sometimes be inconveniently, but they are not dangerously, crowded. I am informed the complement allowed is not exceeded.

(4.) It is impossible for the State to supervise each vessel, but the police and the Marine Board do all in their power to see that the regulations are not infringed.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—

(1.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Smailes—From certain inhabitants of Granville.

(2.) By Mr. Knox—From certain inhabitants of Paddington and Woollahra.

Petitions received.

(2.) Mr. Harris presented a Petition from certain members of the Baptist Congregation at Harris-street, Ultimo, praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation.

Petition received.

3. LAWSON'S ESTATE MORTGAGE ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Waddell presented a Petition from John Geach Keane, of Trangie, and Denis Houlahan, of Dubbo, the trustees of the settlement made by Archibald Lawson, late of Nyngan, innkeeper, deceased, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the trustees of a settlement made by Archibald Lawson to mortgage certain lands and hereditaments comprised in the said settlement, for the purpose of enabling the trustees to effect improvements thereon.

And Mr. Waddell having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Nyngan Observer*, newspapers containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—

Petition received.

4. LEGAL PROFESSION AMALGAMATION BILL:—Mr. Schey moved, without Notice, That the consideration in Committee of the Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill, which lapsed by the House being counted out on the 15th instant, stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday, 29th September.

Question put and passed.

5. SENIOR-SERGEANT VAUGHAN'S REDUCTION AND REMOVAL FROM NARRANDERA:—Mr. Chanter (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Return to Order, "Senior-Sergeant Vaughan," of Session 1894-5, and the further Return to Order, of Session 1895, on the same subject, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on "Senior-Sergeant Vaughan's reduction and removal from "Narrandera."

Question put and passed.

6. PAPER:—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Copies of *Gazette* Notices, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the dedication of certain lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No. 21.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. NO-LIABILITY MINING COMPANIES BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Knox, read a third time, and *passed*,

Mr. Knox then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to repeal an Act intituled 'An Act to incorporate No-liability Mining Companies,' and to provide in lieu thereof for the incorporation, regulation, and winding-up of No-liability Mining Companies.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th September, 1896.

Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to repeal an Act intituled 'An Act to incorporate No-liability Mining Companies,' and to provide in lieu thereof for the incorporation, regulation, and winding-up of No-liability Mining Companies,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th September, 1896.*

NO-LIABILITY MINING COMPANIES BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 16th September, 1896.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

- Page 1, clause 1, line 6. *Omit "1895" insert "1896"*
- Page 1, clause 3, line 15. *Add at end of clause "Provided that if such company shall have adopted rules under the said Act such rules shall be deemed to be the rules as originally framed of the company under this Act"*
- Page 2, clause 5, lines 31 and 32. *Omit "according to the terms of any contract filed with the registrar of joint stock companies" insert "for some consideration other than cash"*
- Page 2, clause 5, lines 35 to 37. *Omit "according to the terms of any such contract as mentioned in subsection (a) of this section" insert "for some consideration other than cash."*
- Page 2, clause 5, lines 39 to 41. *Omit "unless payment shall have been made in cash, or unless the consideration therefor shall be a consideration other than cash" insert "for a consideration other than cash unless such consideration shall be"*
- Page 2, clause 5, line 42. *Omit "as above" insert "at or before the issue of such shares"*
- Page 3, clause 7, line 2. *Omit "ten" insert "twenty-one"*
- Page 3, clause 7, line 5. *Omit "as soon" insert "within twenty-one days"*
- Page 3, clause 7, line 6. *Omit "as the same can be done"*
- Page 3, clause 9, line 26. *Omit "any company" insert "the company named in such certificate"*
- Page 3, clause 10, line 34. *After "having" omit "a"*
- Page 4, clause 13, line 4. *After "company" insert "registered"*
- Page 4, clause 13, line 6. *After "transfer" insert "or otherwise"*
- Page 4, clause 14, line 17. *After "shares" insert "together with the particulars of the amount paid, or agreed to be considered as paid, on the shares of each shareholder"*
- Page 4, clause 18, line 57. *After "Act" insert "engaging workmen or"*
- Page 4, clause 18, line 59. *After "if" insert "workmen be engaged or"*
- Page 5, clause 18, line 2. *After "person" insert "engaging such workmen or"*
- Page 5, clause 18, line 2. *Omit "the same" insert "such goods, plant, articles, or necessaries"*
- Page 5, clause 19, lines 5 and 6. *Omit "be payable" insert "become due"*
- Page 5, clause 19, lines 7 and 8. *Omit "be payable" insert "become due"*
- Page 5, clause 19, lines 10 and 11. *Omit "are payable" insert "fall due"*
- Page 5, clause 19, line 12. *Omit "be payable" insert "fall due"*
- Page 5, clause 19. *Add at end of clause "Provided that such notice shall be deemed to have been duly served if posted within the Colony of New South Wales not less than ten days prior to the due date of such call"*
- Page 5, clause 20, line 25. *Omit "be payable" insert "have become due"*
- Page 5, clause 21, lines 26 and 27. *Omit "at the expiration of fourteen days after the day for its payment be unpaid" insert "have remained unpaid for fourteen days after the due date of such call"*
- Page 5, clause 21, line 29. *Omit "The" insert "Such"*
- Page 5, clause 21, line 30. *Omit "issues of a daily newspaper" insert "daily newspapers"*
- Page 5, clause 21, line 32. *Omit "two issues" insert "one issue"*
- Page 5, clause 21, line 37. *Omit "the call" insert "all overdue calls"*
- Page 5, clause 21, lines 39 and 40. *Omit "and of any money then owing to the company by the person whose share shall have been so forfeited as aforesaid"*
- Page 5, clause 21, line 47. *Omit "the call" insert "all overdue calls"*
- Page 5, clause 21, line 52. *Omit "the call" insert "all overdue calls thereon"*
- Page 6, clause 22, line 4. *After "office" insert "in this Colony"*
- Page 6, clause 23, line 16. *After "memorandum" insert "for registration"*
- Page 6, clause 27, line 52. *Omit "any change in"*
- Page 6, clause 27, line 53. *After "Act" insert "and of any change therein"*
- Page 6, clause 27, line 54. *Omit "the same" insert "such change"*
- Page 6, clause 27. *Add at end of clause "until such notice is given the company shall not be deemed to have complied with the provisions of this Act with respect to having a registered office"*
- Page 9, clause 40, lines 17 and 18. *Omit "may, with the sanction of the registrar of joint stock companies," insert "shall, within such time after being served with a notice by the registrar of joint stock companies requiring such company so to do, as, having regard to the requirements of section twelve of this Act, the registrar of joint stock companies shall deem reasonable"*
- Page 9, clause 45, lines 54 and 55. *Omit "copy of such register, or of any part thereof" insert "a list of the names and addresses of the shareholders of the company, with the number of shares held by each."*

16th September, 1896.

- Page 9, clause 45, line 56. *Omit* "copy" *insert* "list"
 Page 10, clause 46, line 9. *Omit* "thirty" *insert* "sixty"
 Page 10, clause 47, line 14. *Omit* "the law of New South Wales" *insert* "English law"
 Page 14, clause 68, lines 3 and 4. *Omit* "and which shall not then be in debt" *insert* "all the liabilities of which shall have been discharged"
 Page 14, clause 68, lines 13 to 16. *Omit* "the surplus of the company's assets, after payment of all expenses of winding-up, or otherwise, shall be distributed amongst the shareholders in proportion to their rights and interests in the company: Provided also that"

Page 14. *After* clause 68, *insert* the following new clause:—

Notice of every such resolution as above for the winding-up voluntarily of any company registered under this Act, and of every appointment of liquidator, shall be filed with the registrar of joint stock companies within fourteen days from the passing thereof.

Page 14, clause 69, line 20. *Omit* "the last preceding"

Page 14, clause 69, line 20. *After* "section" *insert* "sixty-eight of this Act."

Page 14. *After* clause 72, *insert* the following new clause:—

On the winding-up of any company registered under this Act, whether voluntarily or under Part VII of the Companies Act, the surplus assets shall be distributed among all classes of shareholders alike, irrespective of the amount called up on the respective shares, or classes of shares: Provided that no shareholder who shall be in arrear in payment of any call or calls, but whose shares shall not have been actually forfeited, shall be entitled to share in such distribution until the amount owing in respect of such call or calls shall have been fully paid and satisfied: Provided also that nothing herein contained shall prevent the distribution of such surplus in a different manner from that herein provided where a different mode of distribution is expressly provided for in the rules as originally framed, or shall prevent the holder of any share wholly or in part actually paid in advance from sharing in the surplus in respect of every such payment.

Page 16, First Schedule, line 22. *Omit* "1895" *insert* "1896"

Page 17, Third Schedule, line 39. *Omit* "share" *insert* "shares the"

Page 17, Fourth Schedule, line 58. *Omit* "one shilling" *insert* "sixpence"

Page 21, Fourth Schedule, line 31. *Omit* "with the sanction of the company in general meeting"

Page 21, Fourth Schedule, line 36. *Omit* "recommending" *insert* "declaring"

Page 22, Fifth Schedule, line 36. *Omit* "sixpence" *insert* "fourpence"

Page 22, Fifth Schedule, line 37. *Omit* "sixpence" *insert* "fourpence"

Examined,—

WILLIAM McCOURT,
 Chairman of Committees.

8. BOROUGH OF CUDGEGONG CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL (*Formal Motion*),—

(1.) Mr. Robert Jones moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong to purchase land within the said borough, and to erect and maintain cattle sale-yards thereon, and for other purposes in connection therewith.
 Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Jones having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the Council of the Borough of Cudgegong to purchase land within the said Borough, and to erect and maintain cattle sale-yards thereon; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—read a first time.

9. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

- (1.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgage Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the law relating to preferable liens on wool and mortgages on stock and stations;—until To-morrow.
- (2.) Narrandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 13th October.
- (3.) Judges Relatives Disqualification Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 13th October.
- (4.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 29th September.

10. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Newcastle Friendly Societies and Trades Hall Act Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend sections 2 and 4 of the Act 56 Vic. No. 35, and to provide for vesting certain land in the trustees therein mentioned, notwithstanding any breach of the conditions imposed by the said Act,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 16th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
 President.

(2.) Additions to Treasury Building Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the carrying out of Additions to the Treasury Building in Macquarie-street, Sydney,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 16th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
 President.

(3.)

Notice of resolution to wind-up or appointing liquidator to be filed.

Distribution of surplus assets on winding-up.

16th September, 1896.

(3.) Municipal Baths Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to lease and acquire lands and to erect baths thereon or thereover, and to lease and acquire baths already erected; to validate the acts of Municipal Councils which have already erected, leased, or acquired baths beyond the bounds of their Municipalities; and for other purposes*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 16th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

MUNICIPAL BATHS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 16th September, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, Preamble, line 4. Omit "any parts" insert "part"
Page 1, Preamble, line 11. After "leased" insert "purchased"
Page 2, clause 2, line 29. Omit "Works" insert "Lands"
Page 3, clause 5, line 1. After "purchased" insert "acquired"
Page 3, clause 7, line 27. After "leased" insert "purchased"
Page 3, clause 7, line 32. After "leased" insert "purchased"
Page 3, clause 7, line, 34. After "leaso" insert "purchase"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Deniliquin, Mr. Chanter, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"To consider the action of the Government in not accepting the lowest tender for the construction of a bridge at "Gundagai."

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Chanter moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

12. OLD AGE PENSIONS:—Mr. O'Sullivan, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and Report this subject was referred on 16th June, 1896; together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

13. COAL MINES REGULATION BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 10th September, 1896, a.m., in reference to the Coal Mines Regulation Bill, does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's amendment upon the Council's amendment in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 16th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

14. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to some, amended other, and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.

15. MUNICIPAL LOANS FURTHER VALIDATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Bruncker, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

16. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at ten minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day,

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 57.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Telegraph Poles:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) How many memoranda have been sent to Mr. Fleming during the last two years, and the dates of each, asking him to quote a price for the supply of telegraph poles?

(2.) The names of other contractors who have received similar memoranda, and the dates of each, during the last two years up to 1st September?

(3.) The number of contracts Mr. Fleming has been successful in getting, and the prices paid during two years up to 3rd September, 1896?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) Inquiries for the supply of poles were made verbally from Messrs. Fleming, Doyle, McGuillam, Hensby, Boulton, Tuckwell, Rourke, Dunk, Ready, and Davis, according to localities required.

(3.) Poles were purchased from Mr. Fleming in various numbers at prices which were considered reasonable. The detailed information will be included in the return to be moved for by the Honorable Member on 22nd instant, to which I shall make no objection.

(2.) Employment of Men on Deviation between Penrith and Bathurst:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he give instructions for fifty local men being employed on deviation works between Penrith and Bathurst?*Mr. Young* answered,—These works are not being carried out by my Department.(3.) Public Cemetery at Windsor:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Schey, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Was certain land, situated at Windsor, granted some years ago for a public cemetery?

(2.) Were trustees appointed for the same; if so, what are their names?

(3.) Did the Government grant any money for the purpose of fencing in such cemetery; if so, how much, and when?

(4.) Has such land since been resumed by the Government?

(5.) Has any person any right to depasture stock on such cemetery?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) An area of 19 acres 3 roods 39 perches was dedicated for a general cemetery at Windsor on the 2nd December, 1887.

(2.) Trustees have been appointed for the following portions:—Church of England—Messrs. Thomas Primrose, Joseph Ward, William Henry Burgess Piddington, William Henry Hughes Becke, Francis Howard, John Edward Bowlin, Frederick James Mortley; Wesleyan—Messrs. John Scarr Busby, William Farmer Linsley, William Charles Gambrill, James William Chandler, John Chandler, William Hessel Dean, Henry Mauney Marr; Presbyterian—Messrs. William Walker, James Dick, George Robertson, John Dick Smith, Brinsley Hall, together with the Moderator and Clerk of the Presbyterian General Assembly and the minister of the congregation for the time being.

(3.) Yes, £75 on the 12th March, 1891, and £50 on the 2nd September, 1893.

(4.) No, but the question of doing so is under consideration, as it has been reported that the site is unsuitable.

(5.) No.

(4.)

17th September, 1896.

- (4.) Mr. James Taylor, Government Metallurgist:—Mr. Hurley asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) For what period was the Government Metallurgist, Mr. James Taylor, engaged?
 - (2.) At what annual salary?
 - (3.) What are Mr. Taylor's duties?
 - (4.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House any papers relating to Mr. Taylor's appointment?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Five years from the 11th February, 1893.
 - (2.) £1,000 per annum, to be increased (by annual increments of £50) to £1,200.
 - (3.) The superintendence of the erection of the Metallurgical Works, and the direction and control of all operations carried out in such works when completed. The introduction, testing, and development of processes and methods for the treatment of metallic ores (especially auriferous and argentiferous), with a view to the economic recovery therefrom of metals and other substances possessing a commercial value.
 - (4.) There is no objection if the Honorable Member will move for them in the usual way.
- (5.) Agricultural College, Richmond:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Mines,—What were the names and addresses of timber merchants from whom private tenders were obtained for the supply of timber for additions to the Agricultural College, Richmond?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Quotations for timber were obtained from Messrs. Goodlet and Smith, George-street, Sydney; Messrs. Saxton and Binns, Pyrmont Bridge Road; Messrs. Coates and Harper, Parramatta; Messrs. Hart, Hitchcock, and Company, Parramatta.
- (6.) Agricultural College, Richmond:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a Departmental regulation that tenders should be invited for all works or supplies required?
 - (2.) What are the names of persons from whom prices were obtained for the supply of timber to the Agricultural College, Richmond?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) The practice in cases of the kind is to get quotations from well-known firms likely to provide the best quality of the particular materials required. I have given instructions that in all future cases public tenders should be invited.
 - (2.) The particulars are given in reply to Question No. 5, asked by the Honorable Member.
- (7.) Blue Book for 1895:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to issue a Blue Book for 1895?
 - (2.) If so, when may Members expect to be able to get a copy of the same?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—It has hitherto been the practice to have the Blue Book prepared in the Colonial Secretary's Department. It is impossible for me now to say what action will be taken until after the Public Service Board have furnished their annual report.
- (8.) Rev. J. M. Curran, of the Technical College:—Mr. Hurley asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) What is the annual salary of the Rev. J. M. Curran, of the Technical College?
 - (2.) Does the Rev. J. M. Curran make geological reports for the Department of Mines?
 - (3.) What number of months in the year does the Rev. J. M. Curran attend the Technical College?
 - (4.) And what are the Rev. J. M. Curran's duties at the College?
 - (5.) Referring to the many applications made by Mr. Hurley to the Department, asking that the Rev. J. M. Curran be instructed to visit Wattle Flat and Sofala, and lecture on geology, will he grant such request at an early date?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) £380.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) Devotes all his time to lecturing in country districts; when in Sydney he is preparing and arranging for country lectures.
 - (4.) Does not attend the Technical College except for consultation with regard to country lecturing tours.
 - (5.) It has been found impossible for Mr. Curran to visit all the districts where his presence is desired. For that reason applications of an earlier date than the Honorable Member's have not yet been complied with.
- (9.) Northern Mail:—Mr. Black asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the distance covered by the Northern Mail in running in and out of Newcastle on the up and down journey?
 - (2.) What is the time thus lost, including stoppages, on the up journey and the down journey?
 - (3.) What is the average cost of such digressions from the main route up and down?
 - (4.) Does the passenger traffic to Newcastle by the mails warrant these digressions?
 - (5.) If not, is there any other reason for their being made?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) I am informed that the distance is 5 miles 27½ chains.
 - (2.) On the down journey, twenty minutes, and on the up journey, thirty minutes, including an allowance of ten or twenty minutes respectively for refreshments at Newcastle.
 - (3, 4, and 5.) The cost of the service is not kept separately. It has always been customary to run into Newcastle. The arrangement is in many ways convenient; it is economical, and there is no present necessity for making any alteration.
- (10.) Establishment of Ironworks at Mittagong:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he kindly state what steps are being taken by Mr. Albert Lambert towards establishing the ironworks at Mittagong, the initiation of which was dealt with by him in his Financial Speech?
 - (2.) Is the Mr. Albert Lambert referred to at present a confinee of Berrima Gaol; if so, is he undergoing eleven separate sentences for neglecting to pay his workmen's wages?

17th September, 1896.

(3.) Has the Albert Lambert who filed his schedule, liabilities £1,000 and assets £30, any connection with the gentleman mentioned by him as about to establish ironworks?

(4.) Is he aware, in consequence of the statements made by him in reference to the establishment of the ironworks by Mr. Albert Lambert, that persons have been induced to entrust Mr. A. Lambert with machinery, plant, land, &c.; if so, will he take steps to obtain a report from the police on the matter?

(5.) Have any concessions been promised or given by the Government to Mr. Albert Lambert; if so, what is the nature of same?

(6.) Will he lay upon the Table a report of all interviews, papers, &c., bearing on this case?

Mr. Reid answered,—All that is known in the Treasury concerning Mr. Lambert is that he proposed to compete for an order of the Government for the manufacture of a quantity of steel rails. If what the Honorable Member suggests is correct, it seems idle to attach any further importance to Mr. Lambert.

(11.) Officers of the Military Service:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did Major-General Hutton communicate direct with the Imperial Defence Committee in reference to a proposal for the dismissal of certain officers in the Military Service of New South Wales; if so, why was the report not sent through the Chief Secretary?

(2.) Were Major-General Hutton's reports sent by the Imperial Defence Committee to the Secretary of State?

(3.) Is it a fact that the report of Major-General Hutton was forwarded by the Secretary of State to His Excellency the Governor?

(4.) Was the report submitted by His Excellency the Governor to the Cabinet; if so, what course was adopted in reference to same?

(5.) Was it in accordance with the usual constitutional practice for the report to be forwarded through the Secretary of State?

(6.) Has he any objection to submit the whole of the papers to this House?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the military authorities that there is no record of such a course having been adopted.

(12.) Civil Ambulance Brigade:—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is there an organisation or individual in Sydney trading under the title of the Civil Ambulance Brigade?

(2.) If so, has the Government advanced any money to such persons by way of special grant or subsidy?

(3.) Upon what representations?

(4.) If not in money, has any equipment been granted as subsidy to these persons?

(5.) Has the Civil Ambulance Brigade been allowed any concession of free printing at the public expense?

(6.) In the event of the inferences conveyed by the above Questions being admitted in any measure, will he please state upon what recommendation or representation he has granted concessions, and has he analysed such introductions, &c.?

(7.) Has the Inspector-General of Police officially expressed an adverse opinion upon this organisation?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) No.

(4.) Yes; goods to the value of £15 18s. 7d., supplied from stock, Stores and Stationery Department.

(5.) Yes; to the extent of £8 1s. 9d.

(6.) It was considered the good work in which this organisation was engaged justified the concessions.

(7.) I am not aware.

(13.) Cost of Collecting Land and Income Taxes:—Mr. Copeland asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In estimating the cost of initiating and collecting the land and income taxes, was any allowance made for—(a) The cost of the various maps prepared by the Lands Department; (b) the cost of paper and printing at the Government Printing Office; (c) the cost to the Postal and Railway Departments for the carriage of letters, schedule forms, &c.; (d) the cost to any of the other Departments of State, except the Treasury, for services in connection with said taxes?

(2.) Will he state what was the cost in each case?

Mr. Reid answered,—Understanding that the Honorable Member is referring to an Answer given the other day about the cost of the land and income tax, I desire to say—No; but, except for printing and paper, I am informed nothing will be spent by the Department on account of taxation work which would not otherwise be expended.

(14.) Officers of the Public Wharves Branch:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it true that several good officers under the age of 60 years have been retrenched from the Public Wharves Branch of the Service?

(2.) Is it also true that several officers in the same Branch over the ages of 60 and 70 years have been retained in the Service?

(3.) Are there any special reasons for the above; if so, will he state them?

Mr. Reid answered,—Two officers, wharfingers at Wollongong and Darling Harbour respectively, under 60 years of age, were retrenched from the Public Wharves Department because their services were no longer required. Two watchmen, one over 60 years of age and the other over 70, have been retained in the service of the Department, as they are quite capable of performing the duties of watchmen.

17th September, 1896.

- (15.) Case of Thomas Foster, tried at Molong:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Bench of Magistrates at Molong did, on the 24th August last, deal summarily with and sentence one Thomas Foster to three months' imprisonment in Orange Gaol for having "attempted to stab with a knife with intent to do grievous bodily harm" Sergeant Fegan and Constable Justelius while in the execution of their duty?
 - (2.) What are the names of the Magistrates who adjudicated in the case, and who committed prisoner to gaol under such circumstances?
 - (3.) Will he inquire into what appears to be a serious miscarriage of justice for the Bench to have dealt summarily with the prisoner, in place of committing him for trial to a higher Court (the offence being an indictable one), in accordance with the provisions of the 52nd section of the Criminal Law Amendment Act; or will he refer the matter to the Inspector-General of Police for report?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) Thomas Foster was charged at the Police Court, Molong, on 24th August last, under section 52 of the "Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883," with assaulting Sergeant Fegan and Constable Justelius, with intent to resist lawful apprehension. After hearing the charge it was, with the consent of the accused, reduced to one of assault upon the police officers in the execution of their duty, under section 65 of the said Act, and summarily dealt with by a fine of £6 or three months' imprisonment in the gaol at Orange.
 - (2.) Messrs. Couch and Kinna were the adjudicating Magistrates, and accused was committed to gaol by Mr. Couch.
 - (3.) The matter is being further inquired into.
- (16.) Letter-sorters in the General Post Office:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Postmaster-General,—Has the length of overtime worked by letter-sorters in the General Post Office been almost doubled without any increased pay being made?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—No. I am informed that the extra attendance has not been appreciably increased, but that greater strictness is now insisted on in regard to all being required to attend alike in return for the monthly overtime allowance.
- (17.) Government Supervising Architect's Department:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Davis, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What are the names and occupations of every person employed in the Government Supervising Architect's Department, including all persons engaged in out-door occupations, or who are in any way connected with the Department in question; the list to include also the names of all persons temporarily engaged, stating also the salary received by each?
 - (2.) What is the total amount of travelling and other expenses, either paid direct or debited by other Departments, including all outside contract supplies, and expenses of any description whatever, in connection with the Government Supervising Architect's Department for twelve months—say, from July, 1895, to July, 1896?
 - (3.) What is the total amount paid by voucher or otherwise during the twelve months before mentioned to contractors, or for day-work done in connection with the Government Supervising Architect's Department?
- Mr. Young answered,—The information required can be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the ordinary manner.
- (18.) Royal Commission on Spontaneous Combustion:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Davis, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is he aware that the Royal Commission on spontaneous combustion and its causes received a letter from the inventor of a certain chemical compound, which he claims is a perfect antidote for the prevention of spontaneous combustion, stating that he was prepared to give a test of its efficiency at his own expense if the Commission would appoint a time, and up to the present time no reply has been received by the gentleman?
- Mr. Reid answered,—A communication of the kind, signed on behalf of three persons, has been received by the Commission, and was acknowledged on the 9th instant.
2. SENIOR-SERGEANT VAUGHAN'S REDUCTION, AND REMOVAL FROM NARRANDERA:—Mr. Chanter presented a Petition from Patrick Laurence Vaughan, of Sydney, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon Senior-Sergeant Vaughan's reduction and removal from Narrandera; and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.
- Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
3. PAPER:—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Eighteenth Report from the Printing Committee.
5. LAWSON'S ESTATE MORTGAGE ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the trustees of a settlement made by Archibald Lawson to mortgage certain lands and hereditaments comprised in the said settlement, for the purpose of enabling the trustees to effect improvements thereon.
Question put and passed.
 - (2.) Mr. Waddell having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "A Bill to authorise the trustees of a settlement made by Archibald Lawson to mortgage certain lands and hereditaments comprised in the said settlement, for the purpose of enabling the trustees to effect improvements thereon,"—read a first time.

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6. BOROUGH OF CUDGEGONG CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Robert Jones moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That the Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Haynes, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Wilks, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Watson, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Wood, Mr. Edden, and the Mover. Question put and passed.

7. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Municipal Baths Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments;—until Tuesday, 29th September.

(2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.

(3.) Distress for Rent Abolition Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to abolish distress for rent;—until Wednesday, 23rd September.

8. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Public Service (Railway Officials) Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 45.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895 to persons employed by the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales.

*Government House,
Sydney, 17th September, 1896.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(2.) Savings Bank Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 46.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amalgamate the Savings Banks, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating thereto.

*Government House,
Sydney, 17th September, 1896.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(3.) Navigation Acts Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 47.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the "Navigation Acts, 1871-1881"; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

*Government House,
Sydney, 17th September, 1896.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(4.) Public Health Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 48.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to promote the Public Health.

*Government House,
Sydney, 17th September, 1896.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(5.) Pharmacy Bill:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 49.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 17th September, 1896.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(6.)

17th September, 1896.

(6.) Municipal Loans Further Validation Bill (No. 2):—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 50.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Municipal Law; to enable Municipal Corporations to borrow money under certain conditions on the guarantee of the Government; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the above-mentioned objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 17th September, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

9. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after midnight,

FRIDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. O'Sullivan reported progress and obtained leave to sit again.

10. NO-LIABILITY MINING COMPANIES BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Assembly in the Bill intituled "*An Act to repeal an Act intituled 'An Act to incorporate, No-liability Mining Companies,' and to provide in lieu thereof for the incorporation, regulation, and winding-up of No-liability Mining Companies.*"

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 17th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

11. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. O'Sullivan reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

12. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Rabbit Bill postponed until Wednesday next.

13. MUNICIPAL LOANS FURTHER VALIDATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Bruncker, passed.

Mr. Bruncker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to enable the Governor to validate certain Loans to Municipalities, and the securities, if any, therefor.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Governor to validate certain Loans to Municipalities, and the securities, if any, therefor,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th September, 1896, a.m.

14. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Wednesday next:—

(1.) Crown Lands (Applications) Bill; second reading.

(2.) Public Roads Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

15. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. O'Sullivan reported progress and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.

16. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Patents Law Amendment Bill (Council Bill) postponed until Wednesday next.

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17. NET-FISHING IN PORT HACKING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. O'Sullivan* reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
18. NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL:—The Order of the day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. O'Sullivan* reported the Bill with an amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.
19. SUPREME COURT FEES BILL:—The order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. O'Sullivan* reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.
20. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Wednesday next:—
(1.) Truck Bill; second reading.
(2.) Police Regulation Act Amendment Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the "Police Regulation Act of 1862" in certain respects.
21. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. O'Sullivan* reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Wednesday next.
22. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the "Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888" to all persons of any coloured race, and to repeal section 15 of that Act.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. O'Sullivan* reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution.
Ordered, on motion of *Mr. O'Sullivan*, That the report be now received.
The Chairman then reported the Resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the "Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888" to all persons of any coloured race, and to repeal section 15 of that Act.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
23. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Wednesday next:—
(1.) Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
(2.) Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
24. PUBLIC OFFICERS FEES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. O'Sullivan* reported the Bill with an amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.
25. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Wednesday next:—
(1.) Lands for Closer Settlement Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill 'be' now read a second time,"—
Upon which Mr. Rose had moved, that the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be," and inserting the words "referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report."
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Millen, Mr. Watson
"Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, and the Mover,"—instead thereof.
(2.) Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee.

17th September, 1896.

26. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (COMPENSATION LIMITATION) BILL:—Mr. Reid, pursuant to leave granted on 20th May, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to limit the amount of Damages recoverable against the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales in certain cases,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

27. LIENS ON WOOL AND STOCK MORTGAGES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Mr. Perry* for *Mr. Lyne*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the law relating to preferable liens on wool and mortgages on stock and stations.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. O'Sullivan* reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution.

Ordered, on motion of *Mr. O'Sullivan*,—That the Report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the Resolution, which was read a first time as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to liens on wool and mortgages on stock and stations.

On motion of *Mr. Perry*, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) *Mr. Perry* then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the law relating to liens on wool and mortgages on stock and stations,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

The House adjourned, at twenty-one minutes before Ten o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 58.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Fortune-telling at Tamworth:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has the Crown decided to conduct the prosecution at Tamworth of a man committed for trial at that place recently on a charge of fortune-telling, instituted in the first instance by *Mr. Ernest Hosking*?

(2.) If not, will he, in view of the fact that such a course has been adopted in other similar cases, consider the advisability of doing so?

Mr. Gould answered,—The Secretary to the Attorney-General informs me that the trial will take place at the Tamworth Circuit Court, to be held on the 30th instant.

- (2.) Parliamentary Stationery:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Haynes*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will he ascertain whether an ex-Member of the Legislative Assembly has been using extensively in private correspondence Parliamentary stationery?

(2.) Whether there has not been recently an extensive use of such stationery by the person referred to?

(3.) Will he refer the matter to the Police Department for inquiry?

Mr. Brunner answered,—I have some doubt as to whether this is a matter over which Ministers have any control. I have made inquiries from the Inspector-General of Police, and he is unable to afford any information on the subject.

- (3.) Dismissal of Civil Servants:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) With respect to the statement made by him, on the 10th September, that seventeen Civil Servants were discharged for pilfering the public funds, was the information conveyed to him per medium of a progress report?

(2.) Is it usual for the Public Service Board to keep him posted up with matters of similar information?

(3.) Was the pilfering referred to going on for any length of time, and to any great extent?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) No.

(3.) The cases are of a varied nature.

- (4.) Trial of Rachael Dawson:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Was the trial of Rachael Dawson, for illegally wounding by shooting one Frederick Aitheson, at Rosedale, near Tilpa, fixed for 9th September, at Cobar?

(2.) Was the Crown unable to proceed with the case owing to the absence of the prosecutor?

(3.) Was the prosecutor bound over to appear at the prosecution, and was any reason given for his non-appearance?

(4.) Was the prosecutor under a bond to appear; if so, has the Crown taken any steps with respect to the bond?

(5.) Why was the principal witness for the defence, E. M. Perrott, not called at Louth?

(6.) Was not the accused, Rachael Dawson, compelled to travel with her witnesses 150 miles, and in no way notified of the non-appearance of the prosecutor?

(7.) As no date for the trial has now been fixed, and the accused is under heavy expense and a serious imputation, can the Crown arrange for a special early hearing at Bourke, the Court nearest the locality of the dispute?

Mr.

22nd September, 1896.

Mr. Gould answered,—The Secretary to the Attorney-General has supplied the following information:—

(1, 2, 3, and 4.) The trial of Rachel Dawson was fixed to take place at Cobar on September 9th; but owing to the prosecutor being too ill to travel, the case had to be postponed, and for other reasons nothing has been done about the bond.

(5.) I am not aware of the reason.

(6.) Yes; as the Crown did not know until the last moment that the prosecutor could not appear, the accused could not be informed.

(7.) The trial has been fixed to take place at Dubbo Circuit Court on the 29th instant, and instructions have been given to pay the expenses of all material witnesses called for the defence.

(5.) Case of Frederick Aitheson:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Was one Frederick Aitheson given into the custody of Constable Parkes by Edward Montgomery Perrott, on 5th August last, for being illegally on his (Perrott's) premises, at Rosedale, near Tilpa?

(2.) Was Aitheson removed to Tilpa by Constable Parkes?

(3.) Did Aitheson, on the following day, travel to Louth in company with one T. L. Richardson, J.P., and W. N. Willis, M.L.A., and without escort by police?

(4.) In what manner was Aitheson liberated from the custody of Constable Parkes, at Tilpa?

(5.) Why was no charge entered at Louth Court against Aitheson, and on what grounds did the magistrates refuse to sign an information for a summons against Aitheson, George McNair, and Frederick Anthers?

(6.) Is it a fact that, on the day on which the magistrates refused to sign the information referred to, one of the presiding magistrates, George Leggett, was continuously in the company of the persons against whom Perrott had sought to lay an information?

(7.) As it is impossible for Perrott to obtain a sworn information from the magistrates at Louth, what steps will the Crown take to ensure the necessary proceedings being taken?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Mr. Perrott wanted to give Aitheson into custody for being illegally on the premises during the day-time, but Constable Parkes declined to arrest unless Mr. Perrott went with him to Tilpa to sign charge-book, the constable being doubtful of any offence having been committed. Mr. Perrott declined to go.

(2.) Aitheson went with Constable Parkes to Tilpa to get medical treatment.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Aitheson was not in custody at any time.

(5.) See Answers to 1 and 4. I am given to understand that the magistrates considered that no offence had been committed by Aitheson. I have no information concerning the others.

(6.) I am informed that this is not a fact.

(7.) If it should be necessary, Mr. Perrott's application for the issue of process can be considered by the Police Magistrate, Cobar, who visits Louth.

(6.) South Head Lighthouse:—Mr. Bavister asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the name of contractor for painting, &c., at South Head Lighthouse?

(2.) What was the amount of tender for same?

(3.) Was a minimum rate of wage included in conditions?

(4.) Is he aware that painters have been paid on that work at a rate below that stated in his schedule?

(5.) Will he cause inquiries to be made as to rates paid?

(6.) Does he yet recognise the necessity of inserting in the conditions of small as well as large contracts the payment of schedule rates?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) William Steel.

(2.) £202 15s.

(3.) Yes.

(4 and 5.) Two men made a claim on the Department, but the contractor produced receipts showing that he paid the minimum rate set forth in the conditions.

(6.) I see great difficulties in the way of applying these conditions to small contracts.

(7.) Report of Medical Commission on alleged case of Leprosy:—Mr. O'Reilly asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that the recent Medical Commission appointed to inquire into the case of the alleged leper, known as H. J. T., found that he is not suffering from the contagious form of the disease, but from what is technically known as "nerve or anæsthetic leprosy"?

(2.) Is it not a fact that the Board of Health, in the memorandum of its late President, adopted on 12th May, was careful to repudiate a statement in the public press to the effect that its medical officers certified that this man was suffering from the disease in a contagious form?

(3.) Was the recently appointed Medical Commission asked to express its opinion as to whether it was necessary in the interest of the public health to retain this man any longer in the Lazarette?

(4.) If not, will he now ask the members of that Commission to give a plain answer to the above question?

(5.) Is it not a fact that two inmates of the Lazarette suffering from the same form of disease have been discharged by order of the Board of Health, and are now at large?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Chief Medical Officer:—

(1.) No. The Commissioners unanimously found that H. J. T. was suffering from nerve or anæsthetic leprosy, but it is not known that this form is not contagious.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd September, 1896.

(2.) The statement referred to an opinion attributed to the Board's officers which they had not expressed. This was pointed out in the Board's memorandum.

(3.) No.

(4.) The course proposed could not be taken except after an alteration of the law, which requires that all such questions should be decided by the Board of Health.

(5.) The alleged discharge of two persons suffering from leprosy, who are now said to be at large, cannot be traced; but if the names of the persons referred to are supplied, further inquiry shall be made.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—Mr. Barnes presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of Cootamundra and District, referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.
Petition received.

3. MEMBER SWORN:—James George Carroll, Esquire, having taken and subscribed the oath of allegiance, and signed the Roll of the House, took his seat as Member for the Electoral District of The Lachlan.

4. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Coal Mines Regulation Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 51.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for the Regulation of Coal Mines and Collieries; and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 22nd September, 1896.

(2.) Additions to Treasury Building Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 52.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the carrying out of Additions to the Treasury Building in Macquarie-street, Sydney,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 22nd September, 1896.

(3.) Newcastle Friendly Societies and Trades Hall Act Amendment Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 53.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend sections 2 and 4 of the Act 56 Vic. No. 35, and to provide for vesting certain land in the trustees therein mentioned, notwithstanding any breach of the conditions imposed by the said Act,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 22nd September, 1896.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage for the period from 1st January, 1895, to 30th June, 1896.

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 3rd September, 1896—"Expenditure on the Roads of the Colony." Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Additional By-laws of the Municipal District of Balranald.

(2.) By-law of the Borough of Cootamundra.

(3.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Raymond Terrace.

(4.) Report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies and Trade Unions for the year 1895.

(5.) Report of the Inspector-General of the Insane for the year 1895.

(6.) Regulations relating to Institutions for the Insane under the Public Service Act of 1895.

(7.) Return respecting Police Reward and Superannuation Funds.

(8.) Return to an Order, made on 2nd July, 1896,—"Particulars of expenditure on Public Works."

(9.) Return to an Order, made on 1st July, 1896,—"Coal purchased by Government."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Address, adopted on 1st July, 1896,—"Charge of manslaughter against Dr. Davies, at Hillston."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6.

22nd September, 1896.

6. TAMWORTH WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 54.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with the construction of Water Supply Works for the town of Tamworth.

Government House,

Sydney, 18th September, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

7. ELECTRIC TRACTION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 55.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith.

Government House,

Sydney, 21st September, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

8. PUBLIC HEALTH BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to promote the Public Health.
Question put and passed.
9. MUNICIPAL LOANS FURTHER VALIDATION BILL (No. 2) (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Municipal Law; to enable Municipal Corporations to borrow money under certain conditions on the guarantee of the Government; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the above-mentioned objects.
Question put and passed.
10. ELECTRIC TRACTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.
11. NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the "Navigation Acts, 1871-1881"; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.
12. GOVERNMENT PROSPECTING PARTIES FOR MINERALS:—Mr. Thomas moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, a sum of £10,000 should be devoted by the Government towards equipping and maintaining prospecting parties to search for minerals on behalf of the State.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 22.

Mr. Perry,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Dacey,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Thomas.
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Howarth,	

Noes, 30.

Mr. Ashton,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Knox,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. See,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Harvey.
Mr. Travers Jones,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. Hogue,	

And so it passed in the negative.

13. WAGES ATTACHMENT ABOLITION BILL:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to abolish attachment of wages.
Question put and passed.

VOICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd September, 1896.

14. COLLISION BETWEEN THE "SOL" AND "ALATHEA" STEAMERS:—Mr. Knox moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the collision between the "Sol" and "Alathea" steamers.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Davis, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Edden, Mr. Watson, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Wood, Mr. Waddell, Mr. McFarlane, and the Mover.
 Question put and passed.
15. CONTRACT FOR BRIDGE OVER BUFFALO CREEK, FIELD OF MARS:—Mr. Wright moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, including plans, specifications, contract, bond vouchers, &c., relating to the contract for the bridge over Buffalo Creek, Field of Mars.
 Question put and passed.
16. CLAIM OF JOHN BRENNAN AGAINST ROADS DEPARTMENT:—Mr. Pyers moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of John Brennan with the Roads Department on contracts 21v and 57v, Casino district.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Harris, Mr. Davis, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. Watson, Mr. Kelly, and the Mover.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
17. LANDS OFFERED AS SPECIAL AREAS:—Mr. Wright moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the appraised capital value per acre, under the Land Act of 1895, of all lands offered as special areas, and the price per acre at which such special areas were formerly offered.
 Question put and passed.
18. POSSESSORY TITLES ABOLITION BILL:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to abolish possessory titles, and to vest in Her Majesty rights and titles to land which have been barred by Statute.
 Question put and passed.
19. CLAIM OF MR. ALFRED J. HACK:—Mr. Lonsdale moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Alfred J. Hack, in connection with the refusal of the Mines Department to grant him a special lease under the Mining on Private Property Act.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Bull, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Chapman, and the Mover.
 Question put and passed.
20. PERSONS APPOINTED BY THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT:—Mr. Perry moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the names of those persons appointed by the present Government and who are now in the Service, together with the salary they are now receiving.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
21. MINERS' COMMONS:—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, provision should be made for the reservation on every mining field of so much land as may be necessary for the accommodation of the stock required for the subsistence and convenience of the mining population; such reserves to be declared "miners' commons," for use of the holders of mining leases, miners' rights, mineral licenses, and business licenses, and to be placed under the control of local boards.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at ten minutes before Ten o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 59.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Proposed Railway to Humula:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Is he aware that, for the first 20 miles from Wagga Wagga on the proposed railway line to Humula, a large part of the land is used for agriculture, and that this part could be constructed as a light pioneer line?
 (2.) Is he aware that, if a part or the whole of the proposed line was constructed, it would enable holders to bring a large additional area of land under cultivation, thus adding to the traffic on the main trunk line?
 (3.) Will he take into consideration the desirableness of referring the proposal to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for inquiry and report?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) I am given to understand the district referred to is used for agricultural purposes. The approximate estimate for a railway for this length is £2,700 per mile.
 (2.) This is probably the case.
 (3.) The matter will be considered.

- (2.) Adam Rae's Conditional Purchase:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Was Adam Rae's conditional purchase and conditional lease of 2,560 acres, Nyngan District, forfeited by the Minister against the recommendation of the Land Board and Land Court?
 (2.) What were the reasons given by the Minister for this forfeiture?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Because, in my opinion, the conditions had not been carried out as contemplated by law. I will presently lay upon the Table of this House a copy of my decision in this case, together with my reasons therefor, as required by the third clause of the Act 55 Victoria No. 1.

- (3.) Appointment of Wine Expert:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Watkins, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Have the Civil Service Board made an appointment yet with reference to an expert in the Australian wine industry?
 (2.) Will he inquire from the Board if they have ever intimated to any person that they contemplate appointing some Italian gentleman?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes, temporarily only for a period of three months.
 (2.) It is considered that the best man available should be secured for this position, and applications have been invited in the Colony and through the Agent-General, but sufficient time has not yet elapsed for their receipt.

- (4.) Norfolk Island:—*Mr. Wright*, for Mr. Copeland, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is he aware that, on the 10th June last, this House passed the following resolution:—"That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all correspondence with the Imperial Government and otherwise relative to this Colony administering the affairs of Norfolk Island; also a copy of the report of the recent Commission that visited the Island."
 (2.) Was the Address above referred to presented to the Governor; if so, on what date was it presented?

(3.)

23rd September, 1896.

- (3.) Is it the intention of His Excellency to refuse to comply with this request of the Legislative Assembly?
- (4.) When will a copy of Mr. Oliver's report on his recent visit to the Island be laid upon the Table, in compliance with the above resolution?
- Mr. Reid answered,—In answer to these Questions I have to state that this Government is not yet in a position to lay these papers upon the Table.
- (5.) Work in the Land and Income Tax Office:—*Mr. Wright*, for Mr. Copeland, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) How many draftsmen and other officials were employed, and for how long a time were they engaged, in preparing the various maps, &c., in connection with the land and income taxes?
- (2.) What was the Departmental estimate of the cost of this work?
- Mr. Carruthers answered,—Arrangements were made by which the Department of Lands gave the Land Tax Commissioners one of a duplicate set of maps in use on the understanding that they would pay for preparing a new set, the cost of which has not been determined. Probably it will be about £1,500.
- (6.) Printing for the Land and Income Tax Office:—*Mr. Wright*, for Mr. Copeland, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What has been the cost up to date of the paper and printing at the Government Printing Office in connection with the land and income taxes?
- Mr. Reid answered,—Paper, £745 2s. 11d.; printing, £1,202 4s. 5d.
- (7.) Land and Income Tax Returns sent through Post:—*Mr. Wright*, for Mr. Copeland, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Has any account been kept of the number of letters and parcels forwarded through the various post-offices in connection with the land and income taxes?
- (2.) Had such letters and parcels been subject to ordinary post rates, what would such revenue have amounted to?
- Mr. Cook answered,—
- (1.) No such account has been kept. In fact, it is only at intervals of six months that a count for one month is made of the total number of articles of all descriptions passing through the post; and it would be impracticable, without delaying the sorting and delivery of correspondence, to count separately that relating to any particular class of business.
- (2.) In the absence of even approximate information as to the number and weight, it is impossible to estimate what the revenue would have amounted to had such articles been subject to ordinary postage rates.
- (8.) Federal Delegates:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact, as reported in yesterday's paper, that he has stated to the Victorian Premier that February next will be too early to take the vote for the Federal Delegates?
- (2.) When does he propose that the vote will be taken, and what is the reason it could not be taken in February, or earlier?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) I will make an announcement to the House on this subject when in a position to do so with advantage.
- (9.) Expenditure of the Year 1896-7:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does he propose to charge any of the expenditure of the year 1896-7 back to past years?
- Mr. Reid answered,—No amounts have been charged back. They have always been charged in the manner required by law. Inasmuch as the Votes kept open under the old system are now finally closed, with the exception of liabilities amounting to about £5,700, there is no chance of any future misunderstanding, as all the moneys actually paid in the current year will, with the small exception alluded to, be chargeable to the revenue of the year. Of course Loan Votes are in a different category from Votes chargeable to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.
- (10.) Amendment of Civil Service Act of 1884:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Colonial Treasurer to introduce a Bill to amend the Civil Service Act of 1884 to provide an allowance for a Civil Servant who may die before the age of 60 years, after having served over fifteen years, so that he may be put on the same footing as those withdrawing from the Superannuation Fund, as provided by the Public Service Act of 1895, during the first twelve months?
- (2.) Has the Public Service Board decided that if an officer ceases to contribute to the Superannuation Fund during the first twelve months of the Public Service Act, and he voluntarily retires from the Service after, not being 60 years of age, and not having served fifteen years in addition, he will not be entitled to any compensation or refund?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) No.
- (2.) No. In such a case the law provides for a refund of contributions to the Superannuation Account, with interest at 3 per cent. added from the date of ceasing to contribute.
- (11.) Vessels Registered at Sydney and Newcastle:—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Dick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) The number of vessels of all classes extant registered at Sydney?
- (2.) The number of vessels of all classes extant registered at Newcastle?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) 858.
- (2.) 103.

23rd September, 1896.

- (12.) Road Contractors:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that road contractors frequently give orders to storekeepers to receive progress payments in regard to work done?
 - (2.) Has it been represented to the Department that workmen's wages upon contracts are often unpaid, while these orders are honoured?
 - (3.) Does one of the conditions of contracts prohibit the assigning, mortgaging, or encumbering moneys of contract?
 - (4.) Will he in future insist that all workmen's wages upon road contracts shall be paid before honouring orders given to storekeepers and others in respect to supplies?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Road contractors frequently give orders for others to receive money due to them, and in some cases the receivers are storekeepers.
 - (2.) Such a representation has been made, but it is not a fact that these orders have preference to wages claims.
 - (3.) Yes, unless consent of Minister has been obtained.
 - (4.) This is always done when proved claims are submitted by the workmen.
- (13.) Accidents to Boilers of Engines—Working of the Southern Colliery Company's Trains:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What was the nature and cause of the accident to the P class engine-boiler working a special passenger train, Sydney to Katoomba, on 21st September, 1896?
 - (2.) What was the nature and cause of the accident to the boiler of engine A 158 working a suburban passenger train on 18th September last?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the driver of the Southern Colliery Co.'s engine which runs on the Government Railways on the South Coast Line is frequently on duty as much as seventeen hours?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the Southern Colliery Co. are allowed to run trains on the South Coast Line with one of their own firemen acting as guard of the train, and no Government guard in charge?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that:—

- (1.) The roof of the fire-box of engine 474 was damaged owing to the boiler being allowed to run short of water through the neglect of the driver.
 - (2.) Three of the small brass flue tubes failed in engine 158. It is considered probable that one of them gave way first by failing where brazed at the smoke-box end, and thus allowed the water to run out of the boiler into the smoke-box, leading to the failure of the other two tubes, the melting of the lead plug, and the scorching of the fire-box roof-plate before the fire could be extinguished.
 - (3.) The driver of the engine in question is not a railway servant, and his hours of duty are not under the Commissioners' control.
 - (4.) Yes.
- (14.) Mining Regulations of Block 10 Mine:—Mr. Millen, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that certain complaints were lodged with the Mining Inspector at Broken Hill in regard to the Mining Regulations not being carried out on Block 10 mine?
 - (2.) Was any advice asked from the Department by the Mining Inspector in regard to such complaint?
 - (3.) Was the Inspector informed in the first place by the Department that the Chief Inspector was out of town, and to do nothing until his return?
 - (4.) Was the Inspector afterwards informed that he should not pay any attention to complaints lodged by the Miners' Association, or any other body, in regard to the non-carrying out of the Mining Regulations?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that on Block 10 mine and other mines the Mining Regulations are not carried out?
 - (6.) Will he issue instructions at once that the Mining Regulations must be strictly enforced on all mines?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) No; on the contrary, he was informed that the Chief Inspector considered it came within the duties of the inspector to see that the changing-rooms in connection with the mines are kept in a clean state, and that there was no harm in any representative individual directing his attention to such a matter. He was advised, however, not to take instructions from any other person than his superior officer as to what he should do.
- (5.) It is considered that on the whole the Regulations are fairly well complied with.
- (6.) This has already been done.

- (15.) Mining Bill:—Mr. Moore asked the Secretary for Mines,—Does he intend to introduce the promised Mining Bill this Session?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; if it be really possible.

2. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Vote of Credit:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 56.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends to the consideration of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for defraying the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony for the months of October and November, or following month, of the financial year 1896-7.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd September, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

(2.)

23rd September, 1896.

(2.) Constitution Act Amendment Bill :—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 57.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide means of legislation in cases of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly.

Government House,
Sydney, 23rd September, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

(3.) Coloured Races Restriction and Regulation Bill :—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 58.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to extend the provisions of the "Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888," and to repeal section 10 of that Act.

Government House,
Sydney, 23rd September, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—

(1.) The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named :—

- (1.) By Mr. Cotton—From certain inhabitants of Newtown.
- (2.) By Mr. Molesworth—From certain inhabitants of Newtown.

Petitions received.

(2.) Mr. Law presented a Petition from certain members of the Baptist Congregation at Rooty Hill, praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation. Petition received.

4. PAPER :—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—Substituted amended Form No. 87, under the Crown Lands Acts.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Gould, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such districts as the Governor may direct, and within the districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such districts as the Governor may direct, and within the districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 23rd September, 1896.

6. MINING INSPECTOR, BROKEN HILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all reports and correspondence from the Mining Inspector, Broken Hill.

Question put and passed.

7. LAWSON'S ESTATE MORTGAGE ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That Lawson's Estate Mortgage Enabling Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Kelly, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Lee, Mr. Watson, Mr. Millen, Mr. Wood, Mr. Moore, Mr. Alexander Campbell, Mr. Cann, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd September, 1896.

8. CASE OF THOMAS SUFFIELD (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House the depositions, Judge's notes, Ministerial minutes, and Reports of the Inspector-General of Insane and of the Police in connection with the case of Thomas Suffield.
Question put and passed.

9. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
(2.) Ministerial Portfolios Reduction Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(3.) Stallions and Racehorses Registration Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(4.) Supreme Court Appeals Practice Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.

10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for St. Leonards, Mr. E. M. Clark, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The present unsatisfactory condition of our harbour traffic, and the danger to public safety by a continuance of same.”

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Clark moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

11. CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated the 1st September, 1896, in reference to the Capertee Tramway Bill,—

Insists upon so much of its amendment in clause 2, page 2, lines 45 and 46, as omits the word “pavements”,—because the word “pavements” in the sentence “and the pavements of the same between the rails of the said tramway, and for the space of one foot six inches on each side of the rails,” while applicable to tramway lines to be made through the streets of a town or city, and over which the ordinary vehicular traffic has to pass, is altogether inapplicable to a tramway such as the one proposed, and which has to pass through a country in a state of nature intersecting which there are no streets or roads; but proposes to further amend the clause by the insertion in lieu of the word omitted the word “ballasting,” in which further amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Disagrees to the Assembly's amendment upon the Council's amendment in clause 6, new subsection (IV), which omits the word “sixpence,” and inserts the word “twopence”,—because twopence per ton per mile for the carriage for the public of ores, kerosene shale, and other minerals to be carried, would not be remunerative to the owners of the line; but proposes to further amend its amendment by the insertion in place of the word proposed to be omitted of the word “fourpence,” in which further amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Does not insist upon its other amendment disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's remaining amendment upon the Council's amendments in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 23rd September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole on Tuesday next.

12. ORDER OF BUSINESS ON TUESDAYS (*Sessional Order*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That during the remainder of the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, General Business shall take precedence of Government Business on Tuesdays until 8 o'clock p.m., after which “hour” Government Business only shall be proceeded with.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Griffith moved, That the Question be amended by inserting after the word “hour” the words “on alternate Tuesdays”

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.

Debate continued.

Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for Yass, Mr. Affleck, be not further heard.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Noes* had it.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *negative*, as there were only two Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Crick and Mr. E. M. Clark.

Debate continued.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.

The

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The House divided.

Ayes, 21.

Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Sec,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Dick.

Tellers,

Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Perry.

Noes, 62.

Mr. Lyne, Mr. McCourt, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Wright, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Levien, Mr. Willis, Mr. Carruthers, Dr. Graham, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Gould, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. McElhone, Dr. Ross, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Obok, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Rose, Mr. Harvey, Mr. Whiddon, Mr. Young, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Crick, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Ball, Mr. Reid,	Mr. Simeon Phillips, Mr. Davis, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Smailes, Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Hogue, Mr. McLean, Mr. Storey, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Alexander Campbell, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Rigg, Mr. Bull, Mr. Harris, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. Greene, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. A. B. Piddington, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Lee, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Black, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Millen, Mr. Ashton.
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Tellers,

Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Russell Jones.

And so it passed in the negative.

Original Question then put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 64.

Mr. Reid, Mr. Sec, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Young, Mr. Gould, Mr. Wright, Mr. Willis, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Ball, Mr. Cotton, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Cook, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Hawthorne, Dr. Ross, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Whiddon, Mr. Levien, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Morgan, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Russell Jones, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Kelly, Mr. Davis, Mr. Dick, Mr. Smailes, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Rigg, Mr. McElhone, Mr. McCourt, Mr. Rose, Mr. Simeon Phillips, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Pyers, Mr. Nicholson,
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Noes, 15.

Mr. Alexander Campbell, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. McLean, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. A. B. Piddington, Mr. Crick, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Greene, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. Harris, Mr. Bull, Mr. Hogue, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Black, Mr. Lee, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Millen.

Mr. Perry, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Watson, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Ducey, Mr. Griffith, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Affleck, Mr. James Thomson, Mr. Edden, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Thomas, Mr. E. M. Clark.
--

Tellers,

Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Miller.

Tellers,

Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Wilks.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

13. TAMWORTH WATER SUPPLY WORKS :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that water supply works for the town of Tamworth, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

14. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney*) :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of extending the railway from Redfern into the city of Sydney.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Greene moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

15. SAVINGS BANK BILL :—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amalgamate the Savings Banks, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating thereto.

Question put and passed.

16.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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16. PHARMACY BILL:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
Question put and passed.
17. PUBLIC HEALTH BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to promote the Public Health.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to promote the Public Health.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to promote the Public Health*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
18. MUNICIPALITIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2):—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Municipal Law; to enable Municipal Corporations to borrow money under certain conditions on the guarantee of the Government; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the above-mentioned objects.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipal law; to enable Municipal Corporations to borrow money under certain conditions on the guarantee of the Government; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the above-mentioned objects.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the Municipal Law; to enable Municipal Corporations to borrow money under certain conditions on the guarantee of the Government; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the above-mentioned objects*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
19. ELECTRIC TRACTION BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
20. NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the “Navigation Acts, 1871-1881”; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the “Navigation Acts, 1871-1881”; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
21. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
(1.) Public Roads Bill: to be further considered in Committee.
(2.) Hunter District Water Supply (Amendment) Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

23rd September, 1896.

22. SUPREME COURT FEES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to repeal section 14 of the Act 10 Victoria No. 10; to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal section 14 of the Act 10th Victoria, No. 10; to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 24th September, 1896, a.m.*

23. PUBLIC OFFICERS FEES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only five Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Miller, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Perry, Mr. Dacey, and Mr. Smailes.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide that all Fees received by Public Officers shall be paid and accounted for as money received by them on account of the revenue within the meaning of the Audit Act of 1870.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide that all Fees received by Public Officers shall be paid and accounted for as money received by them on account of the revenue within the meaning of the Audit Act of 1870,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 24th September, 1896, a.m.*

24. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at fourteen minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 60.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Mr. Aubrey Mowle, late of the Bankruptcy Department:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Justice,—Referring to Mr. Chapman's Questions, in reference to Mr. Aubrey Mowle, on the 15th September,—

(1.) What number of bills did Mr. Mowle tax during the period he was performing the duties, and what was the aggregate amount of the bills brought in for taxation?

(2.) With regard to the Registrar's report "that the nature of the complaints made to the Judge was that Mr. Mowle was incapable, and unfit to be entrusted with the duty of taxation of costs," will he give the names of the solicitors by whom the complaints were made, and if verbally or in writing?

(3.) Did Mr. Mowle apply to him for the appointment of Taxing Officer, which the Judge in Bankruptcy by his letter of the 9th May, 1893, proposed should be made under section 136 of the Bankruptcy Act?

(4.) Was that application accompanied by a recommendation of a number of solicitors and a subsequent one by the Honorable W. H. Pigott, M.L.C.?

(5.) Is the Honorable W. H. Pigott, M.L.C., the President of the Incorporated Law Institute of New South Wales?

(6.) Will he give the names of the solicitors by whom the recommendations were signed?

(7.) Was the letter of the 9th May, 1893, subsequently withdrawn, and did Mr. Mowle continue to tax as previously up to the time of his retirement?

Mr. Gould answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table of this House a return giving the information desired; but as in these and the previous Questions with reference to Mr. Mowle public interests do not appear to be involved, I must decline to answer further Questions on the subject.

- (2.) Government Quartz-crushing Batteries:—Mr. Wood asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Have the Government sanctioned the erection of Government quartz-crushing batteries on any gold-field in the Colony?

(2.) If so, on what field and what class of battery is it intended to erect?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Prospecting Board have so far been unable to select a site where there is not already a battery within a reasonable distance, and where there is a probability of sufficient stone being available to warrant the Department in incurring the outlay.

- (3.) The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia Bill:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he be good enough to have reprinted in pamphlet form, for general information, a copy of the draft Bill to constitute the Commonwealth of Australia, together with his criticisms thereon, as published in the *Sydney Evening News* of 2nd, 4th, 5th, 8th, and 23rd June, in the year 1891?

Mr. Reid answered,—I fear that the Honorable Member will occasion much anxiety to his friends if he persists in these pathetic attempts to be funny.

- (4.) Mr. Arthur Henry, Registrar in Bankruptcy:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Registrar in Bankruptcy, Mr. Arthur Henry, has for some years past discontinued the practice of personally inquiring into the nature of proof of debts lodged by creditors, and the grounds thereof, before adjudicating upon the same, and has practically delegated to a clerk in the office the whole of this most important function, and allowed him to affix the Registrar's initials thereto by means of an ordinary rubber-stamp?

(2.)

24th September, 1896.

(2.) Will he refer the question as to whether this is not a violation of the 22nd clause of the 2nd schedule to the Bankruptcy Act to the Law Officers of the Crown?

(3.) Is such a proceeding contrary to the invariable practice observed by the late Mr. Justice Deffell, and by Mr. F. H. Salusbury, whilst Acting Registrar in Bankruptcy, on various occasions during Mr. Henry's absence on leave?

Mr. Gould answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table of this House a return giving the information desired.

(5.) Coroner's Inquest on Death of Frederick Hexter :—Mr. Knox asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the newspaper reports of the Coroner's Inquest on the death of Frederick Hexter?

(2.) Is the report in the *Sydney Morning Herald* an accurate report of the proceedings?

(3.) Is it a fact that the jury agreed upon and returned a verdict of accidental death?

(4.) Is it a fact that after such verdict had been returned the Coroner directed the jury to reconsider the verdict returned?

(5.) If so, what authority had the Coroner to so direct the jury?

(6.) Did the Coroner refuse to take a note of the objection raised by the solicitor for Francis Paranthoine that the verdict having been returned could not be reconsidered?

(7.) If so, upon what grounds?

(8.) Is the Coroner in the habit of refusing audience to solicitors who appear before him on behalf of persons interested, or of treating such solicitors as having no *locus standi*?

(9.) If so, upon what grounds does the Coroner adopt this course?

Mr. Gould answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table of this House a return furnishing replies to these Questions.

(6.) Municipal Loans :—Mr. Knox, for Mr. Millen, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What municipalities have obtained loans under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Act?

(2.) What was the Departmental estimate of cost of the several works constructed under the provisions of the Act referred to?

(3.) What was the actual cost of each of these works?

(4.) In what boroughs (if any) is the revenue from water service insufficient to meet expenses, including the annual payment to the Government?

Mr. Young answered,—The information can be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for by the Honorable Member in the ordinary manner.

(7.) Clerk of Petty Sessions at Cassilis :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board recommended an officer of 70 years of age for appointment as C.P.S. and Crown Land Agent at Cassilis?

(2.) Did the Board make inquiries as to the age and qualifications of this officer before recommending or appointing him?

(3.) Is it a fact that this officer has declined to take up the duties owing to his self-admitted inability to discharge same?

(4.) If so, has any other officer been appointed to fill the position, or is it intended to retain the officer at present in charge, and who is in every way competent?

Mr. Reid answered,—Mr. F. C. Gaggin was graded as C.P.S., &c., at Cassilis; his age is nearly 71 years. The Public Service Board were not aware of Mr. Gaggin's age at the time the Department was graded; but as soon as they became aware of the fact that he was over 70, it was determined that he should be retired. It is proposed to fill the position, and steps have been taken to that end.

(8.) Regulations of the Government Railways Act, 1888 :—Mr. Watson, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Do the Railway Commissioners comply with clauses 1 and 3 of section 51, Government Railways Act, 1888, which provides—(a) That early information by telegraph, post, or otherwise, shall be forwarded the Minister for Railways of accidents on the railways; (b) that a Board shall be appointed to inquire into such accident; (c) that as soon as practicable after such inquiry full information of and report of the officers appointed to hold inquiry shall be forwarded to the Minister?

(2.) If so, will he lay upon the Table of this House such full information and report of the boiler explosions at Seven Hills and Goulburn recently?

(3.) In case of any future accident occurring, will he lay such full information and report upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I am informed that the requirements of section 51 referred to by the Honorable Member are complied with, but it is necessary to exercise some discretion as to what occurrences it was intended should be treated as coming within the scope of that section, otherwise the reports would be numerous, and, for the purpose intended, of no practical value.

(2.) The mishap at Seven Hills was dealt with as an engine failure. The more serious occurrence on the Goulburn line was, without any delay, duly reported, and a detailed report followed a few days subsequently.

(3.) This is a matter which depends very much upon the character of the particular accident.

(9.) Wages to Men employed on River Banks at Bathurst :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Crick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the men who were engaged on the works for the protection of the river banks at Bathurst were to be paid 6s. per day?

(2.) Was it afterwards agreed by him that the rate of pay should be 7s. per day on account of the men having to work in the water?

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (3.) Has this increase been paid to any of the men so engaged ; if not, what is the reason, if any ?
 (4.) Did the men so engaged recently send a communication to him in reference to the promised increase of pay ?
 (5.) Did he reply to this ; and, if not, why was this act of common courtesy omitted ?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) On the representation of my honorable colleague, Mr. Sydney Smith, Member for the district, I authorised 7s. per diem being paid to men working in the water.

(3.) I have caused inquiries to be made, and if the increase has not been paid to those entitled thereto, I will see that the amounts due are paid without further delay.

(4.) The men engaged petitioned that the general rate of wages be increased to 7s. per day. This was refused, excepting to those working in the water.

(5.) Yes ; a reply was sent on the 11th instant, addressed to "Messrs. John Seage, John Sinnett, Edward Coady, and others, Bathurst."

- (10.) North Coast Railway :—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Have all the necessary surveys and plans been completed for the North Coast Railway ?

(2.) If so, will he, during the present Session, submit for consideration of the Parliamentary Committee on Public Works the first section (say) from the Hunter to the Manning River ?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Survey has been completed, and plans are nearly finished.

(2.) I can make no promise at present.

- (11.) Military Forces of the Colony :—*Mr. McMillan* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill dealing with the Military Forces of the Colony, in view of the rapid developments of the last few years ?

(2.) Will the Government place a sum on the Estimates sufficient to cover the expenditure to be incurred if at any moment it is deemed expedient to mobilise the Forces of the Colony ?

(3.) Will the Minister for Defence, as a practical measure, in order to encourage the efforts recently made to increase our Volunteer Forces, consider the expediency of holding an encampment before the end of the year ?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Should an emergency arise, the necessary funds will be provided.

(3.) A sum has been already voted on the Estimates-in-Chief for Country Camps. In view of the recent increase in the Volunteer Forces, and the necessity for their more complete organisation, it is not considered desirable to hold an encampment, as suggested—that is, before the end of this year. The desirability of holding an Easter encampment will, however, be fully considered.

2. BOROUGH OF CUDJEGONG CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL.—*Mr. Robert Jones*, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 17th September, 1896 ; together with a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Jones then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday next.

Question put and passed.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—*Mr. Gormly*, as Chairman, brought up the Nineteenth Report from the Printing Committee.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Thirteenth Report on the Creation, Inscription, and Issue of Stock under the Inscribed Stock Act of 1883.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorized to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(2.) Copies of *Gazette* Notices setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the dedication of certain lands, in accordance with the provisions of the 105th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Information respecting *Mr. Mowle*, late Chief Clerk in Bankruptcy.

(2.) Return respecting the Registrar in Bankruptcy.

(3.) Information respecting Inquest upon *Frederick Hexter*.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. ADJOURNMENT :—*Mr. Speaker* stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Queanbeyan, *Mr. O'Sullivan*, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The extraordinary conduct of a man named *Edmund E. Hole*, with reference to certain mining companies."

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

24th September, 1896.

6. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intituled "A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7," through all its stages in one day, and would also preclude the resolutions of the Committees of Supply and of Ways and Means respectively, whereon the Bill is proposed to be founded, being received on the same day on which they were come to by the said Committees respectively.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
7. **SUPPLY**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again. The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
(3.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £1,115,600, being £1,015,600 to defray the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony for the months of October and November, or following month of the financial year 1896-7; and £100,000 for Public Works and Services—Roads and Bridges.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
8. **WAYS AND MEANS**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.
The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
(3.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Services of the financial year 1896-7, the sum of £1,115,600 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
9. **CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 2)**:—
(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 3), to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7.
(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.
(3.) Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.
(4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.
Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7*."
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 24th September, 1896.*
10. **CROWN LANDS (APPLICATIONS) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th September, 1896.

11. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 2):—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 24th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

12. ATTACHMENT OF WAGES ABOLITION BILL:—Mr. Griffith, pursuant to leave granted on 22nd September, 1896, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to abolish attachment of wages*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday next.
13. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday next.
14. STATE SAVINGS BANK BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amalgamate the Savings Banks, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating thereto.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to amalgamate the Savings Banks, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating thereto.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amalgamate the Savings Banks, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating thereto*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
15. PHARMACY BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

The House adjourned, at One o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 61.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 29 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Mr. W. H. Palmer, Official Assignee:—Mr. Black asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. W. H. Palmer, Official Assignee, was appointed liquidator of the Australian Hemp and Fibre Co. (Ltd.), on 27th April, 1894?
- (2.) Is it a fact that there were then liabilities to the amount of £2,226 17s. 11d., against an uncalled capital of £3,947?
- (3.) Is it a fact that there were only eighteen contributing shareholders, and only twenty-four creditors?
- (4.) Is it a fact that on 8th June, 1896, the whole of the capital had been called in, and the liabilities paid in full?
- (5.) Is it a fact that on that date the liquidator's and legal costs amounted to £566 17s. 10d., or about 14 per cent. on the uncalled capital?
- (6.) Is it a fact that there are further costs to be paid, including the balance of the liquidator's commission, which will largely increase the estate's expenses?
- (7.) Are these expenses greater or less than those usually incurred by estates placed in the hands of the Official Assignee for liquidation?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1 and 2.) The Honorable Member was informed, in reply to a previous Question, on 14th March, 1895, that Mr. Palmer was appointed official liquidator of the company referred to, the order for the winding-up of which was made on the 10th May, 1894; and that the liabilities then amounted to £2,121 19s. 11d., and the uncalled capital to £3,878.

(3.) I am informed that this is so.

(4.) The official liquidator reports that the whole of the capital, although called in, has not yet been collected, and that the creditors had not been paid in full on the date mentioned. On 12th June last a further dividend was paid, making a return to all creditors of 20s. in the pound, and four creditors are entitled to interest on their respective claims since the date of liquidation; and such interest, amounting to £104 19s., has not yet been paid, but is being provided for.

(5.) No; the total cost up to 8th June last amounted to £410 9s. 10d.

(6.) All the legal costs in the winding-up have been paid, and, so far as the liquidator can judge there will be no further costs incurred. The liquidator's remuneration will, on the completion, of the winding-up, be assessed by the Master-in-Equity; and having regard to the amount already paid, the balance will not materially increase the expenses of winding-up.

(7.) I am informed that it is less.

(2.) Colonial Architect's Department:—Mr. Black asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What is the total sum of the salaries annually paid to officers, temporary and permanent, in the Colonial Architect's office?
- (2.) What was the total sum of the travelling expenses paid in connection with that Department during the last financial year?
- (3.) What is the total sum, represented by vouchers, certified to by the Colonial Architect, for both contract and day labour, during the past financial year?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) £12,363 2s. 8d.

(2.) £1,959 1s. 1d.

(3.) £233,352.

(3.)

29th September, 1896.

- (3.) Retired Civil Servants over Sixty Years of age:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) The number of persons at present in the Public Service acting in the capacity of Stipendiary or Police Magistrates who are over 60 years of age?
 (2.) The number that have been retrenched or retired by being over 60 years of age?
 Mr. Reid answered,—
 (1.) Eighteen.
 (2.) Thirteen.
2. EXTENSION OF THE FRANCHISE TO WOMEN:—The following three Petitions from residents of New South Wales,—stating that it is expedient that the electoral franchise should be extended to women on the same conditions as apply to men; and praying the House will take measures to further the object of Petitioners,—were presented by the Members named:—
 Mr. Smailes, Mr. Ferguson, and Mr. Russell Jones.
 Petitions received.
3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—
 (1.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain residents of Gunning.
 (2.) By Mr. Perry—From certain inhabitants of Rous Mill.
 Petitions received.
4. PAPER:—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—Documents relating to the forfeiture of conditional purchase No. 90-49, Dubbo (now Nyngan), and conditional lease No. 15,833, by Henry Newell (and transferred to Adam Rae), together with the Minister's reasons for not carrying out the recommendations of the Land Board and Land Appeal Court.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
 (1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
 (2.) Distress for Rent Abolition Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to abolish distress for rent.
 (3.) Australasian Federation; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Griffith, "That, in the opinion of this House, the representatives to be elected by the people of New South Wales to the forthcoming Federal Convention can only meet on equal terms representatives from the other Colonies who are also elected direct by the people, and should under no circumstances sit in convention with the mere nominees of any Government."
6. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 2):—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
By Deputation from His Excellency.
 FREDK. M. DARLEY, *Message No. 59.*
Lieutenant-Governor.
 A Bill, intituled "An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1896-7,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency, acting under Deputation from His Excellency the Governor, has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.
Government House,
Sydney, 26th September, 1896.
7. MUNICIPAL BATHS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Thomson, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—
 MR. PRESIDENT,—
 The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to lease and acquire lands and to erect baths thereon or thereover, and to lease and acquire baths already erected; to validate the acts of Municipal Councils which have already erected, leased, or acquired baths beyond the bounds of their Municipalities; and for other purposes."
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 29th September, 1896.
8. CAPERTEE TRAMWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Legislative Council's Message of 23rd September, 1896, in reference to the amendments in this Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee does not insist upon its disagreement to the amendment insisted on by the Council, and agrees to the further amendments proposed by the Council in the Bill.
 On motion of Mr. Fitzpatrick, the report was adopted.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th September, 1896.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Fitzpatrick, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 23rd September, 1896, in reference to the Capertee Tramway Bill,—

Does not insist upon its disagreement to so much of the Council's amendment in clause 2, lines 45 and 46, as omits the word "pavements," and agrees to the insertion in its place of the word "ballasting."

Agrees to the Council's further amendment in clause 6, new subsection (iv), which inserts the word "fourpence" instead of the word "sixpence."

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 29th September, 1896.*

9. HOMES PROTECTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 46.			Noes, 3.
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Greene,	Mr. Young.
Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Anderson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Asleck.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Black,	
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. See,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Wright,	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Wood,	
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Millen,	Mr. Chanter,	
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Price.	
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Bull,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Haynes.	
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Henry Clarke,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday, 13th October.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 23rd September, 1896.

10. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the decision of the House adopting the report of the Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Council's amendments in the Mining Laws Amendment Bill, on the 17th September, 1896, a.m., be and the same is hereby rescinded.
(2.) That the adoption of such report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
11. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
12. BANKRUPTCY ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

13. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—
Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.
On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

29th September, 1896.

14. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL:—Mr. Reid, pursuant to leave granted on 18th September, 1896, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to apply and extend certain provisions of the 'Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888' to other coloured races, to repeal section 15 of that Act, and for other purposes incidental to, or consequent upon, the beforementioned objects,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 7th October.
15. NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Reid, pursuant to leave granted on 24th September, 1896, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; to amend the 'Navigation Acts, 1871-1881'; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday, 7th October.
16. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.
Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only nineteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, viz.,—Mr. Anderson, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Cook, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Davis, Mr. Dick, Mr. Edden, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. McCourt, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Millard, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watson, Mr. Wheeler, and Mr. Young,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at half-past One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 62.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Ammunition supplied to Civilian Rifle Clubs:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Have complaints been made that the ammunition supplied to Civilian Rifle Clubs is not only to a large extent useless for practice, but is also dangerous to use?
 (2.) Has any careful examination of the ammunition been made by the Military experts in matters of this kind; and, if so, what is the result of such examination?
 (3.) Is it intended to continue to supply the same kind of ammunition?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces has furnished the following replies:—

- (1.) Yes; a complaint was made by the Cobar Civilian Rifle Club.
 (2.) The ammunition similar to that complained of, viz., Solid Drawn, was tested in the presence of the General Officer Commanding, on 11th August, 1896, and proved superior to the Rolled Case.
 (3.) Yes, it being of the service pattern.
- (2.) Public School, Girilambone:—Mr. Waddell asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) Is it true that there are about thirty-five children attending a private school at Girilambone Railway Station, and that repeated applications have been made to get this school converted into a Public School?
 (2.) Has the Inspector lately reported in favor of granting such applications; and, if so, when will the Public School be opened?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes. No decision has yet been arrived at. There is a Public School at Girilambone within 1½ miles of the railway station by a good road.

- (3.) Clearing of Sweetbriar from Crown Lands:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 Seeing there are so many unemployed, and also so much sweetbriar on the Crown lands of the Colony, and as the Minister has promised to bring in a Bill to deal with noxious weeds, will the Government put on some of the unemployed to clear the briars off the Crown lands, in anticipation of compelling private owners to clear them off their freehold property when the Bill becomes law?
 Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This matter is being dealt with by my honorable colleague the Minister for Lands.

- (4.) Forfeiture of Crown Lands for Non-payment of Interest:—Mr. Ball asked the Secretary for Lands,—Did he state, in his address to the Farmers' Conference at Wagga Wagga, that all lands on which Government interest had not been paid would be forfeited at once?
 Mr. Carruthers answered,—I said nothing which could bear such an interpretation. As a matter of fact, the utmost liberality is extended by this Government to those who may be unable, for the time being, to meet their payments of interest.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—Mr. Gould presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of New South Wales, referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation. Petition received.

30th September, 1896.

3. **LAWSON'S ESTATE MORTGAGE ENABLING BILL**:—Mr. Waddell, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 23rd September, 1896; together with Appendices and a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Waddell then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.
Question put and passed.
4. **PAPERS**:—Mr. Brunner laid upon the Table,—
(1.) By-laws of the Borough of Narrandera.
(2.) By-laws of the Borough of Annandale.
(3.) Report on Vaccination for the year 1895.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. **COUNTRY TOWNS WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE ACT (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Millen moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) The municipalities which have obtained loans under the Country Towns Water Supply and Sewerage Act.
(2.) The Departmental estimate of cost of several works constructed under the provisions of the Act referred to.
(3.) The actual cost of each of these works.
(4.) The boroughs (if any) in which the revenue from water service is insufficient to meet expenses, including the annual payment to the Government.
Question put and passed.
6. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community;—until Wednesday, 7th October.
(2.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
7. **STOCK AND PASTURES (BOARD OF ADVICE) BILL**:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to constitute a Board of Advice in matters relating to the stock and pastures of the Colony, and to define the powers and duties of the said Board.
Question put and passed.
8. **TAMWORTH WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works.
Question put and passed.
9. **CROWN LANDS (APPLICATIONS) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, *passed*.
Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to better regulate applications for land and the disposal of such applications, and to restrict the right of applications in certain cases, and to amend the Crown Lands Acts accordingly.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to better regulate applications for land and the disposal of such applications, and to restrict the right of applications in certain cases, and to amend the Crown Lands Acts accordingly,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th September, 1896.*
10. **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—
(1.) **Water Rights Bill**:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water, to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water, and for regulating drainage, and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.
*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th September, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th September, 1896.

WATER RIGHTS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 30th September, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, Preamble, lines 1 and 2. *Omit* "the use of the water in rivers and lakes is of public right and"
- Page 2, clause 1, lines 9 to 16. *Omit* "Whenever the occupier of any land has before the passing of this Act conserved and enjoyed the use, free of charge or hindrance, of a supply of water, whether permanent or intermittent, such occupier shall be entitled to the use of such supply of water: Provided that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to sanction any work which diverts or impounds the water of any river or lake to the detriment of any person or persons having interests in such river or lake or the waters therein."
- Page 2, clause 2, lines 30 to 32. *Omit* "not exceeding five acres in extent used in connection with a dwelling house"
- Page 2, clause 3, line 36. *After* "shall" *insert* "subject to the provisions of this Act"
- Page 2, clause 4, line 41. *After* "works" *insert* "to be constructed by the Crown"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 6. *Omit* "estimated to cost more than twenty thousand pounds"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 11. *Before* "benefit" *insert* "direct"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 19. *After* "paid" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 3, clause 8, line 47. *Before* "Minister" *insert* "Local Land Board at the request of the"
- Page 3, clause 8, line 48. *Omit* "him" *insert* "the Minister"
- Page 3, clause 8, line 48. *Omit* "who" *insert* "and the Local Land Board or the person so authorised"
- Page 3, clause 8. At end of clause *add* "and the applicant or any person so interested as aforesaid shall have a right of appeal to the Local Land Board from the report of any person holding an inquiry by the authority of the Minister under this section."
- Page 3, clause 9, lines 53 to 58. *Omit* "The Minister, after the holding of the inquiry, may, on the payment of a fee calculated in the manner and according to the scale set forth in the Schedule to this Act, grant the license in the form prescribed, in whole or in part, subject to such limitations and conditions as he may think fit to make, or may refuse to grant the license:" *insert* "The report of the person holding the inquiry by the authority of the Minister or of the Local Land Board or Land Court on appeal shall be published in the *Gazette* within the prescribed time after presentation thereof to the Minister, and the Minister shall, after the expiration of thirty days from such publication, where the report recommends the issue of a license, issue a license to the applicant in the prescribed form, subject to such terms, limitations, and conditions, if any, as may be recommended in such report: Provided that no license shall be issued under this section pending any appeal, and that a license shall be issued only upon payment of a fee calculated in the manner and according to the scale set forth in the Schedule to this Act."
- Page 4, clause 9, line 1. *After* "provided" *insert* "further"
- Page 4, clause 9, line 1. *Omit* "he" *insert* "the Minister"
- Page 4, clause 9, line 3. *Omit* "he may think necessary" *insert* "may be recommended by the said report"
- Page 4, clause 9, lines 4 to 9. *Omit* "Provided also that where the work in respect of which a license is applied for is included in Class I, Class II, or Class III, as described in the Schedule to this Act, and the water which can be supplied by the work amounts to three thousand seven hundred and fifty gallons or more per minute, the license shall not be granted or refused but with the approval of the Governor"
- Page 4, clause 9, line 9. *After* "Provided" *insert* "also"
- Page 4, clause 10, line 14. *After* "case" *insert* "except Class IV"
- Page 4. *After* clause 11 *insert* the following new clause:—
- Any owner or occupier of land whereon there exists on the day when this Act takes effect any work to which this Act extends shall be entitled, subject to the provisions of this section, to a license under this Act in respect of the said work. Licenses in respect of works now constructed.
- The application for the license must be made in the form prescribed within three months after the said day to the Minister or to some person appointed by him in that behalf, and the Minister shall forthwith on receipt of the application refer it to the Land Board of the Land District within which the land is situate.
- The Land Board shall thereupon, unless the existence or use of the work is substantially prejudicial to the rights of any owner or occupier of other land adjoining the river or lake with which the work is connected, forward to the Minister a recommendation that the license be granted in respect of the work: Provided that the Land Board may recommend that, although the work in its then state is prejudicial to an occupier of other land in the neighbourhood, the license should be granted if certain alterations to be specified by the Land Board be made in the work.
- The Minister shall carry out the recommendation of the Land Board by granting a license forthwith or on the making of the alterations specified; and the provisions of the two last preceding sections shall apply to licenses granted under this section and to renewals of the same.
- Page 4, clause 13, line 32. *After* "Act" *insert* "or the regulations hereunder"
- Page 4, clause 13, line 34. *After* "work" *insert* "so far only as the said work is constructed or maintained on the land occupied by him"
- Page 4. *Before* clause 14 *insert* the following new clause:—
- Any report, recommendation, or decision of a Land Board under this Act shall be subject to an appeal to the Land Appeal Court in the manner prescribed by the Crown Lands Act of 1884, or any Act amending the same, or any regulations made thereunder. The decision of the said Court shall be final.
- Page 4, clause 16, line 54. *Omit* "such"
- Page 4, clause 16, line 55. *Omit* "as" *insert* "which"

30th September, 1896.

- Page 4, clause 16, line 55. *After* "materially" *insert* "and prejudicially"
- Page 4, clause 16. At end of clause *add* "Provided that the holder of any license may, during the currency thereof, apply for an amended license allowing alterations in the work as originally licensed, and any such application shall be dealt with as hereinbefore provided in respect of applications for a license in the first instance. Provided, further, that the alterations herein referred to shall not apply to any repairs or alterations rendered necessary for maintenance or any sudden or unforeseen emergency"
- Page 5, clause 20. *After* line 32 *insert* "'Local Land Board' means the Land Board for the district or districts in which a work is situated"
- Page 5, clause 20. *After* line 43 *insert* "'Water Supply' shall include a supply for the carrying on of any industrial operation"
- Page 5, clause 20, lines 48 and 49. *Omit* "for water conservation, water supply, or drainage"
- Page 5, clause 20. At end of clause *add* "whether such work be for water conservation, irrigation, water supply, or drainage"
- Page 5, clause 21, line 55. *Omit* "September" *insert* "November"
- Page 6, schedule, line 34. *After* "supplied" *insert* "to the licensee"
- Page 6, schedule, line 40. *After* "gallons" *insert* "or portion thereof"
- Page 6, schedule, line 40. *Omit* "or portion thereof"
- Page 6, schedule, line 49. *After* "gallons" *insert* "or portion thereof"
- Page 6, schedule, line 49. *Omit* "or portion thereof"

Examined,—

ARCH. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

(2.) Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th September, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 30th September, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 2, clause 2, lines 8 to 11. *Omit* "any purposes whatever to which electricity may for the time being be applicable (not being public purposes) except the transmission of any telegram or telephonic message" *insert* "lighting any place or building not belonging to or subject to the control of the Council"
- Page 2, clause 2. *After* line 13 *insert* "'Public work' means any work carried out by or under the supervision of or on account of the Government or any Department of the Government or Minister of the Crown"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 22. *After* "means" *insert* "the Governor"
- Page 2, clause 3, lines 26 and 27. *Omit* "and such contracts may be made with any person any Act to the contrary notwithstanding."
- Page 3, clause 7, line 43. *After* "sealed" *insert* "and shall be deemed to have been duly issued, and the holder thereof shall not be bound to inquire whether such issue was in fact duly authorised"
- Page 5, clause 11, line 9. *Omit* "not"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 34. *After* "Postmaster-General" *insert* "or Secretary for Public Works"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 35. *After* "line" *insert* "or other public work"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 35. *Omit* "said"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 35. *After* "works" *insert* "of the Council, and on failure to conform with the said requirements or any of them, the Postmaster-General or Secretary for Public Works may forthwith remove any works of the Council for the supply of electricity by which any public telegraph or telephone line or other public work is or may be injuriously affected"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 36. *After* "Postmaster-General" *insert* "or Secretary for Public Works"
- Page 6, clause 17, line 44. *After* "line" *insert* "or other public line"
- Page 6. *After* clause 17, *insert* the following new clause:—

One month at least before commencing the execution of any works which involve the placing of works in, under, along, or across any street, highway, or public bridge on which any telegraph, telephone, or railway line may be (not being repairs to or renewals of then existing works of which the character and positions are not altered), the Council or its agents shall serve upon the Secretary for Public Works, and Postmaster-General, the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, the Australian Gaslight Company, and such other person or corporation as the Secretary for Public Works may by writing under his hand, addressed to the Council, require to be notified, or leave at their respective offices, addressed to them, notices describing the proposed works, and the gauge of any electric line and the current and potential to be carried, together with a plan of the proposed works showing the position of the said works and the mode in which the works are intended to be executed and the manner in which it is intended that the street, highway, or bridge

30th September, 1896.

bridge shall be interfered with, and shall at the request of the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General, made at any time, give them such further information with reference to the works as they may desire. If any works are commenced before the requirements of this section have been complied with, the Secretary for Public Works or Postmaster-General may cause the said works to be removed, and the Council shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, which may be recovered before any stipendiary magistrate in a summary way."

Page 6. After clause 18 insert the following new clause:—

The Governor may make regulations to be observed during the construction, alteration, repair, or maintenance of works for securing the safety of persons and private or public property from injury from fire or otherwise, and may in those regulations impose any penalty not exceeding one hundred pounds for any breach of the same, which penalties may be recovered in a summary way before any stipendiary magistrate.

Page 9, clause 37, lines 35 and 36. Omit "by a single arbitrator, and shall be"

Page 10, clause 41, line 12. After "Act" insert "but subject nevertheless to any regulations made by the Governor as herein provided"

Page 10, clause 41. At end of clause add "and the Council may by any such by-laws fix the maximum penalty for every offence against such by-laws, or any of them, not exceeding the penalty, if any, already lawfully fixed for the same offence, and in any other case not exceeding ten pounds. Provided that no by-laws made as aforesaid shall have any force unless they have been first approved of by the Governor."

Page 10, clause 44, line 50. After "Postmaster-General" insert "or in any other public work except with the written permission of the Secretary for Public Works"

Page 10, clause 44, line 51. Omit "by him"

Page 10, clause 44. At end of clause add "And nothing in this Act contained shall exempt the Council from the provisions of any public Act which may be passed by the Parliament of New South Wales applying generally to the manufacture or generating of electricity, or the sale or supply of the same, or to the method of installation or distribution thereof"

Page 11, Schedule, line 2. After "No." insert "Series"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

11. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, passed.

Mr. Carruthers then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in Municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in Municipalities; for granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th September, 1896.

12. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER SUPPLY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, passed.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th September, 1896.

13. BANKRUPTCY ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Gould moved, That the report be now adopted.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

30th September, 1896.

14. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Council's amendments in this Bill,—Mr. Brunker moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Council's amendments in clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and the new clause 11," instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate ensued.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The House divided.

Ayes, 5.		Noes, 61.		
Mr. Wood,		Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Gould,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Mackay,		Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Gormly.		Dr. Ross,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Garrard,
<i>Tellers,</i>		Mr. Wright,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. James Thomson,		Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Ball,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Griffith.		Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Hawthorne,
		Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Carruthers,
		Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. O'Reilly,
		Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Lee,	Mr. Davis,
		Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Haynes,
		Mr. Rose,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Dick,
		Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Molesworth,
		Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Millen,
		Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Lonsdale,
		Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Young,
	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Greene,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	
	Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. H. H. Brown.	
	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. McLean,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
	Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Cruickshank,	
	Mr. Reid,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Perry.	
	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Cotton,		

And so it passed in the negative.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Council's amendments in clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, and the new clause 11,—put and passed.

On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to some, amended other, and agreed to the remaining amendments of the Legislative Council recommitted.

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

15. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—

(1.) Patents Law Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.

(2.) Net-fishing in Port Hacking Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); to be further considered Committee.

(3.) Public Health Bill; second reading.

(4.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading.

(5.) Electric Traction Bill; second reading.

(6.) State Savings Bank Bill; second reading.

(7.) Pharmacy Bill; second reading.

(8.) Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (*Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Young, "That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of extending the railway from Redfern into the city of Sydney."

(9.) Vegetation Diseases Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

(10.) Rabbit Bill; second reading.

(11.) Truck Bill; second reading.

(12.) Police Regulation Act Amendment Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the "Police Regulation Act of 1862" in certain respects.

16. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

17. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only seventeen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, viz.,—Mr. Anderson, Mr. Ball, Mr. Black, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Cook, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Dick, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Russell Jones, Mr. Miller, Mr. Rigg, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Wheeler,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at fourteen minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 63.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 1 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Clearing of Sweet-briar on Crown Lands :—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—Seeing there are so many unemployed, and also so much sweet-briar on the Crown lands of the Colony, and as the Minister has promised to bring in a Bill to deal with noxious weeds, will the Government put on some of the unemployed to clear the briars off the Crown lands, in anticipation of compelling private owners to clear them off their freehold property when the Bill becomes law?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The proposed Bill, dealing with Noxious Weeds, is now ready for introduction to Parliament.

- (2.) Adjudication on Proofs of Debt by Registrar in Bankruptcy :—Mr. Willis, for Mr. O'Sullivan, asked the Minister of Justice,—Referring to the return laid upon the Table of this House on 24th September, in answer to Questions asked by Mr. O'Sullivan respecting the admission of debts in bankruptcy,—

(1.) What is the meaning of the term "Marked by the present Chief Clerk for the Registrar";—is it intended that such marking should be regarded as an adjudication under the Act, and are the Registrar's initials stamped on the affidavits by the clerk referred to without reference to the Registrar?

(2.) Was the use of the rubber-stamp discontinued under the advice of the Judge, because the Judge considered the practice illegal?

(3.) What was the aggregate number of debts adjudicated upon by the adoption of this irregular procedure of being marked by the present Chief Clerk for the Registrar?

(4.) How many proofs of debts have been heard by the Registrar in Court since 1st April, 1891?

(5.) Will he obtain the opinion of the Crown Law Officers whether it will be necessary to take steps to validate the admission of debts in estates in which it is admitted this irregular practice was adopted?

(6.) Is it not an absolute fact that for years past the same clerk was allowed by the Registrar to adjudicate upon most, if not all, proofs of debt without respect to the nature or amount of the claim, and without reference to the Registrar?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) It has already been explained that, to avoid delay in certain cases, the present Chief Clerk was instructed by the Registrar to stamp the Registrar's initials on the proofs of debt, when he reported that a number of proofs were only for goods sold and delivered, and shown in the bankrupt's statement of affairs, about which there could be no possible objection.

(2.) No.

(3.) The Registrar reports that there is no means of ascertaining how many affidavits of debt were stamped by the present Chief Clerk.

(4.) The Registrar cannot say, because many proofs of debt were heard in Court, by consent, without notice.

(5.) This is not necessary. The confirmation of the plan of distribution by the Registrar is a valid admission of the debts. Section 151 of the Bankruptcy Act provides that no proceeding in bankruptcy shall be invalidated by any formal defect, or by any irregularity, unless the Judge or Registrar, before whom an objection is made to the proceeding, is of opinion that substantial injustice has been caused by the defect or irregularity.

(6.) Answered by reply to paragraph 1.

(3.)

1st October, 1896.

(3.) Mr. Arthur Henry, Registrar in Bankruptcy:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Chapman, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Registrar in Bankruptcy, Mr. Arthur Henry, received a purse of money, amounting to a sum of £200 or thereabouts, subscribed by members of the legal profession and others, on the occasion of his departure from the Colony on leave of absence?
- (2.) Was this given in recognition of Mr. Henry's abilities as Registrar in Bankruptcy, or otherwise?
- (3.) Was not such acceptance by Mr. Henry a violation of an express regulation of the Service?
- (4.) Is he aware that some solicitors declined to subscribe to the fund on the ground that Mr. Henry had not resigned, but would be returning to duty, and that the acceptance by him of money from the legal profession would be incompatible with the dignity of his high office?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1 and 2.) Mr. Henry received an address from certain members of the legal profession and others, and also a cheque, the amount of which he was informed was subscribed by personal friends.
- (3.) The sanction and approval of the then Minister, and the Judge in Bankruptcy were, Mr. Henry states, obtained before he accepted the cheque.
- (4.) I am not aware.

(4.) Jerilderie-Berrigan, and Narrabri-Moree Railway:—*Mr. Black* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) The name of the contractors for the Jerilderie-Berrigan Railway?
- (2.) The name of the contractors for the Narrabri-Moree Railway?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the first-named railway was not completed for some time after contract time had expired?
- (4.) If so, how long after?
- (5.) Is it a fact that the latter line was completed considerably before the effluxion of contract time?
- (6.) If so, how long before?
- (7.) In the first case, how much did the fines of the contractors amount to?
- (8.) If so, have they been paid?
- (9.) If not, what proportion has been paid?
- (10.) In the second case, is it a fact that the contractors are making money by carrying passengers and goods over the line?
- (11.) If so, what sum up to now have they thus earned?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Messrs. Smith, Finlayson, and Timms.
- (2.) Messrs. Smith, Finlayson, and Timms.
- (3.) Yes, and it is not yet completed.
- (4.) It is expected to be handed over to the Railway Commissioners on the 14th of this month.
- (5.) No.
- (6.) The line is not yet completed.
- (7.) The fines to date amount to £300.
- (8 and 9.) They are deducted as they fall due.
- (10.) Yes—under an arrangement by which a fair proportion of the earnings are handed over to the Railway Commissioners.
- (11.) I am unable to give this information.

(5.) Government Labour Bureau:—*Mr. Bavister* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What was the largest number of tickets taken or cancelled by the Labour Bureau officers during any one week in September in consequence of the holders' refusal to accept the low rate of wage current or otherwise that was offered?
- (2.) What were the rates so refused, specifying each trade or calling?
- (3.) How many persons, whether employers or not, were prevented from participating in the facilities offered by the Government Labour Bureau in consequence of the low rate of wage offered by them during the whole period of the Bureau's operations?
- (4.) What are the lowest rates that have been offered through the Bureau by employers for the callings embraced in Question No. 2 above?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) Twenty tickets taken, none cancelled.
- (2.) Eight shillings a day, carpenters.
- (3.) The Question is not sufficiently explicit to admit of my answering it.
- (4.) Five shillings a day, without tools.

(6.) Case of *Daverson v. Dorman*:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table a copy of the depositions in *Daverson v. Dorman*, tried at Redfern Police Court on Thursday, 24th September?

Mr. Gould answered,—As notice of appeal in this case has been given, and the appeal has not yet been heard, I am unable to comply with the Honorable Member's request.

(7.) Franking of Letters from Government House:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Governor has the right to frank letters from Government House?
- (2.) If so, what is the cost to the country?
- (3.) How long has this system been in practice?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) It is difficult to say, as no check of the correspondence from Government House is kept. The cost is included in the item of £31,000 per annum, which is supposed to represent the actual value of stamps supplied to the various public departments.
- (3.) Since 1st January, 1895.

(8.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st October, 1896.

(8.) Defences at Thursday Island and King George's Sound:—Mr. McMillan asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What are the arrangements made by the contributing Governments for the payment and management of the defences at Thursday Island and King George's Sound?
- (2.) Is there any intention to revise the present arrangements so as to make these strategical points less vulnerable in case of hostilities?
- (3.) Can the forces supplied for these two outposts be withdrawn by the Governments to whose services they belong without the consent of the other Colonies?

Mr. Brunner answered,—

- (1.) *Albany Defences*:—Western Australia supplies the garrison, and pays one quarter of the expenses of the maintenance; New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia pay the balance, on a population basis. *Thursday Island*:—Queensland supplies the garrison, and the Colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia pay the cost of the maintenance on a population basis; South Australia does not include the Northern Territory. *The Colony of Tasmania refused to contribute*. No inspections have yet been made on behalf of the other Colonies, although the original report of the Commandants recommended this course. The Committee of Commandants, which went into these questions in 1890–91, definitely recommended, as regards Albany, "The inspection of the works and garrison to be carried out by officers detailed annually in rotation by the contributing Colonies." As regards Thursday Island, "The inspection to be carried out by arrangements between New South Wales and Queensland."
- (2.) Correspondence is being carried on with reference to these matters.
- (3.) Apparently they can. There is reason to believe that the full permanent garrisons have not at all times been kept up.

(9.) Mr. Love, late Police Magistrate at Dubbo:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) At whose instance and upon whose recommendation was Mr. Love, late Police Magistrate of Dubbo, removed to the Water Police Office?
- (2.) Is this removal meant to give Mr. Love a preferent right to appointment as Stipendiary Magistrate, Sydney, to the detriment of eligible country Police Magistrates?
- (3.) In what Department of the Public Service was Mr. Love employed before entering the Department of Justice?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Upon the recommendation of the Public Service Board.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) In the Department of Public Works until 1877, when he entered the Petty Sessions Branch of the Justice Department.

(10.) Expenditure on Municipal Roads:—Mr. Dacey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What sum do the Government intend to spend upon municipal roads within the electorate of St. George during the present financial year?
- (2.) The like information (exclusive of roads through the Church and School Estate) with regard to the electorate of Botany?
- (3.) Have the Government ceased to subsidise any municipal roads within the electorate of St. George during the last twelve months?
- (4.) The like information with regard to the electorate of Botany?

Mr. Young answered,—This information can be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the ordinary manner.

2. **BOROUGH OF LITHGOW VALIDATING BILL**:—Mr. Bavister presented a Petition from the Municipal Council of the Borough of Lithgow, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to validate certain assessments and rates made by the Municipal Council of the Borough of Lithgow.

And Mr. Bavister having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Lithgow Mercury*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.

3. **PAPER**:—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Further reports respecting the separate treatment of prisoners.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twentieth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**:—Mr. Lee, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Tamworth to Manilla.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. **LAPSED MEETINGS OF SELECT COMMITTEES**:—Mr. Speaker called attention to a report which he had received in reference to a meeting of a Select Committee which was held to-day on "Evidence before the Civil Service Commission by Mr. H. C. L. Anderson." The Committee was summoned for 11 o'clock, and at 11:15 there were only two members present, when, under Standing Order No. 355, the meeting lapsed; a third member arrived soon after the meeting had lapsed, making a quorum, and at 11:30 the Committee went on with its proceedings. Mr. Speaker said it was not in the power of the Committee to do so legally. Under the Standing Orders the proceedings were irregular, and could be taken exception to. The Chairman should, in all cases of lapsed meetings, convene another meeting, by summons, for a future day.

1st October, 1896.

7. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Newcastle Magistrates Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such districts as the Governor may direct, and within the districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 1st October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 1st October, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, line 15. Omit "mean" insert "for the purposes of this Act also apply to"
Page 2, clause 3. At end of clause add "Provided that the Act fifty-fifth Victoria number nineteen shall extend to the jurisdiction of Stipendiary Magistrates appointed under this Act"
Page 2. After clause 5 insert the following new clause:—

On and after the expiration of sixty days from the day on which this Act takes effect in the case of the Police District of Newcastle, and in the case of any other police district on and after the expiration of thirty days from the day on which the provisions of this Act apply to that district, and until the said provisions cease to apply as aforesaid, the jurisdiction under the Licensing Acts, 1882–1883, of any Licensing Court and Licensing Magistrate constituted or appointed under those Acts shall cease and determine in any such district.

Thereupon a Licensing Court for a Licensing District within which or some part of which a Stipendiary Magistrate has jurisdiction as aforesaid shall be composed of three members, being the Stipendiary Magistrate or Magistrates aforesaid as official members and such other persons or person as the Governor may appoint. Where one or more Stipendiary Magistrates are present at any meeting of a Licensing Court aforesaid, the Stipendiary Magistrate, or the senior Stipendiary Magistrate, as the case may be, shall preside as chairman thereof; and where no Stipendiary Magistrates are present at any such meeting the other members of the Court present shall elect one of their number to act as chairman at and for such meeting. Every Stipendiary Magistrate aforesaid shall within such Licensing District exercise the powers vested in and perform the duties cast on a Licensing Magistrate by the Licensing Acts, 1882–1883, and the provisions of those Acts, and of any enactments amending the same, shall, except as modified by this Act, apply to any Licensing District, Court, and Magistrate aforesaid.

Page 2, clause 7, line 52. Omit "October" insert "November"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

(2.) Supreme Court Fees Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to repeal section 14 of the Act 10th Victoria No. 10, to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 1st October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

SUPREME COURT FEES BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 1st October, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 5, lines 22 to 24. Omit "any document which, under the authority of this Act, is required to be stamped shall not be of any validity unless and until it is duly stamped"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st October, 1896.

(3.) Public Officers Fees Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide that all Fees received by Public Officers shall be paid and accounted for as money received by them on account of the revenue within the meaning of the Audit Act of 1870,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 1st October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

8. NORTH CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADE (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Black moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all reports and other documents in connection with the non-registration of the North City Volunteer Fire Brigade.
Question put and passed.
9. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
(1.) Lawson's Estate Mortgage Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) second reading ;—until Wednesday next.
(2.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill ; to be considered in Committee ;—until Thursday next.
(3.) Old Age Provision Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with the view of making competent provision for old age ; and for other purposes connected therewith ;—until Thursday next.
(4.) City Mutual Life Assurance Society's (Limited) Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
10. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Botany, Mr. Dacey, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The circular, in reference to the endowment, addressed to the Municipal Councils by the Secretary for Public Works."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Dacey moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
11. CLAIM OF CAPTAIN ROSSI :—Mr. Jessep, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 28th July, 1896, together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
12. BANKRUPTCY ACTS AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.
Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the 'Bankruptcy Act, 1887,' and the 'Bankruptcy Act Amendment Act, 1888,' and to amend the Law relating to Bankruptcy and Bills of Sale.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Bankruptcy Act, 1887,' and the 'Bankruptcy Act Amendment Act, 1888,' and to amend the Law relating to Bankruptcy and Bills of Sale,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 1st October, 1896.

BANKRUPTCY ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 1st October, 1896.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Page 1, clause 1, lines 5 and 6. Omit "shall come into operation on the twenty-second day of July, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, and"

Page 1, clause 1, line 7. Omit "1895" insert "1896"

Page 1, clause 1, line 10. Omit "1895" insert "1896"

Page 4, clause 9, line 32. Omit "two" insert "seven"

Page 8, clause 28, line 8. Omit "Attorney-General" insert "Minister of Justice"

Page 8, clause 31. Add at end of clause :—

"(III) The words 'Bill of Sale' contained in this Act shall include settlements of personal chattels made before and in consideration of marriage"

Page

1st October, 1896.

Page 8. After clause 34 insert the following new clause :—

Nothing contained in section fifty-five of the Principal Act in case of the bankruptcy of the settlor shall be deemed to affect or invalidate the rights of any person deriving title to any property in good faith and for valuable consideration through or under any person taking or claiming as a donee of any settlement: Provided that nothing herein shall affect any action or suit or other proceeding which shall have been commenced or instituted before the passing of this Act."

Examined,—

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Chairman of Committees.

13. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report 2^d from the Committee of the Whole on the Legislative Council's amendments in this Bill,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

Mr. Moore moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Council's amendment inserting new clause 11," instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate ensued.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The House divided.

Ayes, 42.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Duguld Thomson,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Pycers,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Garrard,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. See,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Harris,	Mr. Wilks.

Noes, 25.

Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Cruickshank.
Mr. Price,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Wheeler.
Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Smailes,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Gorniy,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Black,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question,—That the report be now adopted,—put and passed.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 2nd September, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Mining Laws Amendment Bill,—

Agrees to the amendments on page 1, clause 2, down to and including the first in line 16.

Disagrees to the amendment on page 1, clause 2, line 16, which omits the word "the" and inserts "an" and to the amendment on pages 1 and 2, clause 2, lines 16 to 1,—because it is considered that 20 acres is not a sufficient area, and because under the Principal Act the area allowed for lease varies from 20 acres to 80 acres, and because the area to be allowed should be regulated by the class of deposit to be sought for.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 2, lines 3, 5, 8, and 15, but proposes to amend that in line 5 by omitting the words "the rate of twenty shillings per acre per annum," and inserting "a rate per acre per annum to be fixed by the Warden,"—because, as land varies considerably in quality and value, the rent should not be arbitrarily fixed in all cases.

Disagrees to the amendments in clause 2, lines 19 and 28,—because "mining" is a more comprehensive term than "prospecting," and insures to the miner greater facilities for thoroughly proving the land until it is necessary to apply for a lease, and as the miner pays rent and compensation it is thought that his powers under the authority should not be restricted to prospecting only.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 2, lines 26 and 27, and to the first amendment in line 30.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 2, line 30, which omits the word "mine," and to that in line 31, which omits the word "mining,"—because the words are necessary, as already explained.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 2, lines 33 to 45.

Disagrees to that part of the amendment in clause 2, line 47, which omits the words "have power to enforce the same in all cases,"—because it is necessary that the Warden should have power to enforce such stipulations and conditions, and without these words the powers would be inoperative, but proposes to insert the word "and" after the word "cases," and agrees to the insertion of the words "deal with the deposit in the manner prescribed by regulations under this Act."

Agrees

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st October, 1896.

Agrees to the amendment in clause 2, line 53, but proposes to amend such amendment by omitting the word "thereof" and inserting the words "of the notification of the assessment,"—because the miner could not possibly commence operations within fourteen days from the date of the authority, as the inquiry must be held in the meantime, and the Warden may not have assessed the amount to be paid before the fourteen days have expired.

Disagrees to that part of the amendment in clause 2, line 54, which omits the words "without the written permission of the Warden,"—because if the operations were suspended for one day or an hour the authority would become cancelled; and agrees to the remainder of that amendment.

Agrees to the amendment on page 2, clause 2, lines 55 and 57, and to those on page 3, lines 10, 14, and 19.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 2, line 21, which omits subsection (j), but proposes to amend such subsection by omitting the word "hereinafter" and inserting "hereinbefore,"—because it is necessary that the holder of the authority should have some place in which to reside if he remains on the land for any length of time.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 3, line 31,—because if the owner did not consent to resumption the object of the clause would be defeated, and obstruction might be caused by owners to land being resumed which it is highly desirable in the interests of mining should be thrown open under the Act of 1874. The owner is paid compensation for any loss he may sustain, and the principles of resumption should be applied without the owner's consent in a work that is for the public good.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 3, lines 32, 33, 36, and 45.

Agrees to so much of the amendment at the end of clause 3 as adds the words "Provided further that such power of resumption shall not apply to any land occupied under any lease or agreement for mining purposes under the provisions of this or any other Act," but disagrees to remainder of that amendment, because the words are unnecessary, as the necessity of obtaining the owner's consent is disagreed to.

Agrees to the amendments in clauses 4, 5, 6, and 7, and to the omission of clauses 8 and 9.

Disagrees to the insertion of the first of the new clauses to follow clause 10,—because the owner would have power to lock up large areas of land without any labour conditions, and without any restriction as to area, and thereby the object of the Bill could be defeated.

Agrees to the insertion of the remaining two new clauses to follow clause 10.

And the Legislative Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the amendments upon the Council's amendments in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st October, 1896.

14. PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
15. NET-FISHING IN PORT HACKING ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 2 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on Tuesday next.

16. STOCK AND PASTURES (BOARD OF ADVICE) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to constitute a Board of Advice in matters relating to the stock and pastures of the Colony, and to define the powers and duties of the said Board.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be now received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to constitute a Board of Advice in matters relating to the stock and pastures of the Colony, and to define the powers and duties of the said Board.
On motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
17. TAMWORTH WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works.

Mr.

1st October, 1896.

- Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
 Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
 The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works.
 On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works*,"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
18. **ELECTRIC TRACTION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
19. **PHARMACY BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, that this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Thursday next.
20. **COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
21. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the day postponed until Tuesday next:—
 (1.) Public Health Bill; second reading.
 (2.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading.
 (3.) State Savings Bank Bill; second reading.
 (4.) Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (*Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Young, "That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of extending the railway from Redfern into the City of Sydney."
 (5.) Vegetation Diseases Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
 (6.) Rabbit Bill; second reading.
 (7.) Truck Bill; second reading.
 (8.) Police Regulation Act Amendment Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the "Police Regulation Act of 1862" in certain respects.
 (9.) Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
 (10.) Lands for Closer Settlement Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill 'be' now read a second time,"—
 Upon which Mr. Rose had moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be," and inserting the words "referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report."
 "(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Millen, Mr. Watson, Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, and the Mover,"—instead thereof.
22. **GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (COMPENSATION LIMITATION) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

The House adjourned, at thirteen minutes after Three o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 64.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 6 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Dismissals under the Public Service Act:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Does section 49 of the Public Service Act, 59 Vic. No. 25, provide for the dismissal of any Civil Servant who shall "be guilty of any disgraceful or improper conduct"?
 - (2.) Has any case occurred during the last three months which would bring any officer within the operation of such section?
 - (3.) If so, has such case been dealt with by the Public Service Board, and what action was taken by them therein, and what was their decision?
 - (4.) If more than one case has occurred, will he please specify the offences, and their respective punishments?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Section 49 of the Public Service Act provides for the punishment of Public Servants who commit certain offences; such punishment may include dismissal.

(2.) Yes.

(3 and 4.) A number of cases have been dealt with by the Public Service Board, who can only deal with cases after the suspension of the officer concerned. The particulars required by the Honorable Member will be given in the Annual Report of the Board.

- (2.) Hydraulic Cranes used at Wickham and Bullock Island:—Mr. Bavister, for Mr. Dick, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has he ascertained from his officers whether the disturbance resulting from the recent falls at Wickham and Bullock Island is likely to affect the security of the hydraulic cranes?

(2.) If not, will he cause an exhaustive survey to be made of the mine, with a view to take all possible precautions against danger to the cranes?

Mr. Cook answered,—Inquiry has been made in this matter, and the Chief Inspector reports that the falls referred to are not likely to affect the security of the hydraulic cranes.

- (3.) Railway Employees:—Mr. Chanter, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many of the railway employees have complied with By-law 62 of the Government Railways Act of 1888?

(2.) Which are the offices approved by the Commissioners, and how many employees are assured in each office?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that 1,714 employees are insured, the policies of insurance being taken out with the companies mentioned hereunder:—Australian Mutual Provident Society, 629; City Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited), 346; The National Mutual Life Association of Australasia (Limited), 250; Mutual Life Association of Australasia, 156; Citizens' Life Assurance Company (Limited), 146; Mutual Assurance Society of Victoria (Limited), 65; Australian Widows' Fund Life Assurance Society, 40; The Colonial Mutual Life Assurance Society (Limited), 40; Australian Temperance and General Mutual Life Assurance Society, 38. In addition, four policies have been accepted which had been taken out with the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, New York Life Insurance Company, National Life Assurance Company, and the Prudential Assurance Company (Limited), respectively, and were held by the employees prior to joining the service.

(4.)

6th October, 1896.

(4.) Running of the Trams:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the reason for the alteration in the running of the steam-trams, in which almost every trip is changed from one route to another?
- (2.) In cases in which a guard finishes his work a long way from home through this change, will he give directions so as to ensure the safety of the men and the cash in their bags?
- (3.) Will he give instructions to do away with these frequent changes, so as to minimise the danger caused through men being taken from their usual routes and put on to strange routes where they are not acquainted with the different stopping-places?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that the recent alterations were made for the purpose of securing a more even service, and at present only materially affect Sunday arrangements.
- (2.) It is not considered that the existing arrangements call for any alteration.
- (3.) No risk is incurred by the present arrangements, which were adopted for the expeditious working of the trams and in the public interest.

(5.) Use of Arsenical Compounds:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Can the Agricultural Department state the quantity of arsenic or arsenical compounds that is used annually in orchards, or for blights, &c., in fruit trees, shrubs, &c.?
- (2.) The quantity used annually for the destruction of noxious weeds or herbs, &c., if any?
- (3.) Can the Stock Department give any idea of the quantity of arsenic or arsenical preparations or compounds that is used annually in the shape of drenches and dips for sheep?

Mr. Cook answered,—The Department has no means of obtaining the information desired by the Honorable Member.

(6.) Arsenical Compounds used for Destruction of Rabbits:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will the Lands Department state what quantity (if any) of arsenic or arsenical compounds is used annually for the destruction of rabbits and other noxious vermin in the Colony?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—My honorable colleague is not aware.

(7.) Arsenic used by the Works Department:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

Does the Works Department use any arsenic or arsenical compound or preparation for the purpose of destroying white ants in bridges and other timber works in the Colony; if so, how much arsenic is used for this purpose annually?

Mr. Young answered,—Yes; but the amount used on each bridge would largely depend on the size and description of the bridge and its state of preservation. It is not possible to say accurately how much arsenic would be used annually; probably under 1 cwt.

(8.) Mail Service between Eugowra and Bindagundra:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—Has any tender been called for a mail service between Eugowra and Bindagundra railway station; if so, how many times a week is it proposed to run the mails?

Mr. Cook answered,—It is intended immediately to invite tenders for a once or twice a week mail service between the places referred to. Service to commence on the 1st January next.

(9.) Sydney Harbour:—Mr. Griffith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that Sydney Harbour is being continually polluted by excrement, soot, and garbage of all kinds from the men-of-war stationed therein?
- (2.) Will he communicate with the Marine Board, with a view to having this garbage removed from the war-ships by a scavenger-boat?

Mr. Reid answered,—Sydney Harbour is no doubt polluted to a certain extent by men-of-war, but there is a scavenger-boat already provided for the purpose of receiving soot and garbage from these vessels.

2. PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Petitions—representing that the Patents Law Amendment Bill will prove severely detrimental to the general interests of the whole community, and praying that the passage of the Bill will be carefully considered and action taken thereon which will be, in the opinion of the House, of most advantage to the people of New South Wales,—were presented by the Members named:—

- (1.) By Mr. Archibald Campbell—From Andrew Armstrong, of No. 5, Spring-street, Sydney.
 - (2.) By Mr. Archibald Campbell—From John Howell, Managing Director of the Smelting Company of Australia (Limited), of 56, Margaret-street, Sydney.
 - (3.) By Mr. Barnes—From Stephen Henderson, representing the Camden Syndicate, of London.
 - (4.) By Mr. Travers Jones—From Henry Hudson, representing the Clyde Smelting Works.
 - (5.) By Mr. Schey—From Frank Jarvis, Secretary to the Illawarra Harbour and Land Corporation (Limited).
 - (6.) By Mr. Perry—From Leonard Dodds, Pitt-street, Sydney.
 - (7.) By Mr. Bull—From F. F. Marks, Attorney for the Anglo-Australian Exploration (Limited).
- Petitions received.

3. PAPER:—Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 27th August, 1896,—“Retirement of Mr. Robert McClelland from Department of Lands.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th October, 1896.

4. **NO-LIABILITY MINING COMPANIES BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 60.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal an Act intituled 'An Act to incorporate No-liability Mining Companies,' and to provide in lieu thereof for the incorporation, regulation, and winding-up of No-liability Mining Companies,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 2nd October, 1896.

5. **NOXIOUS WEEDS BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Bruncker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 61.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to provide for the eradication and destruction and for preventing the growth of Noxious Weeds, and to prohibit and regulate the importation of Noxious Weeds, and of articles which might spread their growth.

Government House,
Sydney, 2nd October, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

6. **BOROUGH OF LITHGOW VALIDATING BILL (Formal Motion)**:—

(1.) Mr. Bavister moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to validate certain assessments and rates made by the Municipal Council of the Borough of Lithgow.
Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Bavister having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to validate certain assessments and rates made by the Municipal Council of the Borough of Lithgow,*"—read a first time.

7. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—

(1.) Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments.
(2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
(3.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.

8. **DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF THE STEAMER "RODNEY"**:—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim made by Permewan, Wright, & Co. (Ltd.), against the Government for compensation for the destruction by fire of their steamer "Rodney," at Moorara Station, on the River Darling, on the 26th day of August, 1894.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Lync, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. See, Mr. Moore, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Cann, Mr. Carroll, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 18.

Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Lync,	Tellers,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Kelly.
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	
Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Hayes,	
Mr. Schey,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Gormly,	

Noes, 34.

Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Bull,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Hawthorne.
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Tellers,
Mr. Haynes,	
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Ferguson.

And so it passed in the negative.

9. **PITT TOWN SETTLEMENT**:—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the abandonment of the Pitt Town Settlement scheme.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Dick, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Watson, Mr. Rose, Mr. Price, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Kelly, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

6th October, 1896.

10. **NEWSPAPERS AND INLAND LETTERS POSTAGE BILL**:—Mr. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to impose postage upon newspapers, and to reduce the postage on inland letters.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for Wellington Mr. Haynes, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 23.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Davis.

Tellers,

Mr. Crick,
Mr. Griffith.

Noes, 47.

Mr. Wright,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. McMillan,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Storey,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Law,
Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Bavier,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Willis.

Tellers,

Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hoguo.

And so it passed in the negative.

Debate continued.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 23rd September, 1896.

11. **PUBLIC HEALTH BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

12. **WATER RIGHTS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to one, amended other, and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.

Mr. Young moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

Mr. Smith moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Council's "amendments in clauses 9 and 20,"—instead thereof.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted—put and passed.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Council's amendments in clauses 9 and 20,—put and passed.

On motion of Mr. Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 7 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported 2^o that the Committee had amended some and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments in clauses 9 and 20.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th October, 1896.

13. **ELECTRIC TRACTION BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th October, 1896, a.m.*

14. **COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to amend the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1887, and the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894; to validate certain assessments, valuations, and rates; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th October, 1896, a.m.*

15. **GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (COMPENSATION LIMITATION) BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to limit the amount of Damages recoverable against the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales in certain cases.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to limit the amount of Damages recoverable against the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales in certain cases.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th October, 1896, a.m.*

16. **NEWCASTLE MAGISTRATES BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such districts as the Governor may direct, and within the districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th October, 1896, a.m.*

6th October, 1896.

17. SUPREME COURT FEES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendment.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal section 14 of the Act 10th Victoria No. 10; to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th October, 1896, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at seventeen minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 65.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 7 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Passenger Traffic at the Redfern Railway Station :—Mr. Bavister asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he state, for the information of the Members of this House and the public, the average daily number (as nearly as can be readily ascertained) of passengers arriving at the Redfern Railway Station on the journey into Sydney?
 - (2.) The average daily number of passengers travelling by the railway tram from the Redfern Railway Station?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that the number of passengers arriving at Redfern Railway Station yesterday was about 22,350.
- (2.) The average number of passengers travelling by the direct trams to and from the Railway Station daily is approximately 7,200 on week days and 3,200 on Sundays.

- (2.) Parks and Reserves :—Mr. Bavister asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What is the total area of parks and reserves unoccupied by buildings included in a radius of half a mile from the junction of Park and Elizabeth Streets, and what is the estimated population resident in the same radius?
 - (2.) The same particulars as No. 1 within a 1-mile radius of same point; and also the area of water-surface area?
 - (3.) The same particulars as No. 2, but with a 2-mile radius?
 - (4.) The same particulars as No. 2, but with a 3-mile radius?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This information cannot be supplied in Answer to a Question, but if the House direct that a return be prepared, every effort will be made to furnish it, but I must add that it would cost a very considerable sum in its preparation.

- (3.) Franking Letters from Government House :—Mr. Willis asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Will he prohibit the general system of franking letters issued from Government House?
 - (2.) If so, will he see that the Governor's letters only go through the post free?
 - (3.) Will he see that an account is kept of the cost of carrying the letters so franked, and submit the amount on the next Estimates for approval or otherwise of Parliament?

Mr. Cook answered,—In my replies to the Honorable Member's previous Questions, I indicated that the postage on Government House correspondence was defrayed from the annual vote of £31,000. I may further explain for the Honorable Member's information that on the abolition of the system of stamping correspondence from public departments, it was ascertained that this sum represented the actual value of stamps supplied to the various Departments, including Government House. It will thus be seen that this correspondence is not franked in the ordinary sense of the word, but is actually paid for, the frank stamp being merely used for convenience sake.

- (4.) Disease known as the Rinderpest :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What action (if any) has the Government taken respecting the deadly cattle disease known as rinderpest?
 - (2.) Can the Government offer any explanation of the way it has reached the British Colonies in Africa?
 - (3.) Have they taken any action to discover the reason of its spreading from one continental country to another?
 - (4.) Was it imported from England, or from Russia or Holland?
 - (5.) Does the Government realise the danger to these Australian Colonies by importing grain, seeds, or other produce from Africa?
 - (6.) What has been the percentage of deaths in Africa from this disease?

Mr.

7th October, 1896.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) I have already approved of a proclamation being issued prohibiting the introduction of stock, fodder, or fittings from South Africa; also the introduction of stock by vessels calling at South African ports.

(2.) It is said to have spread from the northern to the southern part of Africa.

(3.) I am not aware.

(4.) See reply to Question No. 2.

(5.) Yes; and grain, &c., will be included in the proclamation.

(6.) No reliable information has been received, but it is known that they are exceedingly heavy, in some cases exceeding 80 per cent.

(5.) Travelling-stock Charges:—Mr. Ashton asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it his intention to introduce next Session a Bill to provide for the refund of travelling-stock charges in cases where they are acknowledged to be equitably due?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is my intention.

(6.) Roads in the Wagga Wagga Land District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is there any proposal before the Lands Department to sell, exchange, or close, in the Wagga Wagga Land District, roads that give access to the Murrumbidgee River or to creeks or lagoons?

(2.) Will care be taken that no Crown lands surveyed as roads be parted with which are now or in the future likely to be required for the use of the public as roads?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) No proposal of the kind referred to can be traced.

(2.) Yes; no such roads are closed without the fullest consideration being given as to the present and prospective necessity for their retention.

(7.) Proposed Exchange of Lands in the Wagga Wagga Land District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it proposed to exchange in the Wagga Wagga Land District a quantity of Crown lands for private lands; and, if so, do any of such exchanges propose to give frontages to rivers and creeks for back scrubby, rocky, hilly, private lands?

(2.) If it is intended to exchange Crown lands for private lands, will he cause a notification to be inserted in the local newspapers announcing when the Local Land Board will sit in Wagga Wagga for the purpose of taking evidence in regard to exchanges of land, so that those who desire may appear and give evidence against the proposed exchanges?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) The exchange proposal referred to by the Honorable Member cannot be identified from the particulars supplied by him.

(2.) It is necessary, under section 47 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895, that every proposal for exchange shall be notified in the *Gazette* and in a local newspaper.

2. PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Cann presented a Petition from William Springthorpe Dowel, of Vickery's Chambers, Sydney, representing that the Patents Law Amendment Bill will prove severely detrimental to the general interests of the whole community; and praying that the passage of the Bill will be carefully considered and action taken thereon which will be, in the opinion of the House, of most advantage to the people of New South Wales.
Petition received.

3. WATER RIGHTS BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 30th September, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Water Rights Bill,—

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 2, lines 30 to 32, which omits the words "not exceeding five acres in extent used in connection with a dwelling-house,"—because it is considered desirable that the use of water without licenses should be limited to five acres in the case of gardens.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill, but proposes—

to amend the amendment in clause 8, line 47, by omitting the words "at the request" and inserting the words "by the direction"

to amend the amendment in clause 9, lines 53 to 58, by inserting in the words proposed to be inserted by the Council, after the word "appeal," second occurring, the words "or reference"

to amend the new clause to follow clause 11 by omitting from line 9 the word "any," and inserting the words "the Crown or any other"; by inserting after the word "work," in line 11, the words "upon payment of a fee calculated in the manner and according to the scale set forth in the Schedule of this Act"; and by omitting from line 12 the word "an" and inserting the words "the Crown or any other owner or"

to amend the new clause to follow clause 13 by inserting after the word "appeal" in line 2 the words "or reference" and

to amend the amendment in clause 20, line 32, by omitting the words "or Districts," and by adding to such amendment the words "or if the work be situated in more than one Land Board District, such Land Board as the Minister may name."

And the Legislative Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the amendments upon the Council's amendments in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th October, 1896.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th. October, 1896.

4. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Capertee Tramway Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 62.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise John Lang, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, merchant, his heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, or any company duly registered for that purpose by agreement with the said John Lang, his executors, administrators, or assigns, to construct and maintain a Tramway from a point near the north-east corner of lease number twenty, in the parish of Gindantherie, county of Cook, to the Mudgee Railway; and to use steam or other motive power upon the said Tramway, and to carry passengers, goods, live stock, ore, and other things over the said Tramway, for hire, for the public generally,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 7th October, 1896.

(2.) Municipal Baths Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 63.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1867, to enable Municipalities to lease and acquire lands, and to erect baths thereon or thereover, and to lease and acquire baths already erected; to validate the acts of Municipal Councils which have already erected, leased, or acquired baths beyond the bounds of their Municipalities; and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 7th October, 1896.

(3.) Public Officers Fees Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 64.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide that all Fees received by Public Officers shall be paid and accounted for as money received by them on account of the revenue within the meaning of the Audit Act of 1870,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 7th October, 1896.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of St. John, county of Cumberland, for a Court-house and Police Buildings at Parramatta.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Religious Purposes, in accordance with the 5th section of the Act 25 Victoria No. 1.

(2.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(3.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(4.) Abstract of Alterations and Cancellations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(5.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. PRISONERS SUBJECTED TO SEPARATE OR SOLITARY TREATMENT IN GAOLS (*Formal Motion*):—

Mr. Millen moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The number of prisoners incarcerated during the quinquennial period, 1891-5, in each of the gaols at which solitary confinement or separate treatment is in vogue.

(2.) The number of such prisoners in each gaol subjected to—(a) solitary confinement; (b) separate treatment; (c) treatment not including either of the foregoing.

(3.) The number of prisoners in each of those classes in each gaol at any time placed in the ward for criminal lunatics.

Question put and passed.

7.

7th October, 1896.

7. **BOROUGH OF LITHGOW VALIDATING BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Bavister moved, pursuant to Notice,—
- (1.) That the Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
- (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Edden, Mr. Jessep, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Hurley, Mr. T. R. Smith, and the Mover.
- Question put and passed.
8. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Net-fishing in Port Hacking Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday, 21st October.
- (2.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading;—until Wednesday, 21st October.
- (3.) Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (*Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Young, "That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of extending the railway from Redfern into the city of Sydney";—until Wednesday, 21st October.
- (4.) Vegetation Diseases Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday next.
- (5.) Rabbit Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday, 28th October.
- (6.) Truck Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday, 28th October.
- (7.) Police Regulation Act Amendment Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the "Police Regulation Act of 1862" in certain respects;—until Wednesday, 28th October.
- (8.) Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday, 28th October.
- (9.) Lands for Closer Settlement Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill 'be' now read a second time,"—
- Upon which Mr. Rose had moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be," and inserting the words "referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.
- "(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Millen, Mr. Watson, Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, and the Mover,"—instead thereof;—until Wednesday, 11th November.
9. **PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
- Mr. Griffith moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1, 2, 4, and 7, and the insertion of two new clauses,"—instead thereof.
- Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
- Debate ensued.
- Mr. Reid moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
- Question put and passed.
- Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.
10. **PUBLIC HEALTH BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at twenty-one minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 66.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Alleged Statement of His Honor Mr. Justice Simpson:—Mr. Millen asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has he ascertained if the statement alleged to have been made by Mr. Justice Simpson, expressing an intention of withholding such sentences as would subject prisoners to solitary or separate treatment, is substantially correct?

(2.) If not, will he do so?

(3.) If inquiry has shown the statement to be correct, does he recognise that strange irregularities must arise in the sentences of prisoners found guilty before Judge Simpson and those convicted for similar offences before other Judges?

(4.) Will he, in view of his expressed determination to maintain solitary treatment, invite the attention of Mr. Justice Simpson to the impropriety of persistently attempting to circumvent that system?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) I have not made any inquiry of the character indicated, nor is it my intention to do so, as it is not within my province to communicate with the Judges on the opinions they may express from the Bench.

(4.) The Honorable Member is in error in assuming that I have expressed a determination to maintain solitary treatment, but I have expressed my approval of the continuance of the system of separate, or cellular, treatment as provided for by the present gaol regulations. As the Judges are placed in a position of absolute independence, and are not amenable to Executive interference in the exercise of their judicial functions, I do not feel called upon to communicate with Mr. Justice Simpson in the manner suggested. As it is evident that very great misapprehension exists in the minds of many persons unacquainted with the system under which our prisons are managed as to what "separate treatment" as distinguished from "solitary confinement" really consists of, I may be permitted to explain the difference between them. Solitary confinement, as termed in our gaols, means cell punishment for a prison offence on bread and water, under section 12 or 13 of 4 Vic. No. 29, or half rations under Regulation 69, and carries with it loss of remission, according to the time passed in such seclusion, which is for varying periods, not exceeding one month, according to the nature of the offences. Such punishment is never inflicted by the Comptroller-General, but is imposed by the Visiting Justices under the powers conferred upon them by the Prisons Acts and Regulations. Cellular separation, or separate treatment, is a part of the prison system under which all prisoners under sentences of hard labour or penal servitude of three years and upwards are placed for the first nine months of their sentences, if not exempted by the surgeon, or on account of advanced age. While undergoing it, the prisoners have a diet, which was fixed by a Board of Medical Experts, including Drs. Manning, MacLaurin, and Maurice O'Connor. They work in their cells; when not working they have books to read, and are allowed exercise for an hour or two hours daily in the open air, and for a longer time if the surgeon thinks it advisable. They are visited daily either by prison officers, chaplains, or the surgeon, who is required by the regulations to carefully watch them, and, in the event of his perceiving any injurious effects, either physical or mental, he is empowered to at once place them in association. It will, therefore, be seen that the treatment is surrounded by ample safeguards, full power, as I have said, being given to the surgeon as to exemption, extra diet, and exercise. It is also adopted as a means for the repression of dangerous or refractory prisoners when other methods have failed to check or deter them from a persistent disregard of the disciplinary rules of the Department, such as attempts

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attempts to lead mutinies, continued quarrelling with fellow prisoners, and like offences. I may add that "separate treatment" is not a matter of recent adoption in our gaols. It has been in force for nearly thirty years, having been introduced under the regulations which were adopted by a former Government (of which Sir Henry Parkes was Premier), and which were gazetted on the 19th February, 1867. It is the most penal portion of the longer sentences for grave offences, according to the principle of progressive stages of amelioration of treatment, which is the basis of the Irish, or Crofton, Prison system. The late Mr. Harold McLean, when in charge of the Prison Department, visited England in 1870, and, as a result of full and careful inquiry into the working and management of the prison establishments in the United Kingdom, upon his return reported upon the system in the following terms:—"From whatever point of view the "prison administration of the United Kingdom is regarded, the principle of isolation, as carried out "by separation in its various modifications, is found to lie at the roots of its advantages; and these "are admitted by all authorities to comprehend a more effective discipline, a more deterrent punishment, and a larger measure of reformation than could be reached by any other means." Since that report was written any changes which have taken place in England have been in the direction of an extension of the system of separation.

(2.) Copy-books used in Public Schools:—Mr. James Thomson asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Department to change the reading or copy books in the Public Schools; if so, when?

(2.) Does the Department allow schoolmasters to change or introduce new reading and copy books at their pleasure?

(3.) If so in either case, will he give instructions so as reasonable notice be given, in order that those who supply the schools with the above-mentioned books may not sustain a loss through having a large stock on hand when the change is effected?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) Tenders are now being called for reading books, and if a tender be accepted the new elementary books will come into use on 1st January, 1898, and the more advanced on 1st January, 1899.

(2.) No change has taken place in reading books for years. Teachers are permitted to select only from the copy books authorised.

(3.) Answered by Nos. 1 and 2.

(3.) Captain Hildebrand of the s.s. "Thetis":—Mr. Davis asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How many years has Captain Hildebrand (at present master of the s.s. "Thetis") been employed in the Dredge Service?

(2.) Will he state the date of admission, also the names of the vessels in which he has served, and the period of service in each vessel?

(3.) In what capacity has he served during that time; if in more than one capacity, state them and the time served in each, also the names of the vessels where the respective services were performed?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) 10 years 4 months.

(2 and 3). Joined Service 26th May, 1886. Employed on tug "Little Nell," 1 year 1½ months, as seaman; tug "Thetis," 1 year 2 weeks, as mate; dredge "Dictys," 6 months, as mate; tug "Athena," 1 month, as master; tug "Aurora," 1 year 6 months, as master; tug "Achilles," 2 weeks, as master; tug "Ganymede," 11 months, as master; tug "Dayspring," 2 weeks, as master; tug "Dione," 9 months 2 weeks, as master; tug "Rhea," 1 year 10 months, as master; tug "Orestes," 1 year 10 months, as master; tug "Ceres," 6 months, as master; tug "Thetis," 2 months, as master.

(4.) Appointment of Solicitor in Crown Solicitor's Office:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a vacancy in the Crown Solicitor's Office was filled by the appointment, without examination, of a solicitor, a few days before the holding of the Law Examination by the Public Service Board, for a position in the Crown Solicitor's Office, and while many solicitors were preparing for that examination?

(2.) If so, why was the position filled before the examination was held?

(3.) What are the duties of, and what is the salary attached to, the position which has thus been filled without examination?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) An appointment to the Crown Solicitor's Office was made by the Public Service Board, under section 30 of the Public Service Act, in August last, on urgent representations made by the Honorable the Attorney-General and the Crown Solicitor to the Board that it was necessary that an additional solicitor, competent to undertake the duties generally falling to a managing clerk, should at once be appointed. The report of the Board, and the papers relative to the appointment, will, in accordance with the requirements of the above-mentioned section, be laid before Parliament.

(2.) The appointment made was not to the position in relation to which the examination was held.

(3.) The duties are those generally falling to a managing clerk in a solicitor's office, but include others, for which special qualifications are necessary. The salary is £400 per annum.

(5.) Export of Fruit:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Willis, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What was the cost of the shipment of fruit shipped by the Government in August last, including grading, packing, and supervision?

(2.) What was the rate of the carriage?

(3.) How was the fruit packed, and with what result?

(4.) What was the profit or loss on the undertaking?

Mr.

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Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) The cost of the whole fruit purchased, including all charges, amounted to £999 15s. 11d. Out of the 2,076 cases purchased sufficient to make up 245 cases were culled in the grading, and disposed of in the Victorian market to the best advantage. They consisted of irregularly-shaped, discoloured, and pricked fruit.

(2.) Seventy shillings per ton of 40 cubic feet.

(3.) The bulk of the consignment was shipped in ventilated cases and wrapped in absorbent paper, and arrived sound and in good condition. As an experiment, five cases were packed in ti-tree bark, five were coated with Parker's patent solution, and five were sent in pumice stone. The full report has not yet been received from the Agent-General, but the cable states that those packed in pumice and those treated by Parker's process arrived in "soft condition."

(4.) After allowing for the loss on the culls and experimental cases the net profit amounted to £131 15s. 5d.

(6.) Marine Board Regulations :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Marine Board Regulations will not permit engineers holding third-class certificates to perform any duties in connection with same beyond 15 miles each side of Sydney Heads?

(2.) Is it a fact that in South Australia and Queensland such certificates hold good for the whole of the coast?

(3.) Will he consult the Marine Board, with a view to extend the same privileges to third-class engineers on the coast of New South Wales?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) It is believed that such is the case, though it causes considerable dissatisfaction on the part of first and second-class engineers.

(3.) Yes, with the view of doing what is right in the matter, whatever that may happen to be.

(7.) Noxious Weeds Bill :—Mr. Ball asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it his intention to introduce a Bill this Session dealing with noxious weeds, including the stinkwort weed, which is spreading and becoming a pest in the Albury district?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—My honorable colleague, the Secretary for Lands, is dealing with this matter, and the Bill will be laid upon the Table of this House as soon as possible.

(8.) Holidays in the Sewerage Construction Branch :—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that holidays that were allowed inspectors and overseers in the Sewerage Construction Branch have been discontinued; if so, why?

(2.) Do these men have to work overtime without remuneration for same?

(3.) Have any of these officers been allowed holidays, when applied for, and then had their pay stopped for time off?

(4.) Will he see that these men are treated the same as other Departmental officers with regard to holiday arrangements?

Mr. Young answered,—The regulations made by the Public Service Board do not apply to persons temporarily employed in respect of leave of absence, and, consequently, inspectors and overseers employed under section 37 of the Public Service Act are not granted leave of absence, nor are they allowed overtime, but they are paid for public holidays.

(9.) Holidays to Police Officers :—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that holidays hitherto allowed to police officers have now been discontinued; if so, why?

Mr. Brunner answered,—I am informed that the police are now allowed the same holidays as hitherto.

(10.) Woronora Cemetery, at Sutherland :—Mr. Nicholson asked the Secretary for Lands,—What amount of money has been granted by Government for the improvement of the Woronora Cemetery, at Sutherland, from the date of its dedication up to the present date?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Since dedication £846 11s. has been granted, but £1,000 was granted prior to dedication.

(11.) Regulations under the Public Service Act :—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When does he anticipate the Public Service Board will proclaim the regulations governing the General Division of the Civil Service?

Mr. Reid answered,—At the earliest opportunity, but no date can at present be stated.

2. MAITLAND GASLIGHT ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—Mr. Gillies presented a Petition from the Maitland Gaslight Company (Limited), praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the Maitland Gaslight Company (Limited) to extend its works to, and to light and supply gas to, and carry on business in, places beyond the limits and boundaries of the towns of East and West Maitland; and to confer further powers on the said company; and to amend the deed of settlement of the company; and the Maitland Gas Act of 1874; and for other purposes incidental thereto.

And Mr. Gillies having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Maitland Daily Mercury*, newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—

Petition received.

8th October, 1896.

3. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC** :—Mr. Hughes presented a Petition from James McCallum, Chairman of a Public Meeting held in the People's Hall, Sussex-street, Sydney, on 30th September, 1896, referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation. Petition received.
4. **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT** :—Mr. Reid made a statement explanatory of the Patents Law Amendment Bill, and read a minute by the Honorable the Attorney-General stating the reasons for the introduction of that Bill.
5. **PRINTING COMMITTEE** :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-first Report from the Printing Committee.
6. **ART UNIONS AND LOTTERIES BILL (Formal Motion)** :—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to legalise art unions and lotteries in certain cases. Question put and passed.
7. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community;—until Wednesday next.
 (2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
 (3.) City Mutual Life Assurance Society's (Limited) Enabling Bill—(as amended and agreed to in Select Committee); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
 (4.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (as agreed to in Select Committee); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
8. **PAPERS** :—Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Return to an Order, made on 30th June, 1896,—“ Model or Experimental Farm, Grafton.”
 (2.) Report of the proceedings of the meeting of experts in connection with the Intercolonial Stock Conference held in Sydney, August, 1896.
 (3.) Report of the Intercolonial Stock Conference held in Sydney, August, 1896. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
9. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Qucanbeyan, Mr. O'Sullivan, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“ The disastrous results which will arise in New South Wales through the export of gold as payment for imports.”
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived.
10. **HAY IRRIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL** :—
 (1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Hay Irrigation Act, and to repeal the Hay Irrigation Act Amendment Act, 1895. Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Carruthers then presented a Bill, intituled “ *A Bill to amend the Hay Irrigation Act, and to repeal the Hay Irrigation Act Amendment Act, 1895,* ”—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
11. **PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Gould, “ ‘ That ’ this Bill be now read a third time,”—Upon which Mr. Griffith had moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word “ That ” and inserting the words “ the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses ‘ 1, 2, 4, and ‘ 7, ’ and the insertion of two new clauses, ”—instead thereof.
 And the Question being again proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—
 The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
 Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
 Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted.
 Mr. Young moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by leaving out the figures “ 1, ” “ 7, ” and the words “ and the insertion of two new clauses.”
 Question proposed,—That the figures and words proposed to be left out stand part of the proposed amendment.
 Debate continued.
 Mr. Young, by leave, withdrew his proposed amendment of the amendment.
 Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.
 Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1, 2, 4, and 7, and the insertion of two new clauses,—put and passed.
 On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 2^o with an amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th October, 1896.

12. WATER RIGHTS BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 7th October, 1896, in reference to the Water Rights Bill,—does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's amendments upon the Council's amendments in this Bill.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 8th October, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

13. PUBLIC HEALTH BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 9 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

14. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Notice was taken that there was not a Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only eighteen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker, viz.,—Mr. Barnes, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. J. C. I. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Garrard, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Lonsdale, Mr. McCourt, Mr. McGowen, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Millard, Mr. Miller, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Willis,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at twenty-eight minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 67.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 13 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Case of the Ship "Siren":—Mr. McMillan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that in the case of the ship "Siren," loaded with Australian produce, which was sunk by collision with one of Her Majesty's ships, the Admiralty admit that the disaster was caused by the error of their own officer?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the amount offered by way of compensation by the Imperial Government only covers a very small proportion of the ship and cargo, valued together at £120,000?
 - (3.) Will he communicate with the Imperial Government, and urge a more equitable consideration of this case?
 - (4.) Will he obtain the opinion of the Attorney-General as to whether there is a legal liability when one of Her Majesty's ships, through error, destroys a ship of the mercantile marine?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) It is not known what was offered, but it is presumed that compensation would be based on the provision in the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894 (see section 502 and following clauses), which fix compensation payable by owners of vessels in such cases at £8 per ton.
 - (3 and 4.) This matter is now under consideration at request of the Chamber of Commerce.
- (2.) Gymnasiums for the Police:—*Mr. Millen*, for Mr. O'Reilly, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Will he consider the advisability of supplying a gymnasium at each of the police centres of the Colony for the use of the police in barracks?
 - (2.) Will he ascertain if it is a fact that ample provision of this sort is made for the Victorian police?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This matter is now receiving the attention of the Inspector-General of Police, who is in communication with the Chief Commissioner of Police, Victoria, upon the subject. As soon as a decision has been arrived at a communication will be made to the Honorable Member.

- (3.) Volunteer Long-service Medals:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What is the cause of delay in obtaining the Volunteer Long-service Medals, promised and referred to in the Commandant's reports on the Military Forces for 1894-95?
 - (2.) What replies on the subject have been received from England?
 - (3.) Is he aware that other Colonies have long since received and distributed their medals?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces has supplied the following information:—

- (1.) The delay is caused by non-receipt of approval from the War Office to the regulations governing the issue of the medals. These regulations were called for by the War Office in 1894, and were forwarded to England in January, 1895, for approval. The medals cannot be issued until the regulations are approved by the War Office.
- (2.) The Agent-General has replied to inquiries on the subject, that he is unable to obtain replies from the War Office to his repeated applications for the necessary approval to the regulations.
- (3.) It is believed that this is the case.

(4.)

13th October, 1896.

- (4.) Railway Rates from Sydney to Parkes:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) The rate charged by railway per ton per truck-rate of 6 tons on 3rd class goods—Sydney to Parkes?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that while the railway charges £5 10s. per ton per truck-rate of 6 tons—Sydney to Parkes—storekeepers and the general public at Parkes are charged at the rate of £6 19s. a ton per 6-ton truck-rate on 3rd class goods that come out of the 6-ton truck when sent through agents or firms?
 - (3.) Is it not a fact, when 3rd class goods are sent through agents, that the Commissioners lose at the rate of £3 per truck?
 - (4.) Will the Commissioners see that a uniform rate is charged on all 3rd class goods forwarded per 6-ton truck-rate, irrespective of being forwarded through agents?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that the rate is £5 10s.
- (2.) The railway rate applies alike to all persons under the same circumstances. The Commissioners are not aware of the arrangements existing between agents and carrying firms and their customers.
- (3 and 4.) The truck-rates apply alike to all constituents, and no preference is given to agents.

- (5.) Erection of Buildings on Darling Island:—Mr. Davis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Victorian Government have leased the freezing chambers in the Melbourne Fish Markets for the express purpose of assisting and furthering the export of Victorian produce?
 - (2.) If so, will the Government take immediate steps to erect buildings for a similar purpose on Darling Island, of suitable proportions, to meet with the growing export trade of the port of Sydney?
 - (3.) Will he cause the wharves and other works on Darling Island, authorised by Parliament, to be pushed forward immediately?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes; I am informed so by the Honorable the Minister for Mines.
- (2.) This matter will receive consideration by the Government.
- (3.) My honorable colleague the Minister for Public Works informs me that he has given the necessary instructions to this effect.

- (6.) Fisheries Bill:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a deputation has lately waited upon him from the Amateur Fisherman's Association, condemning the proposed Fisheries Bill?
 - (2.) What promises (if any) were given to the deputation?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that strong representations have been made by those engaged in the industry as a means of living, in favour of the Bill?
 - (4.) What was the cost of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the fisheries question?
 - (5.) In view of all this, will he introduce the Bill submitted to him by this Commission without further delay?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1, 2, and 3.) The deputation merely objected to the Bill in certain particulars, and were informed that a new Bill was under consideration.
- (4.) £1,890 3s. 10d.
- (5.) Yes.

- (7.) Permanent Artillery Band:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the band of the Permanent Artillery is allowed to perform at public entertainments without pay for their services?
 - (2.) Are they running in competition with other private bands whose members obtain a living by their profession as bandsmen?
 - (3.) Will he take steps to prevent the Permanent Artillery band from entering into such an unequal competition with other bands?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) Yes; when for charitable purposes, or on State occasions.
- (2.) If performing without extra remuneration, question of competition does not arise.
- (3.) I should not recommend any interference in the matter.

- (8.) Case of Kerle and Kerle v. Smith:—Mr. Nelson asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that he, as nominal defendant in the action Kerle and Kerle v. Smith, has caused execution to be levied against the plaintiff for costs, while the Supreme Court has not delivered its decision on the application for leave to appeal?
 - (2.) Does he know that the Court reserved judgment until the 26th of this month; if so, what was the necessity for proceeding until the reserved decision has been given, seeing that, if Kerle and Kerle's application is granted, all proceedings by the defendant will be stayed?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes; I am advised by the Crown Law Officers that these proceedings were taken according to the usual custom.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th October, 1896.

2. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Newcastle Magistrates Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No 65.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the appointment of Stipendiary Magistrates and their deputies to have jurisdiction within the Police District of Newcastle, and within such districts as the Governor may direct, and within the districts to which the Governor may extend this Act; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of the said Magistrates and deputies, and to limit the jurisdiction of other Justices within those districts; and for other purposes in connection therewith*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 10th October, 1896.

(2.) Supreme Court Fees Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 66.

A Bill intituled "*An Act to repeal section 14 of the Act 10th Victoria No. 10; to enable the Judges of the Supreme Court to fix the fees to be demanded and paid in that Court and in the Circuit Courts; to provide for the collection of those fees by means of stamps; and for other purposes*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 10th October, 1896.

3. PUBLIC SERVICE (SUPERANNUATION FUND) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 67.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895 to every person in the employment of the State.

Government House,

Sydney, 13th October, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

4. BERRIGAN TO FINLEY RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 68.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with the construction of a line of railway from Berrigan to Finley.

Government House,

Sydney, 9th October, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

5. TAMWORTH TO MANILLA RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 69.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with the construction of a line of railway from Tamworth to Manilla.

Government House,

Sydney, 9th October, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

6. MAITLAND GAS-LIGHT ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

- (1.) Mr. Gillies moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the Maitland Gas-light Company (Limited) to extend its works to, and to light and supply gas to, and carry on business in, places beyond the limits and boundaries of the towns of East and West Maitland; and to confer further powers on the said company; and to amend the deed of settlement of the company, and the Maitland Gas Act of 1874; and for other purposes incidental thereto. Question put and passed.

(2.)

13th October, 1896.

- (2.) Mr. Gillies having presented this Bill, and produced a certificate of the payment of the sum of Twenty-five Pounds to the credit of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the Maitland Gas-light Company (Limited) to extend its works to, and to light and supply gas to, and carry on business in, places beyond the limits and boundaries of the towns of East and West Maitland; and to confer further powers on the said Company; and to amend the deed of settlement of the company; and the Maitland Gas Act of 1874; and for other purposes incidental thereto,*"—read a first time.
7. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Lawson's Estate Mortgage Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
8. **MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Harris, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to one and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Harris, the report was adopted.
9. **PAPER** :—Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for approaches to bridge over railway line at Canterbury.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
10. **USURY LIMITATION BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. McFarlane moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Ashton* reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.
11. **MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL** :—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Harris, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—
 MR. PRESIDENT,—
 The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 30th September, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill,—
 Disagrees to the amendment on page 2, clause 2, lines 8 to 11,—because by such amendment the Council would be restricted in the use of electric power for the mere purpose of lighting, and it is considered desirable to give authority for the use of such power for other purposes in addition to that of lighting.
 Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 13th October, 1896.*
-
- And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 23rd September, 1896.*
12. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL** :—Mr. Cook, pursuant to leave granted on the 3rd September, 1896, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make provision in substitution for the provisions in the Sale of Liquors Licensing Acts as to the voting in respect of licenses; and to enable electors in electorates to prevent the sale of intoxicating liquors, or otherwise to have effectual control over the drink traffic within such electorates; and to provide a system of compensation to all owners and occupiers who may be affected by the closing of any hotel thereunder,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 27th October.
13. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (Railway from Berrigan to Finley)** :—
 Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that a line of railway from Berrigan to Finley, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
14. **COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th October, 1896.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

15. PUBLIC HEALTH BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to promote the Public Health.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to promote the Public Health,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 14th October, 1896, a.m.*

16. PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gould moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to further amend the law relating to Patents for Inventions and Improvements in Arts or Manufactures.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to further amend the law relating to Patents for Inventions and Improvements in Arts or Manufactures,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 14th October, 1896, a.m.*

PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of Amendment referred to in Message of 14th October, 1896, a.m.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Page 1, clause 1, line 6. Omit "before or"

Examined,—

WILLIAM McCOURT,

Chairman of Committees.

17. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-six minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,

Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 68.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1) Exhibition Buildings, Garden Palace Grounds:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) What was the total cost of the buildings erected for exhibition purposes, and known as the Garden Palace?
 (2.) What was the total revenue derived from the said buildings while used for the purpose of the International Exhibition?
 (3.) Is it known if any direct benefit was derived by New South Wales by the holding of such Exhibition; if so, can he state the substance of such benefit?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am unable at present to give the information required by 1 and 2, which should be moved for in the usual way. As to 3, I will probably refer to this subject when addressing the House on the Exhibition proposals.

- (2.) Lease of Crown Lands between Gundaroo and Collector:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has any person leased the Crown lands outside the Gundaroo town boundary, and otherwise bounded by the road Gundaroo to Collector, and the boundary of L. R. Dyce's 960 acres conditional lease; if so, under what condition is it leased, and what is the rent paid, and to whom is it leased?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am not aware, but will cause inquiry to be made from the District Survey Office, and will forward a copy of such reply to the Honorable Member immediately on receipt.

- (3.) Counsel in Case, *Henry v. Cross*—Marine Board at Newcastle:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Sec, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that the Honorable G. H. Reid, Premier and Colonial Treasurer, appeared as counsel in the recent legal proceedings *Henry v. Cross* and others against members of the Marine Board at Newcastle?
 (2.) Is it a fact that the Marine Board at Sydney and Newcastle is under the control of the Colonial Treasurer?
 (3.) Do the Government in this case pay the costs of the aforesaid proceedings?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is a fact that I appeared as counsel in an application made by one Henry for a prohibition against certain persons, members of the Local Marine Board at Newcastle, to prevent them proceeding any further in a matter outside their jurisdiction. The proceeding was not one to recover damages, and the matter complained of was not under my control as Colonial Treasurer, being a matter arising from judicial powers vested in the Marine Board as to suspension or cancellation of certificates, with which the Treasurer has no more to do ministerially than he has with the decisions of any other Court of Justice. The persons proceeded against were three members of the Marine Board, who were not represented by the Crown Solicitor, but by their own private solicitor, and the cost of the proceedings and of the persons concerned are not a charge upon the Government or upon public funds, although, as I have said, the case in no way involved public money, or was connected with any ministerial responsibility. I must, however, frankly admit if all the aspects in which the matter might be viewed had occurred to me at the time, I would have preferred to return the brief.

- (4.) Sweating in connection with Government Clothing Contracts:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is he correctly reported in the *Daily Telegraph* in a paragraph which states—"He employed one of the best detectives in the Police Force the other day to go through the factories to which the Government tenders for clothing had been let, and the detectives reported four firms to him
 " as

14th October, 1896.

“as having been guilty of paying sweating wages, and he wrote across that report, ‘These four firms are disqualified from Government contracts for ever’”; if so, will he give the names of the contractors disqualified; also the names of the importers (if any) who are now supplying imported goods to the Government, manufactured in countries where the sweating evil exists?

(2.) Is he aware that in all Government contracts for supplies in protectionist Victoria there is inserted a clause fixing a minimum wage, and limiting the hours of labour?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) I do not think it necessary to give any names in answer to a question of this sort; and I am not aware. I have stopped the practice of getting clothing required in the Government Service made up in places beyond Government supervision.

(2.) I am not aware; but a minimum wage clause would not be much use in the fifteen Victorian establishments referred to by the Chief Inspector of Factories in Victoria in his last report:—“In fifteen registered factories there were no paid employees at all, the whole of the work being carried on by so-called learners.”

(5.) Employees working without Wages:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer.—Is he aware that the system of working “employees without wages,” referred to by him at a meeting at Windsor as existing in Victoria, also exists in New South Wales, and that it is practised by the free-trade importers in Sydney?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am not; and if such a state of things does unhappily exist here, it is some consolation to reflect that we have not all been paying heavy protective taxes in order to produce it.

(6.) Walgett School of Arts:—Mr. Thomas, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Walgett School of Arts Committee refused to let the hall for a lecture on Sunday evening, 27th September last, without the permission of the Colonial Secretary?

(2.) Did he refuse such permission?

(3.) Was he aware of the fact that the lecture was free, there being no charge of any kind intended to be made?

(4.) Was he aware of the fact that, some weeks previously in the same hall, a Sunday evening concert was held, and a collection taken at the door?

(5.) What was the reason for refusing his permission for the free lecture, and allowing the concert when a charge was made?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) Yes.

(4.) No.

(5.) No application, as far as I can ascertain, was made to me to hold the concert referred to.

(7.) Equipment Allowance to Licensed Surveyors:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the reason of the delay in payment of equipment allowance to licensed surveyors since 1st July last?

(2.) When will these allowances be paid?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Equipment allowances are not paid to licensed surveyors. I may add, for the Honorable Member's information, that the outstanding equipment allowances to staff surveyors will be paid during the present month.

(8.) Willoughby Falls Creek, North Sydney:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Have representations been made to his department as to the insanitary condition of Willoughby Falls Creek, North Sydney?

(2.) Has a sum of money been voted by Parliament for the construction of a stormwater sewer; and, if so, in the interest of public health, when will the work be proceeded with?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes. Tenders will be invited for the work early next week.

(9.) Removal of the Sugar Duties:—Mr. Collins asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a letter written by Mr. Knox, on behalf of the Colonial Sugar Company, to the sugar-growers on the Richmond and Clarence Rivers?

(2.) In view of the statements set forth in such letter, does he intend to adhere to his proposals in connection with the removal of the sugar duties?

Mr. Reid answered,—No; but I have seen it, and the letter makes it abundantly clear that in the writer's opinion there is no prospect of any time arriving at which the industry could be self-supporting.

(10.) Open Cuttings in the Streets of Sydney:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Nelson, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that the open cuttings now being carried on about the city are a great nuisance to the public, and injurious to business people?

(2.) Will he, in view of the number of men seeking employment, put on three shifts, so as to complete the work more expeditiously, and remove the nuisance complained of?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) No great complaints have been made beyond that from the “Metropolitan Hotel,” where they have a 12-foot entrance.

(2.) I have given instructions for another shift to be put on at once.

(11.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th October, 1896.

(11.) The Sugar Industry:—Mr. Ewing asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that there are 1,600 farmers occupied in the growth of sugar-cane in this Colony, and that in the harvesting of the cane and manufacture of sugar therefrom about 2,500 men are in addition employed every season?

(2.) Is he aware that there are now 28,000 acres under sugar-cane in New South Wales, which represents a farmer's outlay in land, implements, improvements, and crops of £650,000?

(3.) Is he aware that the sugar industry must be destroyed and the greater portion of this labour lost if the duty on sugar be removed?

(4.) Is he aware that other sugar-producing countries pay a bonus on the exportation of sugar, and that the manufacturers thereof can consequently sell their product under the cost of production; under these circumstances, is it his intention to take steps to protect those concerned in the sugar industry from such unfair competition, and thus avert the loss of labour and employment that must follow the destruction of the industry?

Mr. Reid answered,—This matter has been discussed repeatedly, and I think it ought to be understood by this time that the determinations of the Government on fiscal policy, as embodied in legislation, are not likely to be altered.

2. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Reid, read a third time, and passed.Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other Coloured Races, to repeal section 15 of that Act, and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other Coloured Races, to repeal section 15 of that Act, and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 14th October, 1896.*3. MAITLAND GASLIGHT ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Gillies moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That the Maitland Gaslight Act Amendment Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Wood, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. H. H. Brown, Mr. Simeon Phillips, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

4. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.

(2.) Capital Punishment Abolition Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.

(3.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Amended "Orders and Regulations" for the control of the Public Abattoir and its appurtenances, Glebe Island.

(2.) Statement of payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of September, 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. PRIMITIVE METHODIST CHURCH PROPERTY BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Primitive Methodist Church Temporalities Act, 1879, and to grant powers of dealing with properties held on trusts for the benefit of the said church discharged from trust in certain events; and for other purposes incidental thereto,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,**Sydney, 14th October, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Jessep, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

7. STATE SAVINGS BANK BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this "Bill" be now read a second time.

Point of Order:—Mr. McLaughlin submitted that the Bill was out of order, because one of its provisions, clause 10, amended sections 18 and 29 of the Constitution Act without any reference in the Order of Leave to that provision.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that, in his opinion, the Order of Leave was sufficiently comprehensive to cover the matter referred to in clause 10. He considered that the Bill was in order.

Debate ensued.

Mr.

14th October, 1896.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "Bill," and inserting the words "be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report."
 "(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Reid, Mr. See, Mr. McMillan, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Morton, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Perry, and the Mover;"—instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
 Debate continued.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The House divided.

Ayes, 60.			Noes, 3
Mr. Bruker,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Millen,	Mr. F. Clarke.
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Mackay,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Morton,	Mr. McLaughlin.
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Gould,	Mr. McMillan,	Mr. Gillies,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Willis,	
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Sehey,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Fegan,	
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Wood.	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Davis,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Storey,	
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. McGowen.	
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Morgan,		
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Wilks,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question put, That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 55.			Noes, 12.
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. See,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Morton,	Mr. McMillan,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. O'Reilly,	Mr. Sehey,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Wood.
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Moore,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Willis,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Thomas Brown	
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Wheeler,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Millen.	
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Davis,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

8. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message dated 1st October, 1896, in reference to the Mining Laws Amendment Bill,—

Disagrees to the Assembly's amendment upon the Council's amendment in clause 2, line 5, which omits from such amendment the words "the rate of twenty shillings per acre per annum," and inserts the words "a rate per acre per annum to be fixed by the Warden,"—because that was the rate fixed by the Principal Act, and because, by reason of the uncertainty of the tenure and the inevitable damage which mining operations invariably create, the land, at the termination of the lease, which can be given up at any time, would probably be left on the owner's hands in an utterly useless and irremediable condition.

Does not insist upon its amendment in clause 2, which omits subsection (j), but proposes to amend the subsection by inserting before the word "residence," in line 24, the word "temporary," in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's amendment in the said subsection, which omits the word "hereinafter," and inserts the word "heretofore."

Insists upon its amendment in clause 3, line 31, which inserts the words "with the consent of the owner either at law or in equity,"—because a wide distinction ought to be drawn between alluvial lands resumed for the purpose of public gold-mining and lands containing reefs, which are invariably developed by private enterprise; and because the Bill contains clauses specially

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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specially empowering the owners of such lands to arrange for the working and development of such reefs; the area of land required for working reefs is usually small, but considerable damage to adjacent land not so required usually results, even from reefing, and it is considered only just that the owners of such land should be enabled to protect themselves in accordance with the provisions of the law, and should not be compelled to sell their land against their will for the benefit of private persons.

Insists upon that part of its amendment at the end of clause 3, disagreed to by the Assembly,—because it is consequential on the insistence on the owner's consent being required before land can be resumed for mining purposes.

Insists upon the insertion of the first of the new clauses to follow clause 10,—because this clause deals with lands not included in this Bill or the Principal Act—that is to say, lands containing minerals which have been entirely alienated by the Crown, and upon which, therefore, there can be no right of entry except upon an authority to search for gold which might be associated with such minerals. It is, therefore, considered expedient by the introduction of such a clause as this to protect the interests of those carrying on *bona-fide* mining operations on lands in which the Crown have parted with all minerals, by restricting the issue of permits to search for gold or other associated minerals to which the Act does apply in such a way as will not prevent the issue of such permits in suitable cases. To secure this latter precaution it is proposed to amend such new clause by the omission at the end thereof of the words “any land upon which such mining operations have been commenced,” and the insertion in their place of the words “any land which is *bona fide* occupied for mining purposes, nor in respect of any land within thirty chains of any surface or underground excavation which forms part of, or is used in connection with, any mine actually in work,” in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Does not insist upon its other amendments disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's remaining amendments upon the Council's amendments in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 14th October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole on Tuesday next.

9. NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.
10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business postponed until To-morrow.
11. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Dr. Ross, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be now received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community.
On motion of Dr. Ross, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Dr. Ross then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to restrict and prohibit the use of Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes by juvenile members of the community*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at three minutes before Twelve o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 69.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:—Mr. Speaker informed the House that he had received the resignations of the following members of the Refreshment Committee:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Parkes, and Mr. F. Clarke.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Reserves on Road Queanbeyan to Gunning:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Are any of the following reserves on the road Queanbeyan to Gunning leased; if so, which and to whom, and what is the rent paid for the respective lots:—W.R. 29, 20 acres, parish Pialleco, county Murray; W.R. 146, 68 acres, parish Pialleco, county Murray; R. 65, 500 acres, parish Goorooyarro, county Murray. The unsold portion of the village of Sutton—C.R. 5,666, 37½ acres, parish Jalagandra; T.S.R. 71, 1,900 acres, parish Nelanglo, county King; R. 115, 38 acres, parish Nelanglo, county King; W.R. 63, 40 acres, parish Nelanglo, county King; T.S.R. 2,871, 360 acres, parish Dixon, county King; C.W.R. 16,450, 180 acres, parish Gunning, county King?

(2.) The same information with regard to the reserves between Gundaroo and Goulburn:—C.R. 11,648, 160 acres, parish Gundaroo, county Murray; C. and W.R. 25, 100 acres, parish Collector, county Murray. The unsold allotments of the village reserve, Collector—T.S.R. 61, 450 acres, parish Tarago, county King; W.R. 15A, 256 acres, parish Tarago, county King; T.S.R. 52, 300 acres, parish Wollagorang, county Argyle?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am not aware, but will cause inquiry to be made from the District Survey Office, and will forward a copy of such reply to the Honorable Member immediately on receipt.

(2.) Exhibition held in the Garden Palace Grounds:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. See, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the total cost to the Colony of the Exhibition held in the Garden Palace Grounds?

(2.) What has been the cost up to date to the Colony of other Exhibitions at which the Colony was represented?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This information is being prepared, and will be laid upon the Table as early as possible. Many Exhibitions have been held besides that at the Garden Palace Ground—in London, Bordeaux, Adelaide, Hobart, Melbourne, and other places. It will take a considerable time to prepare the information.

(3.) Narrow-gauge Railways:—Mr. McCourt asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Victorian Parliamentary Committee on Railways, after an exhaustive inquiry last year, unanimously recommended, "That this Committee, after fully considering all the evidence submitted, recommend the construction of 2-foot gauge lines in districts where the traffic is not sufficient to justify the construction of broad-gauge railways?"

(2.) Will he, in view of the above report, consider the advisability of referring to our Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works the question of constructing branch lines, or isolated lines in difficult country, on the narrow-gauge principle?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) This Question, which is of considerable importance, will receive careful consideration at my hands.

(4.)

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- (4.) Sydney Grammar School :—Mr. Schey asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
 (1.) Is any portion of the premises or land belonging to the Sydney Grammar School let for the purpose of retailing ice-cream, lollies, confectionery, or similar articles?
 (2.) If so, by what right and under what powers is the portion in question so let?
 Mr. Garrard answered,—
 (1.) A portion of the school buildings is reserved for boy's luncheon rooms, the caterer for luncheons being also permitted, under supervision, to supply the boys with ordinary light refreshments.
 (2.) The trustees derive their powers from "The Sydney Grammar School Act."
- (5.) Iron-railings on Steps from Victoria-street to Woolloomooloo Bay :—Mr. McElhone asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) When will tenders be called for the erection of iron-railings, &c., on the new steps from Victoria-street to Woolloomooloo Bay?
 (2.) Is he aware that the people of the neighbourhood suffer great inconvenience, and have to go a long way round to get to Woolloomooloo Bay on account of the steps not being opened?
 Mr. Young answered,—
 (1.) Notice will appear in the *Gazette* to-morrow, tenders are returnable on the 4th November.
 (2.) I am informed that the steps will prove a convenience when completed and opened for traffic. It must be remembered that no right-of-way existed before, and persons passing that way did so on sufferance.
- (6.) Waiting-room at King-street :—Mr. Hassall, for Mr. Nelson, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Have any steps been taken to erect a waiting-room at King-street?
 (2.) Is it a fact the Railway Commissioners erected the awning at the corner of King and Elizabeth Streets for the convenience of the public?
 (3.) Is he aware that it will cost a large sum of money to buy out leases, alter shops, and maintain a waiting-room?
 (4.) In view of the George-street tram taking about 65 per cent. of the traffic off the Elizabeth-street road, is it wise to spend a large sum of money on this waiting-room?
 (5.) Is there any truth in the rumour that interested persons are bringing pressure to bear on the Commissioners to induce them to carry out this work, so that they may have their premises altered and have the Government for a tenant?
 (6.) If so, will the Government investigate the question before committing itself to do anything in the matter?
 Mr. Reid answered,—
 (1.) I am informed that the matter of providing a waiting-room at King-street has been under consideration.
 (2.) The Railway Commissioners contributed towards the cost of the erection of the awning at King-street and Elizabeth-street.
 (3.) Yes.
 (4.) It is anticipated that after the completion of the George-street tramway the improved service which it will be possible to give to the eastern suburbs will cause the tram traffic in Elizabeth-street to be still very considerable.
 (5 and 6.) Various representations have been made, including one from the City Council, to all of which up to the present time the Commissioners have intimated their inability to comply with the request. The City Council have again urged that something should be done, and the Commissioners have intimated they would be prepared to consider, jointly with the Council, a scheme that would be effective in meeting public requirements.
- (7.) Clothing Supply for Railway Department :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Has any contract yet been entered into for the supply of the clothes required by the Railway Department?
 (2.) If so, who are the contractors, and what is the contract price?
 (3.) If the contract has been let, is it let to an English firm; if not let, is it intended to give the contract to an English firm?
 (4.) Is it a fact that the English firm referred to practices the sweating system in Sydney?
 Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that no contract has yet been entered into for the supply of the uniforms, &c., required by the Railway employees, nor has the matter been finally considered.
- (8.) Royalties on Timber in the Manning Electorate :—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Was a promise made in the Manning Electorate, by a Minister of the Crown, at the last general election, to have the royalties on timber removed in that electorate?
 (2.) Has this promise been given effect to in the district referred to?
 (3.) Are other districts similarly dealt with; if so, will he give the names of those districts?
 Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
 (1.) Not that I am aware of.
 (2 and 3.) Answered by No. 1.
- (9.) Examinations for Temporary Employment :—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Are the examinations of applicants for temporary employment completed?
 (2.) If so, how many of them have passed?
 (3.) If the examinations are not finished, when is it likely they will be?
 Mr. Garrard answered,—
 (1.) An examination of applicants for temporary employment was held on 4th September.
 (2.) Fifteen.
 (3.) See No. 1.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th October, 1896.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC :—Mr. Bull presented a Petition from certain inhabitants of New South Wales, referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.
Petition received.
4. PAPERS :—
Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Minute by the Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works on the Public Works Committee's recommendation respecting the Cook's River improvements.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—By-laws for the Free Public Library at Wallendbeen.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land at Blackheath, for the easing of curves on the Great Western Railway.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Brunner laid upon the Table,—By-laws of the Borough of Picton, under the Municipalities Act of 1867, and Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-second Report from the Printing Committee.
6. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council :—

(1.) Government Railways (Compensation Limitation) Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to limit the amount of damages recoverable against the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales in certain cases,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 15th October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(2.) Electric Traction Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 15th October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

7. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—

- (1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(2.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 10th November.
(3.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(4.) Old Age Provision Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with the view of making competent provision for old age; and for other purposes connected therewith;—until Thursday next.
(5.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading;—until Thursday next.
8. PUBLIC SERVICE (SUPERANNUATION FUND) BILL :—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State.
Question put and passed.
9. GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK BILL (*changed from*) STATE SAVINGS BANK BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 16 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Ashton* reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

10. MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 13th October, 1896, in reference to the Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill,—does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the Assembly in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 15th October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

15th October, 1896.

11. NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Ashton* reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
12. PHARMACY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garrard moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. Reid moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1, 11, and 16, and for the consideration of a new clause,"—instead thereof.
Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.
Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out, be so inserted,—put and passed.
Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1, 11, and 16, and for the consideration of a new clause,—put and passed.
On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and *Mr. Ashton* reported the Bill 2^o with further amendments.
On motion of Mr. Bruncker, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
13. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business postponed until Tuesday next.
14. LAWSON'S ESTATE MORTGAGE ENABLING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Waddell moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Waddell, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Ashton* reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Waddell, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
15. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-one minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 70.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 20 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Bicycle-track on the Sydney Cricket Ground:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. McElhone*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Trustees of the Sydney Cricket Ground, Moore Park, have had a rink or circle of cement made round the Sydney Cricket Ground for the purpose of bicycle races, and that such cement track encroaches as much as 18 feet on the cricket ground?
- (2.) Did he take any action or have an inquiry made in reference to above matter and the letter which *Mr. McElhone* wrote him on the subject about two weeks ago?
- (3.) Have the Trustees authority to make this work?
- (4.) Is he aware that many of our oldest cricketers are of opinion that such cement rink is likely to prove injurious to the cricket ground and cricketers?
- (5.) Will he have an inquiry made on the subject, with the view of removing this cement rink if it is likely to prove injurious to the interests of cricket?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Yes, a track is being constructed which will encroach slightly on the Cricket Ground.
- (2.) Yes, a letter was written to the Trustees, who replied, giving the information supplied in the Answer to No. 1; also stating that the track will not interfere in any way with the game of cricket, and that the encroachments will be more than compensated for by the additions made, and being made, to the embankments on the northern and southern ends of the ground, and it is the intention of the Trustees to further enlarge these embankments.
- (3.) Yes, if not interfering with the use of the ground for its primary purpose of cricket.
- (4.) I am aware that there is some difference of opinion on this point, but the cricketing authorities in the New South Wales Cricket Association have made no complaint.
- (5.) I have made inquiries and also inspected the ground myself, and if the rink is proved to be injurious to cricket, action will be taken.

- (2.) Fence across Road from Gunnedah to Breeza:—*Mr. O'Sullivan*, for *Mr. McElhone*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has the Gunnedah Land Board the power to grant any person authority to erect public gates, or a fence with a slip-panel, across the main road from Gunnedah to Breeza, *via* Curlewis?
- (2.) Is he aware that some of the persons who lately had leases granted to them near the Breeza railway stock-trucking yards have erected a fence with a slip-panel across the said road near the railway trucking yards, and that such fence and slip-panel are dangerous to lives of persons who have to meet the mail-train from Sydney to Gunnedah about 4 a.m.?
- (3.) Will he give instructions to the proper officers to remove this fence and slip-panel?
- (4.) Where permission is given to erect a gate on a public road, is it not a condition that the words "Public Gate" should be marked on such gate?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) The Minister for Lands alone has power to grant "public gates."
- (2.) Not aware. Under the Crown Lands Act Further Amendment Act (52 Vic. No. 7) Lands Boards are authorised to permit roads to be crossed by "gates" or "slip-panels" in respect of fencing conditional purchases or conditional leases; any gate erected in that connection may, with the approval of the Minister, be made a "public gate." No such approval has recently been given.
- (3.) Should a specific complaint be lodged that a "public" or other "gate" or "slip-panel" granted by the Minister or the Land Board to a particular person in a certain position is found to be of grave inconvenience to the public, due inquiry will be made with a view to the proper action being taken.

(4.) Yes.

(3.)

20th October, 1896.

- (3.) Contributions to the Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Bearing in mind his frequent promises to do so, when will he introduce the short Bill necessary to put railway officials, and certain other servants of the Crown, in the same position as regards the Superannuation Fund as other Crown servants are placed in by the Public Service Act of 1895?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This matter is on the Business Paper.

- (4.) Regulation of Dance-rooms:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Did a municipal deputation recently wait on him with regard to the regulation of dance-rooms?
 - (2.) What was the substance of their requests?
 - (3.) What promise (if any) did he make to the deputation in question?
 - (4.) What steps has he taken to carry out such promise?
 - (5.) What further steps does he contemplate, and when?

Mr. Brunker answered,—In the early part of last month the Honorable Member for Redfern introduced a deputation to me, who directed attention to the loose manner in which dancing saloons were conducted, and asked for police supervision. The matter was brought under the notice of the Inspector-General of Police on the following day. I am endeavouring to so amend the law as to prevent the evil complained of, and I hope that during next Session I shall be able to introduce a Bill for that purpose.

- (5.) United Service Institution:—*Mr. Mackay*, for Mr. Wright, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What rent (if any) does the Committee of the United Service Institution pay to the Government for the premises occupied opposite St. Mary's Cathedral?
 - (2.) What is the total amount of money grants and subsidies paid to this Institution?
 - (3.) What is the total amount of printing, book-binding, and stationery, supplied this institution at the public expense?
 - (4.) Is he aware that the Commanding Officers of Companies of the 2nd Garrison Division Artillery have repeatedly endeavoured to obtain from the Military Authorities some accommodation for the Metropolitan Companies of the said force?
 - (5.) Is he also aware that the late Commandant, General Hutton, expressed himself favourably inclined if suitable rooms could be found?
 - (6.) Will he be so good as to approve of sufficient accommodation being granted for the establishment of an Artillery Institute, for the improvement and advancement of the non-commissioned officers and men of the Volunteer Artillery, either in the vicinity of the United Service Institution or elsewhere?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces has supplied the following information:—

- (1.) No rent is paid.
 - (2.) £100.
 - (3.) £50.
 - (4 and 5.) Yes.
 - (6.) The matter shall receive consideration.
- (6.) Proposed Railway from the Southern line to Mulgoa and Luddenham:—*Mr. T. R. Smith* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) When will the trial-survey of the proposed railway from the Southern line to Mulgoa and Luddenham be started?
 - (2.) Will he give instructions for the trial-survey to start from about midway between Cabramatta and Liverpool?
 - (3.) Does he know that, by the junction starting from near Cabramatta, the line would go through one of the best bluestone quarries in the county of Cumberland, which would be a feeder to the proposed railway?
- Mr. Young* answered,—
- (1.) Probably within the next fortnight.
 - (2.) The best point for the junction will be selected.
 - (3.) The matter will be duly inquired into.

- (7.) Case of *Nelson and Callan v. Capper*:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to a case, *Nelson and Callan v. Capper*, tried in the District Court in Sydney before Judge Gibson, on Wednesday, 14th October?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to introduce a Bill this Session to deal with such cases as that referred to?
 - (3.) If not, will he otherwise endeavour to deal with the evil complained of?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2 and 3.) In view of the intended early close of the Session, time will not permit of the consideration of the matter.

- (8.) Hawkesbury Agricultural College:—*Mr. O'Reilly*, for Mr. Dick, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has he lately offered a Government bursary or scholarship for the best diploma student of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College, to enable such student to obtain a free course of instruction at one of the leading Agricultural Colleges outside Australia, on the understanding that such student would at the end of his term return to the Colony, and act as instructor on one of the Government farms, at a remuneration to be agreed upon?
 - (2.) How many students will sit for the diploma examination at the end of the present year?
 - (3.) Is it his intention that only those students who take their diplomas this year are to be allowed to compete for this scholarship, and that past diploma students are not to be allowed to compete, although such privilege was not available whilst they were at the College?

(4.)

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- (4.) Have any of the past diploma students applied to be allowed to compete?
 (5.) Is he aware that at the Sydney University and other such educational institutions it is usual to allow past students to compete for important bursaries of this character?
 (6.) As this privilege is ostensibly for the benefit of the Colony, and is a matter of public expenditure, will he arrange to allow all diploma students to compete?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Such a scholarship has been offered, but is not confined to diploma students of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College. It is also open to those engaged on the experimental farms.

(2.) Twenty-one.

(3, 4, 5, and 6.) The past diploma students have asked to be allowed to compete. It appears there is one scholarship of a somewhat similar character in connection with the Sydney University, which, it is understood, is open to graduates of four years standing, and the question as to whether past diploma students will be eligible is under consideration.

- (9.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that the Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill has already been read a second time; that no Honorable Member expressed any opposition to its passage; that a precisely similar Bill passed the Assembly without opposition during the last Session of Parliament, only being lost in the Legislative Council,—will he afford an opportunity during Government Business hours for this Bill to pass its remaining stages in the Legislative Assembly prior to the close of the present Session?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I will see what can be done.

- (10.) Amendment of the Public Service Act of 1895:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the nature of his objection against allowing Mr. Schey to bring in a Bill to amend the Public Service Act of 1895, as per Notice of Motion No. 1 on the Business Paper of Wednesday, 14th October?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—No Honorable Member is liable to be catechised as to his objection to allow any matter to go without debate as a formal question, and I will not set the bad example of answering such a question.

- (11.) Certificate issued to Captain Hildebrand:—Mr. Davis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did the Marine Board issue a foreign master's certificate to Captain Hildebrand?

(2.) If so, when, and was his application for examination in conformity with the regulations of the Marine Board as to sea service?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) On 7th May, 1894; the application was in conformity with the regulations, and the certificate was duly recognised by the Board of Trade.

- (12.) Public Parks and Reserves:—Mr. Bavister asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the area of public parks and reserves within a half-mile radius of Park and Elizabeth Streets?

(2.) The same as No. 1, but within a 1-mile radius; also state the approximate area of water-surface in that radius?

(3.) The same particulars as No. 2, but with a 2-mile radius?

(4.) The same particulars within a 3-mile radius?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) 83 acres.

(2.) 209 acres 2 roods 19 perches, the approximate area of water-surface being 216 acres.

(3.) 707 acres 3 roods 15 perches, the approximate area of water-surface being 2,364 acres.

(4.) 1,526 acres 0 roods 26 perches, the approximate area of water surface being 4,556 acres.

- (13.) Select Committee on "The Abattoirs":—Mr. Lyne asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has any sum of money been paid to the Committee on the Abattoirs question; and, if so, what sum, and for what purpose?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Yes; £150, to pay actual travelling expenses of visit of sub-committees to Melbourne and Brisbane. I understand only about £50 has been expended up to this date.

2. PAPER:—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Despatch respecting the Extradition of Fugitive Offenders.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. GORDON RAILWAY STATION (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Howarth moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The names of owners from whom land was acquired for railway construction, 10 chains, on each side of the Gordon railway station.

(2.) The areas acquired in each case.

(3.) Whether acquired by gift or resumption.

(4.) What amounts were paid (if any) in each case.

(5.) To whom was the money paid.

(6.) Were the titles freehold or Torrens'.

Question put and passed.

4. LAWSON'S ESTATE MORTGAGE ENABLING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Perry, for Mr. Waddell, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Perry then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "An Act to authorise the trustees of a settlement made by Archibald Lawson to mortgage certain lands and hereditaments comprised in the said settlement, for the purpose of enabling the trustees to effect improvements thereon."

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

20th October, 1896.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the trustees of a settlement made by Archibald Lawson to mortgage certain lands and hereditaments comprised in the said settlement, for the purpose of enabling the trustees to effect improvements thereon,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence, accompanied by a copy of the Report from, and Minutes of Evidence taken before, the Select Committee thereon.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 20th October, 1896.*

5. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—

- (1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.
- (2.) Narandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
- (3.) Orange Show Ground Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading ;—until Wednesday, 28th October.

6. REWARDS FOR THE DISCOVERIES OF NEW MINING FIELDS :—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should offer substantial rewards for the discoveries of new mining fields, whether it be gold or any other valuable mineral ; the value of a discovery to be gauged by the number of men it gives employment to.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

7. CASE OF THOMAS BUCKLEY—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT :—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the case of Thomas Buckley, dismissed from the Public Works Department.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Willis, Mr. McGowen, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 31.

Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Miller,	Dr. Hollis,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Wood.
Mr. O'Sullivan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. E. M. Clark.
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Nicholson,	

Noes, 16.

Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Alexander Campbell
Mr. Gould,	
Mr. Garrard,	
Mr. Carruthers,	
Mr. Jessop,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Black,	
Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Greene,	
Mr. Millard.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

8. CLAIM MADE BY MR. JAMES FITZGERALD AGAINST THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS :—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon a certain claim made by Mr. James Fitzgerald against the Department of Public Works.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Bavister, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Wood, Mr. Edden, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 12.

Mr. Willis,
Mr. Reymond,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Ferguson.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. E. M. Clarke,
Mr. Hughes.

Noes, 28.

Mr. Brunner,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. McLaughlin.
Mr. Carruthers,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Kelly.
Mr. Millen,	

And so it passed in the negative.

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9. CLAIM OF MR. THEOPHILUS STEPHENS—CROWN LAW DEPARTMENT:—Mr. Howarth moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens against the Crown Law Department.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Gould, Mr. Lee, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Whiddon, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Bull, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 34.

Noes, 20.

Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Hurley,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Price.
Mr. Hughes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Dugald Thomson.

Mr. Wright,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Willis,	
Mr. Brunker,	
Mr. Gould,	
Mr. Levien,	
Mr. Carruthers,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Garrard,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Jessop,	
Mr. Young,	
Mr. Sydney Smith,	
Mr. Greene,	
Mr. Hawthorne.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

10. SELECTION MADE BY JAMES CONNELLY, AT TAMWORTH:—Mr. Levien moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the selection made by James Connelly, at Tamworth, of a conditional purchase or conditional purchases Nos. 98, 105, and 106, county of Inglis, parish of Attunga, and the subsequent legal proceedings in the Supreme Court of the actions of James Connelly against John Brogan the elder, Patrick Brogan, John Brogan the younger, and James Brogan.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Davis, Mr. Frank Farnell, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Morgan, and the Mover.

(3.) That the Minutes of the Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee of Session 1890 be referred to such Committee.

Question put and passed.

11. CASE OF POLICE *v.* WILLIAM HAMILTON, TRIED AT HILLGROVE POLICE COURT:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers and correspondence in connection with the case of Police *v.* William Hamilton, tried at the Hillgrove Police Court.

Question put and passed.

12. LICENSING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, "That" leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the licensing laws.

Debate ensued.

Mr. McLaughlin moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Licensing Laws,"—instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted in place of the words left out be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Licensing Laws,—put and passed.

13. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the day postponed until To-morrow:—

(1.) Borough of Cudgong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.

(2.) Primitive Methodist Church Property Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.

(3.) Usury Limitation Bill; to be further considered in Committee.

14. COAL-MINING LEASES:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the disastrous results of the competition now existing in the coal trade, no more coal-mining leases should be issued for a period of twenty-five years."

And the Question being again proposed,—

Mr. Fegan moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 3rd November.

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15. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—

- (1.) International Patents and Trade Marks Arrangements Bill; second reading ;—until Tuesday, 3rd November.
- (2.) Judges Relatives Disqualification Bill; second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
- (3.) Homes Protection Bill; to be further considered in Committee ;—until To-morrow.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 23rd September, 1896.

16. BERRIGAN TO FINLEY RAILWAY BILL :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument, in writing, to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange, from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

17. CONSTITUTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—Mr. Brunker, for Mr. Reid, moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide means of legislation in cases of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly.
Question put and passed.

18. RAILWAY FROM TAMWORTH TO MANILLA :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that a line of railway from Tamworth to Manilla, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes 63.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Fegon,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Storey,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Nicholson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Griffith.
Mr. Black,	Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Mackay,	

Noes, 9.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Travers Jones.

Tellers,

Mr. Affleck,
Mr. James Thomson.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

19. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Construction of a deep-water harbour at Port Kembla*) :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a deep-water harbour at Port Kembla.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

20. REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE :—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table the correspondence relating to the resignation of the Members of the Refreshment Committee, —and said :—

In laying upon the Table of the House the correspondence relating to proposed changes in the Refreshment Room staff, and the subsequent resignation of the Refreshment Committee, Mr. Speaker said he desired to give Honorable Members an opportunity of perusing, in print, all the letters and memoranda in his possession on the subject.

The following condensed statement, explanatory of the position taken up by him as Speaker, would help to present the whole matter clearly to the attention of the House.

The

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The rule that all appointments in connection with the Parliamentary departments should be made by the Executive, on the recommendation of the President or Speaker, appears to have been first transgressed in the year 1860, when a letter was received from the Colonial Secretary's Office, informing the Speaker that the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, had been pleased to appoint certain gentlemen to positions on the staff of the Legislative Assembly. The positions thus filled were—Clerk of the Assembly, Clerk Assistant, and Clerk of Records. Immediately upon receipt of this intimation from the Colonial Secretary, the Speaker (Mr. Daniel Cooper) wrote expressing his astonishment that the usual respect had not been shown to him as Speaker by consulting him as to the appointments. The Colonial Secretary (Mr. William Forster) still maintained the position that he had taken up, namely, that the appointments rested entirely with the Executive Government, and several letters passed between him and the Speaker on the subject. On the 24th January, 1860, the Speaker reported to the House "that since its last adjournment certain appointments at the Table of this House, and otherwise in the Department of the Assembly, had been made by the present Government without previous consultation with him—while there existed an arrangement between himself and the late Governments that no such appointments should be made without such previous consultation." The Speaker then laid the correspondence upon the Table, whereupon the following resolutions were adopted by the House:—

- "(1.) That this House is of opinion that the course pursued by Mr. Speaker in the correspondence which has been laid upon the Table is entirely in accordance with the duty of Mr. Speaker as the guardian of the privileges and the depository of the dignity of the House.
- "(2.) That it is the opinion of this House that, in order to maintain the dignity and usefulness of the office of Speaker, all the clerks and other Officers of the House ought to be appointed by the Executive, upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.
- "(3.) That the above resolutions be embodied in an Address to His Excellency the Governor-General."

To this Address the Governor-General replied by Message, on 1st February, 1860, in these terms:—

"The Governor-General having every desire to comply with the wishes of the Assembly, will direct that for the future the Speaker shall be consulted with regard to the appointment of all the Officers of that House."

Again, in June, 1860, the Colonial Secretary (Mr. Charles Cowper) having, on behalf of the Government, demurred to the carrying out of Mr. Speaker's recommendation of a certain gentleman for the position of Sergeant-at-Arms, the matter was reported to the House by the Speaker, when the following resolutions were passed:—

- "(1.) That this House is of opinion that the course pursued by Mr. Speaker in the correspondence which has been laid upon the Table is entirely in accordance with the duty of Mr. Speaker, as the guardian of the privileges and the depository of the dignity of the House.
- "(2.) That the foregoing resolution be embodied in an Address, and presented to His Excellency the Governor-General, and that, in such Address, the attention of His Excellency be called to the resolutions of this House of the 25th January last, in reference to the appointment of Officers of this House."

From that time until the present date the principle laid down on those occasions had, so far as the Legislative Assembly was concerned, always been maintained and acted upon; and not only so, but successive Governments had invariably submitted the Estimates of the President and Speaker for the Legislative Departments, without alteration, to the judgment of the House.

The cases referred to above are in connection with the Legislative Assembly Department, but in the year 1867 upon a vacancy occurring in the office of the Parliamentary Librarian—a joint Establishment, governed partly by a Joint Committee of the two Houses—the President (Mr. T. A. Murray) and the Speaker (Mr. W. M. Arnold) upheld the same principle, and declined to allow the Colonial Secretary (Mr. Parkes) to question their recommendation. Since that time all appointments to the Parliamentary Library have been made upon the joint recommendation of the President and Speaker.

With regard to the persons employed in the Joint Establishment, which includes the Refreshment Room,—in the year 1867 the Standing Orders Committee of the Legislative Assembly, conjointly with that of the Legislative Council, agreed to, and reported to the House, the following resolution:—

"That the Messengers and other Servants of each House of Parliament be appointed and dismissed by the President and Speaker respectively. That the Housekeeper, and other Servants of the Joint Establishment of both Houses be appointed and dismissed by the President and Speaker, or, in case of a dissolution, by the President alone; but that, while Parliament is in Session, the Servants connected with the Refreshment Room be subject to control and dismissal by the Joint Refreshment Committee."—

And it appears that all appointments in connection with the Refreshment Room have been either recommended or carried out by the President and Speaker.

The Civil Service Act of 1884 constituted the President of the Legislative Council and the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly "the Minister" in connection with the Officers of Parliament, and since the passing of that Act the Speaker had always attended to the administrative duties of his office during the period covered by a dissolution; and the Public Service Act of 1895 further emphasised the fact that the President and Speaker were the Ministerial Heads of the Parliamentary Departments, for in the section exempting persons in those Departments from the operation of the Act the words were used "any officer of either House of Parliament or person employed

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“ employed in either of the departments of the Legislature under the separate control of the “ President or Speaker, or under their joint control,” so that any Parliamentary employee who was not under such separate or joint control would not come within the exemptions of section 3 of the Public Service Act, but would be subject to the provisions of that Act, and therefore on a different footing to the rest of the Legislative Departments.

In conclusion, he could not help regretting the undignified, if not offensive, tone of the letter addressed to him by the members of the Refreshment Committee in tendering their resignations.

He would only add that he had no desire to exercise any patronage, but whilst he held the office of Speaker he would not surrender any of the rights and privileges of that office. Those rights did not belong to the individual, but to the office, and while he was Speaker they should remain with the office.

Ordered, that the correspondence be printed.

21. ANJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunner moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at nineteen minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 71.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Contractors for Public Schools Furniture:—*Mr. Willis*, for *Mr. Whiddon*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Who are the contractors for the Public Schools furniture?
- (2.) Was the last contract obtained in the usual way—by public competition?
- (3.) Is he aware that the work is done under the sweating system?
- (4.) Is it a fact that a hardwood called bean-tree is extensively used in the manufacture of same, otherwise specified as first-class cedar?
- (5.) Is he aware that the average earnings of skilled cabinet-makers and joiners employed in manufacturing this furniture do not exceed 25s. or 30s. a week?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

- (1.) *J. W. Eaton*.
- (2.) Yes, but it was extended for an additional term of twelve months, in terms of the agreement.
- (3.) I am informed by the contractor that piece-work men average 11d. to 1s. 4d. per hour.
- (4.) Very rarely. Bean and rose woods have been used occasionally, by permission of the Department, for form tops, as they are hard and durable woods.
- (5.) No.

(2.) Eight Hours Bill:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that the Eight Hours Bill has passed some of its stages, and that a similar Bill has previously passed the Legislative Assembly, and was subsequently lost in the Legislative Council, will he so arrange that time may be given to pass this important public Bill through its remaining stages in the Legislative Assembly before the close of the present Session?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am afraid not, but will see if it is possible.

(3.) Colonial Marble:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Were all the samples of marble at present exhibited in the vestibule of this House procured in New South Wales?
- (2.) If so, for what reason was most of the marble used in fitting up the new Supreme Court buildings imported from abroad?
- (3.) Why has colonial marble not been exclusively used in public works during the last two years, seeing the great variety and splendid quality of the specimens now on show?
- (4.) Will he issue instructions that in future none but New South Wales marble shall be used on all Government works and contracts which call for the use of marble?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Marble mantel-pieces in new Court-room and lavatory tops throughout the new building are in colonial marble. Imported mantel-pieces had to be used in the Judges' Chambers, as local marble could not be supplied in time.
- (3 and 4.) Colonial marble is used in public works to the full extent of the present supply.

(4.) Sale of Town Allotments at Cumborah Springs, Walgett:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is there any serious objection to the submitting for public sale the town allotments at Cumborah Springs, Walgett?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the Department have been importuned in this matter for some considerable time?
- (3.) Will he give definite instructions to meet the public demand and convenience by submitting the land in question for public sale?

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Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) The District Surveyor's report, which is now to hand, shows that auction sale of town allotments is unobjectionable.
- (2.) Several letters have been received from the Honorable Member on the subject.
- (3.) Action is about to be taken to proclaim the town and suburban lands, and offer town lots at auction sale.

(5.) Returns under the Land Tax:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have all the returns from the Government land valuers been sent in yet, with the values of the several portions of land?
- (2.) If not, what districts are yet wanting, and when does he expect the returns will be completed?
- (3.) Is it the intention of the Government to have placed in the various land offices the parish maps, showing the several portions that have been valued for the purpose of taxation?
- (4.) If so, will the names of the owners be placed on the same, with the values at which they are to be taxed, and showing whether the same were the values placed on the portions by the appointed and paid valuers, or by whom?
- (5.) When has the tax to be paid, and have all the notices yet been issued?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1 and 2.) All the returns from the Government land valuers are not yet to hand, but it is anticipated they will be finally completed and dealt with at an early date.
- (3 and 4.) No.
- (5.) The tax must be paid within sixty days of the issue of each notice. The first instalment of the notices will be delivered to the taxpayers on Saturday next.

(6.) Income Tax Assessment Notices:—*Mr. Ashton*, for *Mr. Knox*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that Income Tax Assessment notices have been sent by the Commissioners of Taxation to persons whose incomes are under the statutory exemption?
- (2.) Have the Commissioners of Taxation received money from any of the persons to whom such notices were sent?
- (3.) If so, will he give directions that all money so paid be forthwith repaid by the Commissioners of Taxation to the respective persons who have paid the same?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) To trustees only where the beneficiaries under the trust have failed to furnish returns.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Where it is proved to the satisfaction of the Commissioners that assessments are wrong the excess tax will be voluntarily refunded.

(7.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he allow *Mr. Affleck* an early opportunity of proposing the second reading of the Government Railways Act Amendment Bill, seeing that it has been on the Notice Paper all last Session as well as this, and it could never be reached?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member seems to have been unfortunate in placing the Bill in question. I fear I cannot help him.

(8.) Votes for Roads and Bridges:—*Mr. Price* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a large number of bridge and road contracts were not completed by the 30th June, 1896; if so, what provision is made for the payment of the vouchers for such works?
- (2.) Will the whole of the amounts voted on the Schedules for 1896-7 be available for works let during that period?
- (3.) Are the 1895-6 balances being charged against the Schedules for 1896-7; if so, what provision is being made to carry out the works on roads and bridges authorised by Parliament for the year 1896-7, as provided for by Schedule, where the Votes for 1896-7 are absorbed by the 1895-6 balances?
- (4.) Is this practice in accord with the new system of financing inaugurated by the Colonial Treasurer?
- (5.) Is he aware that the farmers and pastoralists are greatly inconvenienced through the bad state of the roads and bridges, and in many cases experience great difficulty in bringing their produce to market; if so, will he issue instructions with a view to expediting the necessary road works?
- (6.) Will he take steps to open separate accounts for the 1895-6 balances to be charged against, in order that the amounts voted by Parliament for expenditure on works for the year 1896-7 may be applied to the purpose intended, and not appropriated for the payment of the balances of previous years?
- (7.) Is it a fact that, by reason of the retirements and reductions in his Department, the present staff cannot cope with the works?
- (8.) Is there any intention on the part of the Government to place the roads under local control, by means of a comprehensive system of Local Government, as promised by the Secretary for Works during the elections of 1894 and 1895?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes. All bridge and road contracts let before the 30th June, 1896, and not paid for prior to that date, become a charge on the 1896-7 Votes.
- (2.) Yes, after providing for the contracts referred to in Question No. 1, and ordinary maintenance wages.
- (3.) This appears to be answered by replies to Questions Nos. 1 and 2.
- (4.) Yes.

(5.)

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- (5.) The local officers have already been instructed to proceed with road works.
 (6.) This cannot be done, as under the Amended Audit Act all 1895-6 cash balances on Votes lapsed on the 30th June, 1896, and there is no other source of payment for outstanding liabilities but the 1896-7 Votes.
 (7.) No.
 (8.) No such promise as that alluded to was made by me.

(9.) Dog Act Amendment Bill:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that great inconvenience is experienced by settlers in the coast districts and Maitland by reason of the operation of the provisions of the Dog Act?
 (2.) Will he take steps to prevent the police officers in the country districts from too rigidly enforcing the provision of the Act pending the passing of the amending Act?
 (3.) Has he any intention of introducing the amending Bill proposed by him during the Session of 1895, as promised?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Inspector General of Police reports that it would not be in the public interests to repeal the provisions of the Dog Act, or to relax proceedings thereunder, provided reasonable discretion is used by the police. Complaints are common of the extent of destruction to sheep by masterless mongrels roaming about the country—or ownership untraceable, and if the restrictions imposed by Act were removed, the evil would be increased; moreover hydatids are prevalent in the country.

(10.) Church and School Land Tenants:—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Will he kindly state what course he intends to adopt with reference to the Church and School Land tenants?
 (2.) Is he aware that several of the tenants are paying from 6s. to 20s. per acre per annum rent for land over 70 miles from a railway or water-carriage?
 (3.) Is he aware that, in consequence of the uncertainty which exists with regard to the tenure of the leases, the tenants are unable to proceed with the necessary improvements?
 (4.) Will he take steps to keep the promise made by the Premier, the Minister for Public Instruction, and later by the Secretary for Lands, viz., that an amending Bill would be dealt with this Session; if so, when does he contemplate submitting such measure to Parliament?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The whole question of the law relating to the Church and School Lands is under consideration, and an amendment of the law will be submitted to Parliament at the earliest practicable date. A Bill to declare the Church and School Lands to be Crown Lands, subject to certain rights of the present lessees, would have been submitted to Parliament this Session if there had been a prospect of its being taken without much contention, but as opposition was offered by the lessees it is not considered expedient to go on with the Bill with so short a period available for Legislative work this Session. The anomaly of having two sets of laws regulating the lands of the Colony and mining thereon is so glaring and indefensible that in any Bill I introduce a proposal will be made to provide for a uniform law for all public lands. This can be done without neglecting the equitable adjustment of the conditions of present occupation of the Church and School Lands.

(11.) Telephone Tunnels:—Mr. Perry asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What is the estimated cost, complete, of the telephone tunnels now in course of construction in Sydney?
 (2.) Is it a fact that the supervision of this work has been given to Messrs. McCredie Bros.; if so, what commission are they being paid for their services?
 (3.) Are there no men in the Public Works Department fit to do the work Messrs. McCredie are now doing?
 (4.) If the men in the Department are incapable of doing the work, will he get rid of them and appoint men who are?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) The total cost of all the sections, when completed, will be about £32,467, divided as follows:—General Post Office to Castlereagh-street, authorised 12th August, 1892, £3,560 10s.; Moore-street to the Exchange, authorised 23rd April, 1895, £4,756 4s.; Pitt-street to Clarence-street, authorised 5th September, 1895, £3,286 18s.; General Post Office to Railway Station, authorised 29th February, 1896, £17,364 4s. 11d.; Moore-street, via Castlereagh-street, to King-street, authorised 11th September, 1896, £3,500.

(2.) Yes. The usual commission, 5 per cent.

(3 and 4.) I have no doubt there are men in the Department qualified, but Messrs. McCredie were given the work in the first instance, and their plans are being followed in the present instance.

(12.) Post and Telegraph Offices at Quirindi:—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Levien, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What is causing the delay in proceeding with the additions to the Post and Telegraph Offices at Quirindi?
 (2.) When will tenders be called?

Mr. Young answered,—An amount appears on the Loan Estimates for this work, and, when available, tenders will be invited.

(13.) Bridge over Borambil Creek:—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Levien, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to erect a bridge over Borambil Creek, on the road from Quirindi to Warrah Ridge; if so, when will tenders be called for its erection?

Mr. Young answered,—The bridge will be erected if the necessary funds can be made available, but this cannot be definitely stated at present.

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21st October, 1896.

- (14.) Annual Leases on Mr. Charles Baldwin's Run, Land District of Tamworth:—*Mr. Willis*, for Mr. Levien, asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will he have the papers laid upon the Table of this House, moved for by Mr. Levien on the 11th August last, relating to the annual leases on Mr. Charles Baldwin's Run, Land District of Tamworth?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—On Tuesday next.

- (15.) Despatch Respecting Consolidation of Australasian Loans:—*Mr. W. H. B. Piddington* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he cause to be laid upon the Table of this House a copy of the despatch of Sir P. O. Fysh upon the consolidation of Australasian loans?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will obtain a copy and lay it upon the Table if the Honorable Member will move in the usual way.

- (16.) University Students:—*Mr. Schey* asked the Minister of Public Instruction:—

(1.) Did he recently, during the discussion on the Estimates, promise to examine into the question of granting similar facilities as to travelling to and from the University to evening students as are now and have for a long period been enjoyed by day students?

(2.) If so, what decision has he arrived at?

(3.) What action has he taken in the matter?

(4.) What further action does he intend to take?

(5.) When will the evening students be placed on the same footing as the day students in this regard?

Mr. Garrard answered,—This matter has again been referred to the Railway authorities, with a request that they will reconsider their decision.

- (17.) Shooting of Marker at Inverell Rifle-range:—*Mr. Cruickshank* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the fact that the marker at the Inverell Rifle Range was shot on the 6th May last, during practice?

(2.) If so, what action is being taken in the matter?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Yes; and it is now the subject of a Military Court of Inquiry.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Amended By-law of the University of Sydney.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Amended Return to an Order, made on 25th June, 1896,—“Appointments to the Civil Service,”—together with correspondence in connection therewith.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By *Mr. Nelson*—From Clergymen and Ministers of East Sydney.

(2.) By *Mr. Garrard*—From P. J. Stephen, President, and George Gray, Secretary, in the name of the Executive Committee of the New South Wales Christian Endeavour Union.

Petitions received.

4. BOROUGH OF LITHGOW VALIDATING BILL:—*Mr. Bavister*, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 7th October, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Bavister then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.

Question put and passed.

5. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—

(1.) Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill; second reading.

(2.) Distress for Rent Abolition Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to abolish distress for rent.

(3.) Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill; to be considered in Committee.

6. ADJOURNMENT:—*Mr. Speaker* stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Waratah, *Mr. Griffith*, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The evils arising from failure of the Liquor Licensing Law in regard to Sunday trading.”

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Griffith moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Point of Order:—*Mr. Reid* directed *Mr. Speaker's* attention to the Order of the Day No. 4, for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Licensing Law, and contended that this discussion anticipated the consideration of that Order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that until the Bill referred to in Order No. 4 was brought in he could not decide that its provisions would embrace the subject now under discussion. He ruled against the Point of Order.

Debate continued.

Question put and negatived.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st October, 1896.

7. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Church Acts Repealing Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to repeal the Acts 7 William IV No. 3, 8 William IV No. 5, and 21 Victoria No. 4, to bring lands held for Church purposes under the provisions of Ordinances of Synod; to validate the appointment of past trustees under the said repealed Acts; and to make provision for vesting lands held on trust in the present trustees and in new trustees without conveyance,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 21st October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Knox, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

(2.) Franchise Extension Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893 by extending the franchise to certain persons disqualified from voting under the said Act,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 21st October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

FRANCHISE EXTENSION BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 21st October, 1896.

JORN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 7. Omit "is in the Naval or Military Service or"

Page 1, clause 1. At end of clause add "Anything to the contrary in section twenty-three sub-section (III) of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893 notwithstanding."

Page 1, clause 2. Omit clause 2.

Page 1, clause 3, line 15. Omit "1895," insert "1896."

Examined,—

ARCH. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Tuesday next.

8. GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amalgamate the Savings Banks, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating thereto.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amalgamate the Savings Banks, and to consolidate and amend the laws relating thereto,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st October, 1896.

9. NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved' That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the 'Navigation Acts, 1871-1881'; and for other purposes in connection therewith.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the 'Navigation Acts, 1871-1881'; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st October, 1896.

21st October, 1896.

10. PHARMACY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clause 14,"—instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate ensued.
Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Original Question put,—That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.
Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
Mr. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to establish a Board of Pharmacy; to regulate the carrying on of the business of a Pharmacist; to provide for the examination and registration of Pharmacists; and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st October, 1896.*
11. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL—SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL—NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—Mr. Millen, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report these Bills were referred on 21st July and 13th August, 1896, respectively, together with copies of the Bills as referred to such Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Millen then moved, That the Bills be read a second time To-morrow.
Question put and passed.
12. BERRIGAN TO FINLEY RAILWAY BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument, in writing, to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange, from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.
The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—
Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument, in writing, to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange, from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes.
On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument, in writing, to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange, from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
13. REFERENDUM BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide means of legislation in cases of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, That the report be *now* received.

VOICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st October, 1896.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide means of legislation in cases of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide means of legislation in cases of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

14. PUBLIC SERVICE (SUPERANNUATION) BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of *Mr. O'Sullivan*, that the report be now received.

Mr. O'Sullivan then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

15. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business, Nos. 7 to 15, postponed until To-morrow.

16. CAPITAL PUNISHMENT ABOLITION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 22 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

Ordered, that the adoption of the report stand an Order of the Day for To-morrow.

17. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day of General Business postponed until To-morrow.

18. CLAIM OF RICHARDSON, TURNER, & Co.:—Mr. Sleath moved, pursuant to amended Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Richardson, Turner, & Co., for value of opal belonging to them, and stolen while in possession of the police.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Brunner, Mr. Dick, Mr. Moore, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. James Thomson, Mr. Lonsdale, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at five minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 72.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 22 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Trustees for Public Parks :—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it usual to appoint within municipalities the Council as trustees for public parks?
- (2.) Have trustees been appointed within municipalities within the last three years outside of the Council?
- (3.) Is it a fact that several municipalities have been compelled to take charge of parks within the municipalities, and the trustees called upon to resign?
- (4.) Will he give instructions for all public parks and recreation reserves to be handed over to the Councils?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes, in a very few instances.
- (3.) I am not aware.
- (4.) This course does not appear to be advisable.

(2.) Evidence of the Government Analyst :—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Ewing, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Have magistrates, in dealing with a case, discretionary power with regard to the admission of the Government Analyst's certificate in evidence, or must the Government Analyst be present?
- (2.) If the magistrates have not the power, could provision be made to this end in the Pharmacy Bill?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) This Question involves an opinion upon a matter of law, and, therefore, does not come within the scope of Questions to which a Minister replies. The practice, however, has been that in unimportant cases the Analyst's report is accepted; but where there is likely to be a committal for murder or manslaughter, his personal attendance is required. In 1893 Mr. Hamlet complained of the journeys he was called upon to undertake to distant parts of the Colony, whereby his attention was taken from the purely chemical work of the laboratory.

(2.) Such provision can be made in the Bill if Parliament so determines.

(3.) Wollongong Harbour Trust :—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When was the Wollongong Harbour Trust formed?
- (2.) What amount of public money has been paid to the said Trust for improving the harbour of Wollongong?
- (3.) Has such money been expended under Government supervision?
- (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to make any further grants of public money to the Trust; if so, to what extent?
- (5.) What is the total amount paid as fees to the members of the Trust to the present time?
- (6.) Who are the present members of the Trust, and what remuneration do they receive?

Mr. Reid answered,—The information required will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(4.) Examinations for Position in Public Service :—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How is it that the results of the examination held on the 26th September for the positions of Chief Clerk in the Supreme Court, and Law Clerk in the Crown Solicitor's Office, have not been published yet?
- (2.) With reference to that examination, will a list in order of merit of those who have passed be kept by the Public Service Board, with a view to the appointment to any positions in the Crown Law Offices, which may require to be filled, of those candidates who have obtained a satisfactory percentage of marks in that examination, and who are in other respects eligible for such positions?

Mr.

22nd October, 1896.

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The report of the Examiners in Law was only received by the Public Service Board on the 19th instant, and it is now being dealt with. The successful competitors were—1st, Mr. A. G. Saddington, B.A.; 2nd, Mr. John S. Cargill, B.A.

(2.) The terms of the 26th section of the Public Service Act would seem to be against the adoption of the suggestion contained in the Honorable Member's Question.

- (5.) Night-officers in the Railway Department:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer.—Is he aware that there are a number of night-officers in the Railway Department who have been doing duty for many years, and are entitled to promotion; but when opportunities for securing such promotion occur, the appointments are conferred on officers who have never done such night-duty?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am not aware, but would suggest that any member of the Railway Staff who feels that his claims for promotion have been overlooked, as indicated, should lay his case before the Railway Commissioners.

- (6.) Solicitors adjudicating as Commissioners of the Peace:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that a solicitor in Narrabri, named J. M. McDonald, is in the habit of sitting on the Bench and adjudicating in cases?

(2.) Does he approve of solicitors who have been appointed to the Commission of the Peace adjudicating in Courts in which they also appear in their professional capacity?

(3.) If he does not approve, will he instruct solicitors to that effect?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) I have ascertained that Mr. McDonald has, by request of the police, occasionally sat and adjudicated in unimportant cases, to prevent inconvenience to the public, when the Police Magistrate was absent and no other Justices were available.

(2.) No.

(3.) A circular was issued in the year 1892 to solicitors in country districts who were also Justices of the Peace, stating that the attention of the Chief Secretary had been drawn to the fact that solicitors in the country districts who had been appointed to the Commission of the Peace were in the habit of taking their seats on the Benches of Magistrates, and adjudicating in cases in the towns in which they were practising their profession, and adding that such a course of procedure did not prevail in England, and that, in the Chief Secretary's opinion, it was highly unbecoming and liable to bring the administration of justice into contempt. Such solicitors were also requested to be so good as to refrain from sitting on the Bench in the district in which they were following their profession.

- (7.) Mercadool Land Cases:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) How long have the Mercadool land cases been going on?

(2.) When are the cases likely to be finally settled?

(3.) How much have the prosecution and the appeals to the Land Court in these cases cost the country?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) For ten months.

(2.) I can form no idea.

(3.) I can give no accurate information at present as the expenses to date are not yet made up.

- (8.) School at Girilambone Railway Station:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Is it his intention to establish a school at Girilambone Railway Station about the end of the year?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The consideration of this matter has been postponed until the end of the year, and the Honorable Member was so informed on the 4th of last month.

- (9.) Schools at Peak and Wrightville:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he, in view of the large number of children wanting instruction at the Peak, also at Wrightville, have the promised new school buildings erected with the least possible delay and schools established?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; and steps have been taken to obtain suitable sites at both places.

- (10.) Wages earned at the West Bogan Scrub:—*Mr. Waddell*, for *Mr. Rigg*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that experienced men working at the West Bogan scrub nine and ten hours per day, and having to find tools, cooking utensils, railway fare, and cartage on goods for a distance of 20 miles, cannot earn more than 3s. 6d. per day?

(2.) Did he some time ago state that stores would be supplied to the men on this work at Sydney prices?

(3.) Does he know that mutton is being charged for at the rate of 3d. per lb., or 10s. 6d. for a 42-lb. sheep; and that inferior groceries are being sold at top prices?

(4.) Will he cause inquiry to be made, with the view of allowing a fair rate of remuneration to these men?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) The statement referred to tools, and these are now being supplied at Sydney wholesale prices, with cost of carriage added.

(3.) No.

(4.) The rates per acre for clearing are in every case fixed by experienced officers with a view to fair remuneration. These rates are, however, subject to review where there is reason to doubt their being sufficient to enable an industrious man to earn a fair wage.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd October, 1896.

2. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-third Report from the Printing Committee.

3. **METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL (No. 2)**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 70.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; and for other purposes.

Government House,
Sydney, 20th October, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

4. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Old Age Provision Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with the view of making competent provision for old age; and for other purposes connected therewith;—until Thursday next.

(2.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.

(3.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Thursday next.

(4.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.

(5.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday next.

5. **WOMEN'S FRANCHISE BILL**:—Mr. Willis moved, That the Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill be discharged.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

6. **FISHERIES BILL**:—Mr. Young, for Mr. Brunner, moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to remodel the law relating to the Fisheries of New South Wales; to substitute for the Commissioners of Fisheries of New South Wales a single authority; to establish a representative Board of Advice to advise and assist such authority; to repeal the various Acts relating to the fisheries and fishing in tidal and inland waters and to fishing-nets and other instruments for the capture of fish, the promotion of oyster-culture and the regulation of oyster-fisheries, and to make better provision in relation thereto; to provide for the leasing in certain cases of Crown lands below high-water mark for the establishment of fisheries; for the leasing for oyster-culture of Crown lands in or abutting on tidal waters; for regulating the weights or dimensions of marketable fishes, including oysters, crayfish, and prawns; for the improvement of the supply of fish to consumers, the promotion and development of the industry of fishing, and for other purposes connected with or incidental to the matters aforesaid.

Question put and passed.

7. **METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE BILL (No. 2)**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; and for other purposes.

Question put and passed.

8. **BERRIGAN TO FINLEY RAILWAY BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

Mr. Young moved, That the report be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

9. **PUBLIC SERVICE (SUPERANNUATION) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

10.

22nd October, 1896.

10. TAMWORTH WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 23 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

11. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Legislative Council's Message of 14th October, in reference to the amendments in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee,—
 Insisted on its amendment on the Council's amendment in clause 2, line 5.
 Agreed to the Council's amendment in clause 2, subsection (j). And
 Insisted on its disagreements to the Council's amendments in clause 3, and to the insertion of the first of the new clauses to follow clause 10.
 On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.

12. VEGETATION DISEASES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the further consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

13. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at half-past Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 73.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 27 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Prospecting Vote :—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Does he intend placing £20,000 on the Additional Estimates for prospecting gold-fields of New South Wales?
 (2.) What amount was spent last year out of the Prospecting Vote?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) No; the sum named has been voted on the general Estimates.
 (2.) £19,700 8s. 5d.

- (2.) Instruction of Military Officers :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is it intended to send any officers or non-commissioned officers to England for instruction?
 (2.) If so, what is the estimated cost of the trip?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Yes; but as the question is somewhat ambiguous it would be difficult to give the cost, but I may state that £300 has been voted on the Estimates-in-Chief, which will cover any expenditure that may be incurred.

- (3.) Forage Allowance to Military Officers :—Mr. Mackay asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that the Government have approved of a recommendation of the Major-General that the forage allowance of certain Head-quarters Staff officers be increased, notwithstanding the reduction of the Military Estimates?
 (2.) Is it true that the forage allowance of the partially-paid officers has been reduced?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) No. The Government has approved, on the recommendation of the Major-General Commanding, that two officers should draw the forage they are entitled to under the Regulations for two horses instead of one.
 (2.) Yes, on the ground that as the horses were used only occasionally during the year full rates should not be drawn.

- (4.) Export of Hares :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Is he aware that thousands of hares are destroyed annually in the Argyle Electorate on the grounds of being a pest?
 (2.) Have the recent sales of exported hares on the English market been brought under his notice?
 (3.) Will he encourage a local export trade of hares by sending one consignment to the English market under the auspices of Government?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1 and 2.) Yes.
 (3.) I have already decided that a trial shipment is to be made at the proper season.

- (5.) Government Grading of Butter :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Is he aware that the majority of the co-operative butter factories are anxious for a system of Government grading of butter?
 (2.) If yes, when does he propose to put the proposal into practical shape?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This matter is under consideration.

27th October, 1896.

- (6.) Ammunition used by Military Forces:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Military Authorities have in their possession a considerable quantity of "solid drawn" ammunition (imported), which the competitors in the recent rifle matches refused to use, and which the forces generally regard as obsolete?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the ammunition used at the recent rifle matches was "rolled case" from an Australian factory?
 - (3.) If the forces and competitors in rifle matches will not use the "solid drawn" ammunition, and it is regarded as obsolete, what is to be done with the millions of cartridges of that ammunition now in the military store?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) There is an amount of 1,440,000 rounds of rifle ammunition in the Colony which has been objected to by competitors at rifle matches. This was subjected to tests by the Firemaster, an officer specially qualified, and reported upon favourably. It has, however, been withdrawn from issue for rifle matches, and is used for training of recruits, and for service with machine guns. This is of Imperial Service pattern, and is not obsolete.
- (2.) Until recently, Imperial ammunition, solid drawn, date of manufacture 1891, for the Martini-Henry rifle, has been almost exclusively used. At the Association Meeting, just concluded, half the ammunition used was supplied by the Colonial Ammunition Company (Limited), of Melbourne, under contract with this Colony, as "rolled case."
- (3.) Solid-drawn ammunition for the Martini-Henry is not obsolete. It is the proper Service ammunition, and no other is likely to be used.

- (7.) Sydney Tramway and Omnibus Company:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Sydney Omnibus and Tramway Company are issuing tickets to travellers by the 'buses of the company?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the shares of this company, paid up to 15s., are now saleable at only 4s. per share?
 - (3.) Will he take steps to prevent the issue of tickets by this company, in view of their present financial condition, and as a protection to the public purchasing tickets from this company?

Mr. Brunker answered,—This is a private company, and the matter is not one in which the Government is called upon to interfere.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—

- (1.) Mr. Whiddon presented a Petition from certain members of the Baptist Congregation at Burton-street Church, praying for the passing of a Bill embodying the principle of full local option without compensation.
Petition received.
- (2.) Mr. T. R. Smith presented the following Petitions, referring to the manifold evils through intoxicating drink, which not only include drunkenness but much poverty, immorality, lunacy, and crime; and praying for the early passage of a Bill that will concede to the electors themselves, in every electorate, full local option without compensation.
 - (1.) From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 - (2.) From certain inhabitants of New South Wales.
 Petitions received.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL:—Mr. Cook presented a Petition from His Lordship the Bishop of Sydney, Chairman of a Public Meeting held in Sydney on the 26th instant, expressing satisfaction at the introduction of the Liquor Traffic Local Option Bill in the Legislative Assembly; and, in view of the manifold evils arising from the prevalence of intemperance in the community, praying the House to immediately pass the measure.
Petition received.

4. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 14th October, 1896, in reference to the Mining Laws Amendment Bill,—

Insists upon its amendment upon the Council's amendment in clause 2, line 5.

Agrees to the Council's further amendment in clause 2, subsection (j), line 24, which inserts before the word "residence" the word "temporary."

Insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in clause 3, and to the insertion of the first of the new clauses to follow clause 10.

And the Assembly requests a Free Conference with the Legislative Council on the subject of such disagreements, and has appointed the following of its Members to be Managers of such Conference in its behalf:—Mr. Reid, Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Copeland, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Chapman, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Moore, Mr. Watson, Mr. Cann, and Mr. Haynes.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 27th October, 1896.

Debate ensued.

And Mr. Lyne requiring that the Managers be appointed by Ballot,—

Question,—That the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th October, 1896.

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 14th October, 1896, in reference to the Mining Laws Amendment Bill,—

Insists upon its amendment upon the Council's amendment in clause 2, line 5.

Agrees to the Council's further amendment in clause 2, subsection (j), line 24, which inserts before the word "residence" the word "temporary."

Insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in clause 3, and to the insertion of the first of the new clauses to follow clause 10.

And the Assembly requests a Free Conference with the Legislative Council on the subject of such disagreements,—put and passed.

Whereupon the House proceeded to the Ballot; and Mr. Speaker declared the following to be the Managers duly appointed:—Mr. Sydney Smith, Mr. Cann, Mr. Reid, Mr. Copeland, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Moore, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Haynes.

5. COLLISION BETWEEN THE "SOL" AND "ALATHEA" STEAMERS:—Mr. A. B. Piddington presented a Petition from the Parramatta River Steamers and Tramway Company, Limited, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the collision between the "Sol" and "Alathea" Steamers; and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.
Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
6. CASE OF THOMAS BUCKLEY—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—Mr. E. M. Clark presented a Petition from Thomas Buckley, of Sydney, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the case of Thomas Buckley, Public Works Department; and praying to be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the said Committee, with the right to call witnesses, and to examine and cross-examine all witnesses that may give evidence.
Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.

7. PITT TOWN SETTLEMENT:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Hughes, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having appointed a Select Committee on "Pitt Town Settlement," and the Committee being desirous to examine the Honorable Benjamin Backhouse, a Member of the Legislative Council, in reference thereto, request that the Legislative Council will give leave to its said Member to attend and be examined by the said Committee on such day and days as shall be arranged between him and the said Committee.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1896.*

8. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL—SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL—NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—Mr. Howarth presented the following Petitions,—referring to the private Bills that have been introduced into the House for the purpose of establishing better means of communication for both passenger and vehicular traffic between the city of Sydney and North Sydney, and to the appointment of a Select Committee thereon; and praying that any Bill which the House will sanction shall provide for a more direct route and a more rapid means of reaching the centre of the city than by the proposed Tramway Tunnel:—
(1.) From certain members of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of Lane Cove.
(2.) From certain members of the Municipal Council of the Borough of Willoughby.
Petitions received.
9. MATTLAND GASLIGHT ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Gillies, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this Bill was referred on 14th October, 1896; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Gillies then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.
Question put and passed.

10. FISHERIES BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Brunker, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 71.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to remodel the law relating to the Fisheries of New South Wales; to substitute for the Commissioners of Fisheries of New South Wales a single authority; to establish a representative Board of Advice to advise and assist such authority; to repeal the various Acts relating to the fisheries and fishing in tidal and inland waters and to fishing-nets and other instruments for the capture of fish, the promotion of oyster culture and the regulation of oyster fisheries, and to make better provision in relation thereto; to provide for the leasing in certain cases of Crown lands below high-water mark for the establishment of fisheries; for the leasing for oyster culture of Crown lands in or abutting on tidal waters; for regulating

27th October, 1896.

regulating the weights or dimensions of marketable fishes, including oysters, crayfish, and prawns; for the improvement of the supply of fish to consumers, the promotion and development of the industry of fishing; and for other purposes connected with or incidental to the matters aforesaid.

*Government House,
Sydney, 26th October, 1896.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

11. **ASSENT TO BILLS:**—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Water Rights Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 72.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to declare the rights of the Crown and of other persons to the use, flow, and control of water; to make better provision for the conservation and supply of water, and for regulating drainage and for the acquisition of land for such purposes; to provide for the granting of licenses to construct and maintain works for water conservation, irrigation, and drainage; to provide for the making of charges for the supply and use of water; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 22nd October, 1896.*

- (2.) Electric Traction Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 73.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the use of Electric Traction on Tramways, and the construction, maintenance, repair, and use of works in connection therewith,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 22nd October, 1896.*

- (3.) Government Railways (Compensation Limitation) Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 74.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to limit the amount of damages recoverable against the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales in certain cases,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 22nd October, 1896.*

- (4.) Municipal Council of Sydney Electric Lighting Bill:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 75.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to light the streets, also public and private places of the City of Sydney with the Electric Light, and also places outside the said city, and to exercise all powers necessary for such purposes, and for the generating and supply of electric power, and for the above purposes to raise by debentures the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand pounds,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 26th October, 1896.*

12. **PAPERS:**—

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 11th August, 1896,—"*Annual Leases on Charles Baldwin's Manilla Run, Land District of Tamworth.*"
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bardsley, county of Fitzroy, for approach to bridge at Coutt's Crossing, Orara River.

(2.) Return respecting votes taken for and the expenditure on Harbour Works.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th October, 1896.

13. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the Electoral Law*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the amendments referred to in Message of 27th October, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 8. *After* "Right" *insert* "under section thirty-eight of the Principal Act"

Page 1. *After* clause 1 *insert* the following new clauses:—

The Registrar of each District shall immediately upon the issue of an Elector's Right under section thirty-eight of the Principal Act inquire in writing in the prescribed form from the Registrar of the District for which the applicant previously held an Elector's Right, as to whether the applicant is then duly enrolled for such District; and if the applicant is then so enrolled, the Registrar of such last-mentioned District shall issue a certificate in the prescribed form accompanied by his statutory declaration of the truth and accuracy thereof, and transmit the same to the Registrar making such inquiry, and such last-mentioned Registrar shall upon receipt of such certificate and declaration enter the name of the applicant on a Roll to be called the Additional Roll for the District in respect of which the Elector's Right under section thirty-eight aforesaid has been issued.

Transferred
Elector's Rights
to be enrolled
for new District.

All persons whose names have been duly entered upon the Additional Roll shall be entitled to the same rights under the principal Act, and any Act amending the same, and under this Act, as if their names were then entered upon the General Roll.

Persons on
Additional Roll
to have same
rights as if on
General Roll.

Page 1, clause 2, line 19. *Omit* "or section thirty-eight"

Page 2, clause 2, line 2. *After* "District" *insert* "or on the Additional Roll under the provisions of section two hercof"

Page 2, clause 2, lines 7 to 10. *Omit* "(III) A person whose name has been entered upon the Provisional List for any District shall be deemed for all purposes duly enrolled on the General Roll for the District until the next General Roll is printed"

Page 2, clause 2, line 12. *Omit* "Provisional List" *insert* "Additional Roll"

Page 2, clause 2, lines 12 to 14. *Omit* "and on the next General Roll being printed all names so entered in the General List shall be struck off the Provisional List by the Registrar"

Page 2, clause 3, line 18. *Omit* "the months of November, February, and May of each year" *insert* "each month"

Page 2, clause 3, lines 19 and 20. *Omit* "printed and shall, as soon as practicable after the list is printed, sign and transmit a copy" *insert* "transmitted"

Page 2, clause 3, line 21. *Omit* "and" *insert* "or"

Page 2, clause 3, lines 22 to 25. *Omit* "and notify by one advertisement in some newspaper published or circulated in the district that copies of the list printed as aforesaid are in his custody and open to inspection at his office, and at any post-offices and police-offices within the district"

Page 2, clause 3, line 26. *Omit* "post-offices and police-offices" *insert* "post-office or police-office"

Page 2, clause 3, line 26. *Omit* "printed"

Page 2, clause 3, line 27. *After* "such" *omit* remainder of clause *insert* "post-office or police-office"

Page 2, clause 4. *Omit* clause 4, *insert* the following new clause:—

A stipendiary or police magistrate, to be appointed as a revising magistrate by the Governor, shall during each month on days to be notified by the Registrar of the District in the prescribed manner hold a Revision Court within each District for the revision of the Provisional List.

The Registrar or any person then entitled to vote in the District may in the prescribed manner object to the name of any person being retained on the Provisional List, and notice of objections so made shall be given in the prescribed manner to the person whose name is objected to.

Objections to
name of person
on the Pro-
visional List.

The magistrate holding the Court shall hear and determine all objections made as aforesaid, and shall expunge from the List the names of all persons not entitled to vote at an election within the District, and the provisions of the Principal Act with regard to the procedure before the Revision Courts thereby constituted shall, so far as possible, apply to the Court held under this section.

The List when signed and certified as correct by the magistrate shall be transmitted by him to the Registrar of the district, who shall enter the names thereon on the Additional Roll.

Page 2, clause 5, line 47. *Omit* "Provisional List," *insert* "Additional Roll"

Page 2, clause 5. At end of clause *add* "until after such election"

Page 2, clause 6, line 56. *After* "declaration" *insert* "subscribed before and attested by a Justice of the Peace and"

Page 3, clause 7, line 22. *Omit* "passing" *insert* "commencement"

Page 3, clause 7, line 23. *After* "until" *insert* "the thirty-first day of December, one thousand nine hundred unless"

27th October, 1896.

Page 3, clause 7, line 23. *After* "manner," *omit* remainder of clause, *insert* "And notwithstanding anything contained in section forty of the said Act, all Electors' Rights issued before or after the thirty-first day of December, one thousand nine hundred, shall continue and remain in force, subject to the conditions prescribed in section forty of the Principal Act, with the following exceptions:—

"(a) The General List shall be made out from the butts of Electors' Rights in the year one thousand nine hundred, and in each third year thereafter.

"(b) The Elector's Right, to be tendered and stamped in accordance with subsection (i) of section forty aforesaid, shall be an Elector's Right issued either before or after the thirty-first day of December, one thousand nine hundred."

Pages 3 to 5, clauses 8 to 19. *Omit* clauses 8 to 19.

Page 5, clause 20, lines 40 to 47. *Omit* "Section twenty-three in subsection (i) by the omission of the words 'three months' and the insertion, in lieu thereof, of the words 'one month.' Section thirty-six by the omission of the words 'three months' in subsection (iii) and the insertion, in lieu thereof, of the words 'one month,' and by the omission of question (7) in subsection (iii), and of the words 'the back of' in the said subsection and in subsection (iv)."

Page 5, clause 20, lines 48 to 53. *Omit* "'he is enrolled' in subsection (i) and the insertion, in lieu thereof, of the words 'an Elector's Right was issued to him' and by the omission of the words 'of his original enrolment' in subsection (ii) and the insertion, in lieu thereof, of the words 'for which it was issued,' and by the omission of the words "

Page 6, clause 20. *After* line 7 *insert* "Section forty-nine subsection (ii) by the omission of the word 'produce' and the insertion of the words 'cause to be produced,'"

Page 6, clause 20, line 46. *Omit* "forty and "

Page 6, clause 22, line 56. *Omit* "Schedule A to the Principal Act is hereby repealed and "

Page 6, clause 22, line 57. *Omit* "E" *insert* "A"

Page 6, clause 22, line 57. *After* "Act" *omit* remainder of clause, *insert* "shall be used for 'Transferred Electors' Rights issued under section thirty-eight of the Principal Act "

Page 7, clause 26. At end of clause *add* "and this Act shall be read with, and taken to be portion of, the principal Act."

Pages 8 and 9, Schedules A to D. *Omit* schedules A to D.

Page 9, Schedule E, line 31. *Omit* "E" *insert* "A"

Page 10, Schedule F, line 1. *Omit* "F" *insert* "B"

Page 10, Schedule F, line 4. *Omit* "Electoral Roll" *insert* "Provisional List"

Examined.—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

(2.) Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 1st October, 1896, in reference to the Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Bill,—

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 31, page 8, which adds at the end of the clause a new subsection (iii).

1. Because settlements of the kind mentioned in the said subsection are equivalent in law to absolute sales for valuable consideration, and ought not to be put on the footing of other bills of sale which are liable to be impeached under the Bankruptcy Law.

2. Because, since the Married Women's Property Act of 1893, the wife is as much entitled as the husband to own and possess chattels in her own right without any settlement, and therefore the protection intended to be given by the subsection to persons dealing with the husband cannot be secured by a provision dealing only with settlements on the wife, and leaving untouched the larger class of independent ownership by the wife.

3. Because the subsection would impose unreasonable trouble and expense upon the trustees of such settlements, and expose such settlements to the risk of being defeated by the neglect of trustees, whereas no other trust created for valuable consideration is exposed to such disability and risk. The trustees would be obliged, for instance, to register the settlement every year for as long as the husband lived, at the risk, if they once forgot to do so, of the loss of the whole property.

Agrees to the other amendments made by the Legislative Assembly in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.

14. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-Roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.

(2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.

(3.) Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.

(4.) Church Acts Repealing Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Wednesday, 4th November.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th October, 1896.

15. **FRANCHISE EXTENSION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Hogue, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Hogue, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893' by extending the franchise to certain persons disqualified from voting under the said Act.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 27th October, 1896.

16. **CAPITAL PUNISHMENT ABOLITION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Mr. Haynes moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

Mr. Copeland moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1 and 8,"—instead thereof.

Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for Sydney—Phillip Division, Mr. Copeland, be not further heard.

Question put and negatived.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate ensued.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 23rd September, 1896.

17. **PITT TOWN SETTLEMENT**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

In answer to the Message from the Legislative Assembly, dated 27th October, 1896, requesting leave for the Honorable Benjamin Backhouse, a Member of the Legislative Council, to attend and be examined before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on "Pitt Town Settlement," the Council acquaints the Assembly that leave has been granted to its said Member to attend and be examined by the said Committee if he think fit.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 27th October, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

18. **IMPROVEMENT OF COOK'S RIVER**:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood waters, be carried out.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 55.

Noes, 25.

Mr. Sydney Smith,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Ducey,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Millen,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Black.
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Haynes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Greene,	

Mr. Lyne,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Raymond,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Smailes,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. O'Sullivan.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. James Thomson.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

27th October, 1896.

19. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Referendum Bill postponed until To-morrow.
20. **LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill having been read,—Mr. Cook moved, that the Order of the Day be discharged.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.
21. **BERRIGAN TO FINLEY RAILWAY BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.
Mr. Young then moved, that the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument in writing to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument in writing to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1896.*

22. **PUBLIC SERVICE (SUPERANNUATION) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.
Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1896.*

23. **TAMWORTH WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.
Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1896.*

24. **VEGETATION DISEASES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sydney Smith moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Sydney Smith, *passed*.
Mr. Smith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation, and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony.*"
Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th October, 1896.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation; and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th October, 1896.*

25. FISHERIES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read, on motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to remodel the law relating to the Fisheries of New South Wales; to substitute for the Commissioners of Fisheries of New South Wales a single authority; to establish a representative Board of Advice to advise and assist such authority; to repeal the various Acts relating to the fisheries and fishing in tidal and inland waters and to fishing-nets and other instruments for the capture of fish, the promotion of oyster-culture and the regulation of oyster-fisheries, and to make better provision in relation thereto; to provide for the leasing in certain cases of Crown lands below high-water mark for the establishment of fisheries; for the leasing for oyster-culture of Crown lands in or abutting on tidal waters; for regulating the weights or dimensions of marketable fishes, including oysters, crayfish, and prawns; for the improvement of the supply of fish to consumers, the promotion and development of the industry of fishing, and for other purposes connected with or incidental to the matters aforesaid.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to remodel the law relating to the Fisheries of New South Wales; to substitute for the Commissioners of Fisheries of New South Wales a single authority; to establish a representative Board of Advice to advise and assist such authority; to repeal the various Acts relating to the fisheries and fishing in tidal and inland waters, and to fishing-nets and other instruments for the capture of fish, the promotion of oyster-culture and the regulation of oyster-fisheries, and to make better provision in relation thereto; to provide for the leasing in certain cases of Crown lands below high-water mark for the establishment of fisheries; for the leasing for oyster culture of Crown lands in or abutting on tidal waters; for regulating the weights or dimensions of marketable fishes, including oysters, crayfish, and prawns; for the improvement of the supply of fish to consumers; the promotion and development of the industry of fishing, and for other purposes connected with or incidental to the matters aforesaid.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Brunker then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to remodel the law relating to the Fisheries of New South Wales; to substitute for the Commissioners of Fisheries of New South Wales a single authority; to establish a representative Board of Advice to advise and assist such authority; to repeal the various Acts relating to the fisheries and fishing in tidal and inland waters, and to fishing-nets and other instruments for the capture of fish, the promotion of oyster-culture and the regulation of oyster-fisheries, and to make better provision in relation thereto; to provide for the leasing in certain cases of Crown lands below high-water mark for the establishment of fisheries; for the leasing for oyster-culture of Crown lands in or abutting on tidal waters; for regulating the weights or dimensions of marketable fishes, including oysters, crayfish, and prawns; for the improvement of the supply of fish to consumers, the promotion and development of the industry of fishing, and for other purposes connected with or incidental to the matters aforesaid,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Thursday, 5th November.

26. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Bill (No. 2) postponed until To-morrow.

27. HAY IRRIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with an amendment.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, the report was adopted.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

28. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at five minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 74.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 28 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Deputation to the Public Service Board:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Secretary,—Have the Public Service Board finally considered the grievances laid before them by the Deputation of attendants and nurses representing the Callan Park, Parramatta, and Rydalmere Asylums for the Insane?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes; the grievances have been carefully considered, and the final decision of the Board will be arrived at and announced shortly.

(2.) Botany Sewerage Farm:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that complaints have been made of the harshness of one of the overseers at the Botany Sewerage Farm, in consequence of which old and experienced navvies have had to knock off work after two or three hours?

(2.) Is he aware that this overseer has been remonstrated with as to his harsh treatment to the men by his superior officers?

(3.) If he is not aware of these facts, will he cause inquiries to be made which, while expecting every man to do the work he is paid for, will prevent this unnecessary hardness for the future?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1 and 2.) No complaint has reached me, nor am I aware of any harshness being exhibited by an overseer.

(3.) I will have the necessary inquiries made.

(3.) Examiners for the Public Service Board:—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that some of the examiners who hold examinations for the Public Service Board are in the Public Service receiving good salaries?

(2.) Who were the examiners engaged to conduct the examination for clerks in the Land and Income Tax Department, and also for a typewriter?

(3.) If engaged in the Public Service, at what salaries?

(4.) What fees have they been paid in addition to their salaries?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Mr. N. Lockyer, Dr. R. N. Morris, Messrs. H. J. Noble, and A. E. Hibble, for the Land and Income Tax Department examinations; Dr. R. N. Morris and Mr. J. A. B. Fry, for the examination for a typewriter.

(3.) Mr. Lockyer, £750; Dr. Morris, £625; Mr. H. J. Noble, £500; Mr. J. A. B. Fry, £350; and Mr. A. E. Hibble, £350.

(4.) I find that no part of the fees were paid to these gentlemen. I was under the impression that fees were paid to some of the examiners, and no doubt persons not in the Service would have to be paid fees.

(4.) Uniforms for Police at Walgett and District:—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What are the reasons for the delay in furnishing the Police at Walgett, Goodooga, and Brewarrina, with light summer uniforms?

(2.) Is he aware the heat has registered to 104° in the shade, making the clothes the Police are forced to use unbearable?

(3.) Considering the urgency of this matter, will he, if such summer clothing is not already despatched to these hot parts of the Colony, see that speedy action is taken therein?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—The Superintendent of the district reports that uniform has been received at Brewarrina; that for Walgett and Goodooga is on the road, and should have been delivered. The summer has set in unusually early this year, but officers have been reminded of the necessity for issuing light clothing.

(5.)

28th October, 1896.

- (5.) Boring for Water in the West Bogan District:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Mines,—
Will he, in view of the known existence of mud-springs on the West Bogan, near Girilambone, have a bore put down to ascertain if artesian water exists in this belt of country?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—A report has been received, and certain recommendations contained in it are now under consideration.

- (6.) Cumnock Water Supply:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) What steps (if any) have been taken to provide a suitable water-supply for the town of Cumnock?
(2.) Have any steps been taken to have the land surveyed and reserved for that purpose?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The question has been looked into, and it will be further considered now that the Water Rights Bill has passed.
(2.) A report as to the land required has been obtained.

- (7.) Portion No. 166, Parish of St. George:—Mr. Perry asked the Secretary for Lands,—
(1.) Is it a fact that he has approved of the sale of portion No. 166, parish of St. George, county of Cumberland?
(2.) Is it a fact that he has granted to the purchaser all improvements thereon free of charge?
(3.) If so, who was the purchaser?
(4.) Was the sale of this land refused by previous Governments?
(5.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers bearing on above matter?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1. to 4.) Auction sale of this land was directed by my predecessor, Mr. Henry Copeland, M.P., on the 20th April, 1893, who decided that the ownership of improvements was to be the subject of later consideration. The improvements were afterwards decided to be the property of the holder of a special lease, which was surrendered on condition that the lessee's claim for the improvements was recognised. Mr. L. C. Russell Jones became the purchaser at the auction sale, he having also purchased the improvements from the owner thereof, and he pointed out by letter that Mr. Copeland had promised to acknowledge his right to the improvements.

(5.) There is no objection to laying the papers upon the Table of this House if moved for in the usual way.

- (8.) Temporary Compositors in Government Printing Office:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In the event of any temporary compositors being discharged from the Government Printing Office, will they receive the usual gratuity, notwithstanding that the continuity of their service has been broken by half-time, brought about by slackness of work or other causes?

Mr. Reid answered,—This question will be carefully considered by the Public Service Board when the proper time arrives.

- (9.) Regimental Fund of the Volunteer Artillery:—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) What amount was to the credit of the Regimental Fund of the Volunteer Artillery before the Volunteer Artillery Corps was affiliated to the Permanent Artillery?
(2.) What has become of this money?
(3.) What amount has accumulated since from the 2nd Garrison Division Artillery?
(4.) What has become of this money?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

(1.) The New South Wales Volunteer Artillery had to its credit, at a fixed deposit, £1,110 2s. 3d. on the 30th April, 1893, in the New Oriental Bank, now in liquidation, and £147 0s. 5d. in Commercial Bank of Australia. The New South Wales Volunteer Artillery, as regards funds, was never in any way affiliated with the Permanent Artillery.

(2.) On the £1,110 2s. 3d. there has been received £541 3s. 5d., which has been placed to the credit of the clothing account of the New South Wales Volunteer Artillery, now called the 2nd Garrison Division, and paid to contractor.

(3 and 4.) None.

- (10.) Parkes Water Supply:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Is he aware that the water supply in Parkes, owing to the continued dry weather, is become very scarce?
(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to take any steps to furnish a more permanent supply for the use of the inhabitants; if so, when?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
(2.) Yes; a contract has been let for the necessary pipes, which will be made and laid as rapidly as possible.

- (11.) Camera purchased by the Royal Commission on Fisheries:—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was a camera, or other photographic apparatus, purchased by the Royal Commission on Fisheries?

(2.) In whose possession is it now?

(3.) Will he give instructions that it be handed over to the present Department of Fisheries, so that it can be rendered available for taking views of oyster-beds in the various rivers?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I believe a camera was purchased by the Royal Commission on Fisheries, but, owing to the absence from the Colony of the President, I am unable at present to afford any further information on the subject.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th October, 1896.

- (12.) Refreshment Rooms in the Domain and Centennial Park:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Chanter*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) How many tenders were received for the occupation or lease of the new refreshment-rooms in the Domain and Centennial Park?
 - (2.) The names of the tenderers and the amount of their respective tenders?
 - (3.) The name of the successful tenderer and the amount tendered for and accepted?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a return giving the particulars asked for.
- (13.) Land for Settlement in the Land District of Deniliquin:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Chanter*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to previous Questions and Answers,—
- (1.) When will he give pastoral tenants in the Land District of Deniliquin the necessary notice for resumption of one half of their leases?
 - (2.) Will he make the land available for settlement as quickly as possible?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—
- (1.) The District Surveyor has reported upon the proposal to withdraw half the leaseholds in the Land District of Deniliquin. The cases will be referred to the Land Board without delay; but it cannot be stated when the necessary notices will be issued to the lessees.
 - (2.) Yes.
- (14.) West Bogan Scrub Land:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Does he propose, after the scrubbing and ring-barking on the West Bogan is completed, to offer the land immediately for settlement?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—When the land is scrubbed and rung, steps will be taken to dispose of it according to the *bona fide* demand that may exist.
- (15.) Cases for Oranges exported to England:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What was the price paid per case for cases used in packing the oranges lately exported to England by the Government; and how many were purchased?
 - (2.) From whom were the cases purchased?
 - (3.) Were tenders called for the supply of cases?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—
- (1.) The cases purchased were—For special export, made to order, 1,645 at 8½d., and 5 at 10d.; for ordinary export, 35 at 8d.; for ordinary packers, 205 at 6d.
 - (2.) They were purchased from the Kauri Timber Company and the Sydney Case Factory.
 - (3.) Tenders were not called, but quotations were obtained from the leading makers. In the short time available none of the makers could supply cases of the dimensions required in properly seasoned wood except the Kauri Company, who were given the order.
- (16.) Bridge over Little River, between Parkes and Wellington:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he see that a sufficient sum of money is placed on the Additional Estimates for the present year for the erection of a bridge over the Little River, on the road from Parkes to Wellington?
- Mr. Young* answered,—The local officer's reports show that there is no necessity for erecting such a bridge.
2. THE RIVERS MURRAY AND DARLING:—*Mr. Ashton* presented a Petition from certain residents on the rivers Murray and Darling, representing that the present condition of the rivers Murray and Darling, owing to the accumulation of snags, is neither safe for navigation nor compatible with the just claims and interests of the Petitioners; and praying the House will cause such steps to be taken as will most effectually remedy the evils as therein complained of.
- At the request of *Mr. Ashton* the Petition was read by the Clerk, by direction of *Mr. Speaker*.
Petition received.
3. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL—SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL—NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—*Mr. Dugald Thomson* presented the following Petitions, referring to the private Bills that have been introduced into the House for the purpose of establishing better means of communication for both passenger and vehicular traffic between the city of Sydney and North Sydney, and to the appointment of a Select Committee thereon; and praying that any Bill which the House will sanction shall provide for a more direct route and a more rapid means of reaching the centre of the city than by the proposed Tramway Tunnel:—
- (1.) From certain members of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of Manly.
 - (2.) From certain members of the Municipal Council of the Municipality of Mosman.
- Petitions received.
4. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Young* laid upon the Table,—Accounts in connection with the Richmond Road Trust and the South Head Road Trust for the half-year ended 30th June, 1896.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Brunker* laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (2.) Return respecting tenders received for Refreshment Pavilions at Centennial Park and Domain.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. HAY IRRIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of *Mr. Brunker*, read a third time, and *passed*.
- Mr. Brunker* then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Hay Irrigation Act, and to repeal the Hay Irrigation Act Amendment Act, 1895.*"
- Question put and *passed*.
- Ordered,

28th October, 1896.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Hay Irrigation Act, and to repeal the Hay Irrigation Act Amendment Act, 1895*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 28th October, 1896.

6. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—

(1.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading ;—until Wednesday next.

(2.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-Roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading ;—until Wednesday next.

(3.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.

(4.) Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading ;—until To-morrow.

(5.) Narandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading ;—until Tuesday, 10th November.

(6.) Judges Relatives Disqualification Bill ; second reading ;—until To-morrow.

(7.) Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill ; second reading ;—until Thursday, 5th November.

(8.) Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill ; to be considered in Committee ;—until To-morrow.

(9.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading ;—until Wednesday next.

(10.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading ;—until Thursday, 5th November.

7. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Balmain South, Mr. Law, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The necessity of imposing a duty of £1 per bale upon all New South Wales wool exported to Victoria until such time as the Victorian Parliament abrogate the Stock Tax.”

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Law moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

8. TAMWORTH TO MANILLA RAILWAY BILL :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes. Question put and passed.

9. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had amended some and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.

Mr. Brunker moved, “That” the report be now adopted.

Mr. Hughes moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word “That,” and inserting the words “the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of the Council's amendments in clauses 2 to 19 inclusive,”—instead thereof.

Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate ensued.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The House divided.

Ayes, 43.

Mr. Gould,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Copland,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. See,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. McMillan,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Chauter.
Mr. Lee,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Travers Jones,	Mr. Hurley,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Mahouy.
Mr. Bull,	

Noes, 27.

Mr. Price,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Baxister.
Mr. Dick,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Smailes,	
Mr. Griffith,	
Mr. Lonsdale,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Haynes,	
Mr. Davis,	
Mr. Fegan,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Thomas Brown,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Ashton,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
Question,—That the report be now adopted,—put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th October, 1896.

10. REFERENDUM BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Affleck moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

11. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES AND ELECTIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Brunker, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Electoral Law*,"—but proposes to amend the amendment on page 2, clause 2, line 2, by omitting the words "under the provisions of section two hereof;" and the amendment on page 6, clause 20, *after* line 7, by adding the words "and the addition of the following words at the end thereof: 'Notwithstanding anything contained in this Act personal attendance of an applicant for enrolment at a Revision Court shall not be required except in cases where an objection has been lodged,'"—in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 28th October, 1896.*

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at eleven minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 75.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 29 OCTOBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Viaduct between Penrith and the Nepean River :—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are men kept continually supervising the viaduct between Penrith railway station and the Nepean River bridge?
- (2.) Is it a fact that several of the piles and girders are being destroyed by white ants and other insects?
- (3.) Is there likely to be any danger of portions of above viaduct collapsing on account of the decayed state of some of the timber?
- (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to repair or place a new viaduct in lieu of the present dangerous structure?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that—

- (1.) Periodical inspection is made.
- (2.) Timber perishes from many causes, but is always renewed when necessary to maintain the stability of the bridge.
- (3.) There is not the slightest risk, as alleged.
- (4.) The Railway Act provides that, "It shall be the duty of the Commissioners to maintain the railways and all works in connection therewith in a state of efficiency," and they are fully alive to their responsibilities in this respect. The present structure is perfectly safe, and there is no proposal to renew it wholly.

- (2.) Viaduct at Emu Plains :—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are men kept continually inspecting and testing the timber in the long viaduct at Emu Plains?
- (2.) Is it a fact that several piles and girders are decayed through being eaten by white ants and other insects?
- (3.) Is it a fact that this viaduct is becoming dangerous for trains to pass over?
- (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to place a new viaduct at this place, to save risk to the lives of thousands of people that pass over the Western line yearly?
- (5.) Is it a fact that a great many girders were taken out of this viaduct some years ago totally unfit for any purpose, and replaced by new timber?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that—

- (1.) It is the practice to frequently inspect all bridges.
- (2.) Piles and girders are renewed immediately it becomes necessary.
- (3.) The viaduct is perfectly secure.
- (4.) No risk is incurred, as alleged.
- (5.) All defective timber is renewed in accordance with the practice when it becomes necessary to do so to maintain the structure in a state of efficiency.

- (3.) Interest on Deposits in Government Savings Bank :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In the event of the Savings Banks Amalgamation Bill becoming law, will the Friendly Societies who deposit their moneys in the Government Savings Bank receive interest on the full amount of their deposits, as they now do from the Savings Bank of New South Wales?
- (2.) If not, what is the limit of the sum on which such societies will receive interest?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes, if the Bank Commissioners so decide.
- (2.) No Answer needed.

(4.)

29th October, 1896.

(4.) Cut Flowers from Public Parks and Botanical Gardens:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is there any system by which the cut flowers from our Public Parks and Botanical Gardens are supplied to the different hospitals?

(2.) If not, in view of the large quantities that must go to waste, will he endeavour to make arrangements so that the many helpless sick in our different hospitals who are unable to visit our gardens may have the benefit of these flowers in the hospital wards?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I think it is scarcely correct to say that there is any waste of flowers in the Botanical Gardens, because it is necessary in the interests of the public that a profuse display of blooms should be maintained. I will confer with the Director of the Botanical Gardens, to ascertain if it is possible to carry out the suggestion that cut flowers should be supplied to the institutions mentioned.

(5.) Synopsis of the Electoral Law:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the fact that the amending Electoral Bill effects many important changes in the method of obtaining electoral rights, securing enrolment, &c., will he have printed for general distribution a simply-compiled synopsis of the principal features of the Electoral Law as it will stand when such amending Bill is passed?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Instructions have already been given for the preparation of the synopsis.

(6.) Books in the Free Public Library:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that many valuable works of reference, early historical volumes, &c., in the Free Public Library, have of late been mutilated, and thus rendered practically valueless, and that, in consequence of the depredations of some visitors to the institution, it has been found necessary to close one portion of it?

(2.) If so, will he see that the Library possesses a sufficient number of attendants to at least minimise this cause of complaint in the future?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) During the current year six books have been found to be mutilated, one of which is comparatively valuable. In consequence of a number of books being stolen, one small compartment of the building, over which no supervision is possible, has been closed to the public; but, of course, the books in it are at once available on application to an attendant.

(2.) The appointment of two additional junior attendants, which has been approved of by the Public Service Board, will make the staff of attendants sufficient for ordinary supervision.

(7.) Fees charged before purchase of Crown Lands adjoining Private Land:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that when a purchase is made of a portion of Crown lands adjoining an area of private land, by the owner of the latter, such owner, before the purchase can be completed, has to submit his deeds to the Crown Solicitor, who demands a fee of £3 3s. before examining same?

(2.) Does this fee go into the Consolidated Revenue, or is it retained by the Crown Solicitor?

(3.) Is he aware that in many instances this and other fees charged amount to more than the whole value of the land purchased?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by my honorable colleague the Attorney General:—

(1.) Any person applying to purchase Crown land adjoining land of which he is the owner must submit his title to the Crown Solicitor to investigate and report upon. There is no fixed fee for the work performed by the Crown Solicitor. The lowest fee charged is £1 1s., and the fee is increased according to the nature of the title and the work performed by the Crown Solicitor.

(2.) All fees received by the Crown Solicitor are paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

(3.) The Crown Solicitor is not concerned as to the value of the land sought to be purchased.

(8.) Valuers for The Glebe under the Land Tax:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What are the names of the persons who assessed land in the electorate of The Glebe under the Land Tax Assessment Act?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member will see that no good object can be gained by disclosing the name of the assessor of this or any district.

(9.) Alleged Evasion of the Beer Duty Act by Messrs. Tooth & Co.:—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What has been done in the matter of Messrs. Tooth & Co. (Limited)?

(2.) Has the Crown Solicitor had any interviews with any member or members of the firm of Messrs. Tooth & Co. in reference to the case; and, if so, how many?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The papers have been received from the Crown Solicitor's Office, and referred to the Collector of Customs for report; they will be laid upon the Table as soon as possible.

(2.) I am informed there is no truth whatever in such insinuation.

(10.) Valuations under the Land Tax:—Mr. Lonsdale asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Land Tax Commissioners have increased the land values above the amount assessed by their own valuers?

(2.) If so, for what object?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) No; absolutely without foundation, I am informed.

(2.) They were not increased.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th October, 1896.

- (11.) Impost on Imported Sugar :—Mr. McFarlane asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
In view of the proposal of the French Government to increase the export bounty on sugar, will he consider the advisableness of making an impost on imported sugar equal to the bounty given by the country where such sugar has been produced ?
Mr. Reid answered,—No.
2. SENIOR-SERGEANT VAUGHAN'S REDUCTION AND REMOVAL FROM NARBANDERA :—Mr. Chanter, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 8th September, 1896, together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. PAPERS :—Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—
(1.) By-law of the Municipal District of Manly, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1875.
(2.) By-laws of the Borough of Grafton.
(3.) By-laws of the Borough of Mudgee.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for Public School purposes at Colo Vale, Morrison's Hill, North Creek, Oakvale, and Telegraph Point.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 19th August, 1896,—“Removal of the Land Board Offices from Cooma.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended September, 1896.
(2.) Amended Regulation No. 35, under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-fourth Report from the Printing Committee.
5. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the day postponed :—
(1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill ; second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
(2.) Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill ; second reading ;—until Wednesday next.
(3.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading ;—until Wednesday next.
(4.) Distress for Rent Abolition Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to abolish distress for rent ;—until Tuesday next.
6. ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR 1896-7 :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—
HAMPDEN, *Message No. 76.*
Governor.
In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends to the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Additional Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales for the year 1896-7.
Government House,
Sydney, 28th October, 1896.
Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates, and referred to the Committee of Supply.
7. LOAN ESTIMATE FOR 1896-7 :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker :—
HAMPDEN, *Message No. 77.*
Governor.
In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales, on account of Public Works and other Services, for the year 1896-7, proposed to be provided for by Loan.
Government House,
Sydney, 28th October, 1896.
Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimate, and referred to the Committee of Supply.
8. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Cobar, Mr. Waddell, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The inadequate provision made for the treatment of auriferous ores at the Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Waddell moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

29th October, 1896.

9. **REFERENDUM BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Reid, "That this Bill be now read a second time,"—
And the Question being again proposed,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 30 OCTOBER, 1896, A.M.

Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 54.

Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Gould,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Wright,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Chapman,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Mackay,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Lyne,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Schey,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Cotton,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Dugald Thomson.
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Lee,	
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	

Noes, 3.

Mr. Copeland.
Tellers,
Mr. McMillan,
Mr. Wood.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

10. **TAMWORTH TO MANILLA RAILWAY BILL**:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Young, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Mr. Young then presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

11. **ANNUAL LEASES OF OWEN MCCOSKER, COPE'S CREEK**:—Mr. Moore, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 14th July, 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th October, 1896.

12. **BANKRUPTCY ACTS AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Legislative Council's Message of 27th October in reference to the amendments in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported that the Committee did not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the Council.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 27th October, 1896, in reference to the Bankruptcy Acts Amendment Bill,—

Does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to by the Council in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th October, 1896, a.m.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at fifteen minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 76.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 3 NOVEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Conference on Mining on Private Lands Bill:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) As Standing Order 229 allows the two Houses to fix their own time for free conferences, will he endeavour to have the same held on the Mining on Private Lands Bill during the daytime previous to the hour for the assembling of the House?
(2.) If he cannot arrange for the suggestion in the first Question, will he try and arrange for the conference being held during the days the Houses do not meet, as the Houses cannot sit while the conference is being held, by Standing Order 231, seeing there is yet so much work to be done in so short a time?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Honorable Member's suggestion will not be overlooked.

- (2.) Valuations of Land Tax Valuers:—*Mr. Cruickshank*, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Is it a fact that the Land Tax Commissioners in some cases have increased the valuations of land supplied by the land valuers?
(2.) Have the Commissioners in any cases intimated to the valuers that they were assessing at too low a value?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) No.
(2.) No.

- (3.) Tasmanian Customs Duty Act:—*Mr. Hawthorne*, for Mr. Storey, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Is he aware that the Tasmanian Government are detaining the goods of certain Sydney firms for a higher rate of duty than provided for by their Customs Duties Act?
(2.) If so, will he make representations to the Tasmanian Government that such action and their recently amended Customs Act are entirely opposed to the spirit of federation, and likely to excite a feeling of irritation between the two Colonies?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I have not heard of any such detention.
(2.) Answered by No. 1.

- (4.) Punt at Dover Point:—Mr. Watson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it a fact that the men employed in connection with the punt at Dover Point, near Sydney, are working twelve hours per day?

Mr. Young answered,—There are three men employed at this ferry, but instead of each working eight hours per day, they arrange their work as follows:—The engineer in charge takes day shift continuously; the other two men take night duty every alternate week.

- (5.) Appeals to Public Service Commissioners:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Chanter, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When do the Public Service Commissioners intend to consider and give their decision in respect to the numerous appeals by Civil Servants against reductions in their salaries?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Public Service Board have already given their decision in the case of the main body of teachers in the Education Department, and also in that of attendants at the Hospitals for the Insane. They are now dealing with a number of appeals from officers in the country, and hope in a short time to be able to deal with the large number of individual appeals which await their decision; but no definite time can be fixed.

(6.)

3rd November, 1896.

(6.) Board for choice of Class-books for Schools :—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Hogue*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) In view of the admitted importance of having suitable class-books in use in the Public Schools, and of ensuring accuracy in the lessons contained in such books, will he arrange for the appointment of a competent Board to adjudicate upon the series of books now in course of preparation in response to the invitation of the Department of Public Instruction?

(2.) Is he aware that, as shown in the report of his Department for the year 1890, a most unsatisfactory choice was made in the case of a School History of Australia for use in the Public Schools?

(3.) Will such Board, when appointed, be composed exclusively of persons connected with the Public Instruction Department, or will he endeavour to obtain the services of competent persons outside the Public Service?

(4.) Will such Board be appointed before Parliament prorogues?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) I have not yet taken this matter into consideration.

(2.) No; a more modern work is required, and one is now being revised.

(3 and 4.) Answered by No. 1.

(7.) Water-pipes from the Hospital to the Dubbo Cemetery :—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Will he cause an estimate to be prepared, showing the cost of laying water-pipes from the Dubbo Hospital to the Dubbo Cemetery, with a stand-pipe in the latter?

(2.) If the estimate is reasonable (say under £100), would he place the amount on the Supplementary Estimates to meet the expenditure?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) The estimated cost of half-a-mile of 3-inch pipes with stand-pipe complete is £265.

(2.) The water-works debt in the case of Dubbo having been gazetted, the Act as it now stands precludes any further expenditure by the Government. The Amending Act now before Parliament will, however, give the necessary authority for the extension asked for to be carried out, if it can be shown that the specified interest on the expenditure can be paid by the Municipal Council.

(8.) Land Valuations :—*Mr. Cruickshank* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he, upon an application from a Member of the House holding a written authority from any owner of the land in question, lay upon the Table of the House—(a) the valuation of the land sent in to the Government by such owner; (b) the valuation made by the Government; (c) and any revised valuation made by the Government Valuator at the instance of the Government or responsible officers under the Government?

Mr. Reid answered,—The information in reply to (a) and (b) may be obtained by any holder of property respecting his own interest therein upon application to the Commissioners of Taxation. (c) Revised valuations have so far been made in a few instances, but the Commissioners do not think it desirable to disclose the particulars. I may add that the Government have not in any case, or at any time, sought to interfere with any assessment made for land tax.

(9.) United Service Institution :—*Mr. Willis*, for *Mr. Wright*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In reference to his reply to *Mr. P. A. Wright's* Questions on the 28th October on the subject, will he be so good as to state the total amount of Government money granted to the United Service Institution in the form of grants and subsidies—not the amount for the last year only?

(2.) The total amount of printing, stationery, &c.—not the amount for the past year only, as given in his answer?

(3.) Is it a fact that a non-commissioned officer from the Permanent Artillery is stationed there to act as clerk, for whose services the Institution only contributes the sum of 1s. a day?

(4.) In view of the highly scientific and technical nature of the service, as also to the fact that the pay of the men has been cut down one-half, will he be so good as to set aside suitable premises and endow them for the use of the non-commissioned officers and men of the 2nd Garrison Division Artillery, to serve as an Artillery Institute and recreation-room?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces has supplied the following information :—

(1.) £1,450, from 1st January, 1889, to 30th June, 1896.

(2.) From 1889 to 1892 inclusive, the printing of papers read before the Institution and its Annual Journal and Proceedings were printed at the Government Printing Office at a cost of £513 10s. 4d. The Journal of 1893 was printed at the expense of the Institution, the privilege of printing at the Government Printing Office having been withdrawn. For the years 1894 and 1895 the printing of the Journal was carried out by the Government Printing Office at an authorised expense of £50. No other printing or stationery has been furnished at Government expense.

(3.) No, a gunner at 1s. a day on account of Government subsidy being withdrawn and Government grant reduced by one-half. This gunner has to attend inspections at Barracks, and go through his annual company course.

(4.) The United Service Institution are using their best efforts to effect something of this kind by setting apart one of their rooms as a reading-room for non-commissioned officers and petty officers, with access to the Military Library belonging to the Institution.

(10.) Discharge of *H. J. T.* from Little Bay Lazarette :—*Mr. Ashton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he obtain from the Board of Health a report as to whether or not the discharge of *H. J. T.* from the Little Bay Lazarette would endanger the public health?

(2.) If, in the opinion of the Board, *H. J. T.'s* discharge would not be attended by any risk to the community, will he see that *H. J. T.* is set at liberty forthwith?

Mr. Reid answered,—*H. J. T.* is suffering from leprosy, and the law is that all lepers shall be isolated. (54 Vic. No. 20.)

(11.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd November, 1896.

- (11.) Warders at Darlinghurst Gaol:—*Mr. Perry*, for *Mr. Nelson*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Will he inform the House why the warders of Darlinghurst Gaol have received no reply to the petition sent to the Public Service Board some four months ago, asking to have their case reconsidered, and to grant them eight hours—a system existing in gaols of the other Colonies?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that a new system has been introduced into the gaol, compelling third-class warders to drill twice a day; if so, will he compel all grades to attend drill, and not one particular grade?
 - (3.) Is it also a fact that three warders were selected and sent—one to Wentworth and two to Trial Bay—in consequence of being electors of Hindlers Division, and being suspected of giving information to a Member of the Legislative Assembly?
 - (4.) Is he aware that warders after doing night duty are compelled to go on to drill at 6.45 a.m. before being allowed to go to their homes; if not, will he make inquiries concerning this matter?
 - (5.) Is it the intention of the Government to grant warders the same privileges as those allowed in other Colonies, including the eight hours; if not, will he take steps to have the third-class warders given the same privileges as they have had for years prior to the alterations?
 - (6.) Will he be good enough to say why so much retrenchment was carried out in Darlinghurst Gaol under the new Comptroller when it was considered the staff was inadequate under the late Comptroller?
 - (7.) Is it a fact the present staff consists of forty-five hands; under the late Comptroller it required a staff of fifty-six hands; can he say if this reduction is necessary?
 - (8.) What was the total number of senior warders, also total number of first-class warders, on the 1st July this year; also what is the number of the same classes of warders on the 1st November this year?

Mr. Gould answered,—

- (1.) The Public Service Board inform me that they are now considering the matter, and to this end have been taking evidence; but they point out that the question is a large one, affecting many civil servants, and involving considerable expenditure of public funds. The Board hope, however, shortly to be able to come to a decision.
- (2.) The Comptroller-General of Prisons reports as follows:—Drill has always formed part of the duty. Second and third-class warders are drilled in turn. First-class warders are not required to drill, having passed through that stage before promotion; moreover, they have other duties to discharge at drill time.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) The usual time for leaving the gaol in the case of the second night-watch, who are referred to, is 7.15, when they go off duty under the new regulations for 33½ hours. A short drill takes place prior to the above time.
- (5.) Daily average duty hours are not longer than formerly.
- (6.) Re-organisation.
- (7.) No; there are 48 warders of all classes, including the senior wardens; a staff quite sufficient to meet all present requirements.
- (8.) On 1st July last there were 4 senior warders and 10 first-class warders. On 1st November, there were 5 senior warders (an extra officer being required for night watch) and 9 first-class warders.

- (12.) Rag-picking and Sorting Establishments in the City:—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that extensive rag-picking and sorting are carried on in various parts of the city?
 - (2.) Is he aware that a large percentage of the rags come from benevolent institutions, hospitals, and such like places?
 - (3.) Is he also aware that a large quantity of these rags are converted into what is known as "flock," and sold in mattresses for people to sleep upon?
 - (4.) Will he have these rag-picking establishments brought under the provisions of the Noxious Trades Act?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) No; flock thus made is used to upholster furniture.
- (4.) This matter was inquired into by the Board of Health in 1889, when it appeared that the trade referred to was a small and poor one. But it is desirable that the materials mentioned should be disinfected before being manufactured, and further inquiry shall be made, with a view to ascertain what can fairly be required of the makers.

2. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL—SYDNEY AND NORTH SYDNEY BRIDGE AND TRAMWAY BILL—NORTH SHORE BRIDGE BILL:—*Mr. Kelly* presented a Petition from certain members of the Municipal Council of the Borough of North Sydney, referring to the private Bills that have been introduced into the House for the purpose of establishing better means of communication for both passenger and vehicular traffic between the city of Sydney and North Sydney, and to the appointment of a Select Committee thereon; and praying that any Bill which the House will sanction shall provide for a more direct route and a more rapid means of reaching the centre of the city than by the proposed Tramway Tunnel.
Petition received.

3. COLOURED RACES:—*Mr. Perry* presented a Petition from certain residents of the North Coast, representing that a grave danger is threatening the well-being and prosperity of the Colony by the steadily increasing influx of various coloured foreigners; and praying the House to enact such a measure as will stop or restrict the further influx of coloured persons of all races into this Colony.
Petition received.

3rd November, 1896.

4. **FRANCHISE EXTENSION BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 78.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the 'Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893' by extending the franchise to certain persons disqualified from voting under the said Act,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 31st October, 1896.

5. **ADDITIONAL LOAN ESTIMATE FOR 1896-7**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

Message No. 79.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Additional Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales, on account of Public Works, for the year 1896-7, proposed to be provided for by Loan.

Government House,
Sydney, 3rd November, 1896.

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimate, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

6. **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) **Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act Amendment Bill**:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 28th October, 1896, in reference to the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act Amendment Bill,—agrees to the Assembly's amendments upon the Council's amendments in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 3rd November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (2.) **Lawson's Estate Mortgage Enabling Bill**:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the trustees of a settlement made by Archibald Lawson to mortgage certain lands and hereditaments comprised in the said settlement, for the purpose of enabling the trustees to effect improvements thereon,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 3rd November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (3.) **Factories and Shops Bill**:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to make provision for the supervision and regulation of Factories, Bakehouses, Laundries, Dye-works, and Shops; for the limitation in certain cases of the hours of working therein; and for the Stamping of Furniture; to extend the liability of employers for injuries suffered by employees in certain cases; and for other purposes,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, including an amendment in the Title, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 3rd November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 3rd November, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, Title. Omit "and for the stamping of furniture"
 Page 2, clause 2, line 8. Omit "includes" insert "means"
 Page 2, clause 2, line 13. After "works" insert "in which four or more persons are engaged, but
 " does not include any building or place in which the persons engaged in working are
 " shown to the satisfaction of the inspector to be all members of one family and in which
 " steam or other mechanical power is not used"
 Page 2, clause 2, line 20. After "produce" insert "nor any wool-shed used for shearing sheep or
 " building used for dumping wool or any ship"
 Page 2, clause 2, lines 24 and 25. Omit "for the purposes of registration and the computation of
 " registration fees"
 Page 2, clause 3, line 42. Omit "except as regards shops"

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- Page 2, clause 3, line 46. *After* "factories" *insert* "or shop or class of shops"
- Page 2, clause 3, line 48. *After* "factories" *insert* "or shop or class of shops"
- Page 3, clause 4, line 6. *After* "Act" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 3, clause 5, line 13. *Omit* "and the payment of the prescribed fee"
- Page 3, clause 5, lines 15 to 18. *Omit* "authorising the use of the factory for one year or portion of a year; but the issue of such certificate shall not be held to relieve the occupier from compliance with any of the other provisions of this Act"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 19. *Omit* "twenty" *insert* "ten"
- Page 3, clause 6, lines 30 and 31. *Omit* "and on being satisfied that the building is suitable for a factory"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 31. *Omit* "on payment of the prescribed fee"
- Page 3, clause 6, lines 32 to 35. *Omit* "occupier authorising its use as a factory for one year or portion of a year; but the issue of such certificate shall not be held to relieve the occupier from compliance with any of the other provisions of this Act" *insert* "person giving such notice"
- Page 3, clauses 7 and 8. *Omit* clauses 7 and 8.
- Page 4, clause 9, line 7. *Omit* "a constable"
- Page 4, clause 9, lines 8 to 10. *Omit* "and any such constable, officer of health, or inspector of nuisances may at all reasonable times enter and inspect any factory or shop" *insert* "or, in any case in which he has reasonable cause to apprehend any serious obstruction in the execution of his duty, a constable"
- Page 4, clause 9, line 12. *Omit* "or of the renewal thereof"
- Page 4, clause 10, line 33. *Omit* "at all times"
- Page 4, clause 10, line 36. *After* "shop" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 4, clause 11, lines 40 to 42. *Omit* "or to furnish the means required by an inspector as provided in the last preceding section"
- Page 4, clause 11. At end of clause *add* "Provided that no person shall be required to answer any question or give any evidence incriminating himself"
- Page 5, clause 14, line 12. *Before* "working" *insert* "usual"
- Page 5, clause 15, line 16. *After* "factory" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 5, clause 16, line 24. *Omit* "directly or indirectly"
- Page 5, clause 16, line 34. *Omit* "twenty" *insert* "ten"
- Page 5, clause 16, line 34. *After* "pounds" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 5, clause 17, line 46. *Omit* "this" *insert* "the last preceding"
- Page 5, clause 17, line 47. *Omit* "this" *insert* "the said"
- Page 6. *After* clause 21 *insert* the following new clause:—
Where it appears to the Minister that in any class of factories, or parts thereof, the provisions of the last preceding section are not required, or are, by reason of special circumstances, inapplicable, he may, if he thinks fit, make an order granting to such class of factories, or parts thereof, a special exemption from all or any of the requirements in the last preceding section: Power of Minister to exempt certain factories.
Provided that the last preceding section shall, without any such order as aforesaid, be deemed not to apply to blacksmiths', agricultural implement makers', and wheelwrights' shops; or to foundries, flour-mills, saw-mills, flax-mills, freezing-rooms, bone-mills, seed-cleaning mills, tanneries, rope-walks, soap and candle works, smelting works, and brick and tile works, or potteries; or to hay and corn and chaff-cutting, corn-crushing, wool-washing, and boiler-making establishments; or to malthouses and breweries; or to cheese and sugar-refining factories, or to sugar-mills, or shearing-sheds. Exemptions.
- Page 8, clause 28, line 11. *Omit* "by the act or default of any person placed in" *insert* "solely by a boiler explosion arising from the negligent employment of an incompetent person to take"
- Page 8, clause 28, line 12. *Omit* "steam engine or"
- Page 8, clause 28, line 12. *After* "used" *insert* "for driving an engine"
- Page 8, clause 28, lines 20 and 21. *Omit* "a steam engine or" *insert* "such"
- Page 8, clause 30, line 40. *Omit* "any machinery" *insert* "any part of the machinery of any kind moved by steam, water, or other mechanical power, to which the provisions of this Act with respect to the fencing of machinery do not apply"
- Page 9, clause 31, line 29. *Omit* "one hundred pounds" *insert* "forty shillings"
- Page 10, clause 35. At end of clause *add*
" (iv) In the event of the occupier objecting to carry out any structural alterations in his buildings required by the inspector he may refer the matter to arbitration, as provided in section twenty-nine "
- Page 10, clause 38, line 37. *Omit* "eighteen" *insert* "sixteen"
- Page 10, clause 38, lines 48 and 49. *Omit* "the minimum rate of such overtime to be sixpence per hour"
- Page 11, clause 41, line 36. *Omit* "six" *insert* "seven"
- Page 11, clause 41, line 36. *Omit* "seven" *insert* "six"
- Page 11, clause 42. *Omit* clause 42.
- Page 12, clause 44. *Omit* clause 44.
- Page 12, clause 45, line 8. *Omit* "eighteen" *insert* "sixteen"
- Page 12, clause 45, line 9. *After* "female" *insert* "under eighteen years of age"
- Page 12, clause 45, lines 14 and 15. *Omit* "Provided that on one working day in each week no shops shall be open after one o'clock p.m."
- Page 12, clause 45, lines 20 to 22. *Omit* "forty, and such work beyond the ordinary working hours shall be paid for at the rate of time and a half" *insert* "fifty two"

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Page 12, clause 45, lines 23 to 27. *Omit* "The shopkeeper shall keep a record of all such hours of work beyond the ordinary working hours, and shall note against the name of each person so employed the extra hours worked by him, and shall furnish a copy of such record to the inspector when called upon to do so."

Page 12, clause 45, line 31. *Omit* "eighteen" *insert* "sixteen"

Page 12, clause 45, line 31. *After* "female" *insert* "under eighteen years of age"

Page 12, clause 45, lines 34 to 36. *Omit* "or for a longer time than will when added to the time worked by him or her in any factory exceed eight hours in the whole" *insert* "or in any case for a longer period than will, together with the time during which he or she has been so previously employed, complete the number of eight hours"

Page 12, clause 45, line 40. *Omit* "five" *insert* "two"

Page 12, clause 45, line 41. *Omit* "ten" *insert* "five"

Page 12, clause 46, lines 45 and 46. *Omit* "limiting the total number of hours in the week during" *insert* "under"

Page 12, clause 46, line 46. *Omit* "eighteen" *insert* "sixteen"

Page 12, clause 46, line 46. *After* "females" *insert* "under eighteen years of age"

Pages 12 and 13, clauses 47, 48, and 49. *Omit* clauses 47, 48, and 49.

Page 14. *Before* clause 50 *insert* the following new clauses:—

Where the occupier of a factory or shop is of the Jewish religion the provisions of this Act with respect to the hours of employment of males under sixteen years of age, and females under eighteen years of age, shall not prevent him—

- (a) If he keeps his factory or shop closed on Saturday until sunset from employing such persons on Saturday from after sunset until nine o'clock in the evening; or
- (b) If he keeps his factory or shop closed on Saturday both before and after sunset from employing such persons one hour every other day of the week (not being Sunday) in addition to the hours allowed by this Act, so that such hour be at the beginning or end of the period of employment, and be not before six o'clock in the morning or after seven o'clock in the evening, and that subject to the provisos as to overtime the total number of hours in any one week be not more than is specified in sections thirty-seven and forty-two respectively.

No penalty shall be incurred by any person in respect of any work done on Sunday in a factory or shop by an occupier or employee of the Jewish religion, subject to the following conditions:—

- (a) The occupier of the factory or shop and the employees so at work shall be of the Jewish religion; and
- (b) The factory or shop shall be closed on Saturday, or in the case of a shop shall be closed on Saturday until sunset; and
- (c) Neither such factory nor such shop shall be open for traffic on Sunday; and
- (d) The occupier shall not avail himself of the exception authorising the employment of males under the age of sixteen years and females under the age of eighteen years on Saturday evening or for an additional hour during every other day of the week.

Page 14, clause 51, line 8. *After* "Act" *omit* remainder of clause.

Page 14, clause 55, line 51. *Omit* "three" *insert* "two"

Page 14, clause 55, line 52. *Omit* "five" *insert* "three"

Page 14, clause 55, line 53. *Omit* "and absence from work"

Page 15, clause 56, line 1. *After* "guardian" *insert* "having control"

Page 15, clause 56, line 1. *Omit* "child or" *insert* "male person under sixteen years of age or female"

Page 15, clause 56, line 2. *Omit* "child or"

Page 15, clause 56, line 2. *After* "factory" *insert* "or shop"

Page 15, clause 56, lines 5 and 6. *Omit* "or to imprisonment for any period not exceeding seven days"

Page 15, clause 58, line 24. *After* "to" *insert* "a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds for each offence or to"

Page 15, clause 58, line 24. *Omit* "six" *insert* "three"

Page 15, clause 60, lines 40 to 43. *Omit* "for fixing a scale of fees to be taken and received for the registration of factories under this Act; for fixing a scale of fees to be taken by certified medical practitioners for examinations and reports"

Page 15, clause 60, line 46. *Omit* "fifty" *insert* "twenty"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration on Thursday next.

7. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Thursday next:—

- (1.) Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
- (2.) Orange Show Ground Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.

8. PAPERS:—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Address, adopted on 8th September, 1896, "Alleged Sale of Poison Cases, Lismore."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunner laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Statement showing the cost of various Exhibitions.
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 1st October, 1896, "North City Volunteer Fire Brigade."
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Employment of
males under 16
and females
under 18 years
of age by Jewish
occupiers of
factories or
shops.
41 and 42 Vic., c.
16, s. 50.

Employment of
Jews by Jews on
Sunday.
10, s. 51.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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9. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Phillip Division, Mr. Copeland, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—“The necessity of laying the Regulations under the ‘Australasian Federation Enabling Act, 1895,’ upon the Tables of both Houses of Parliament before the close of the present Session, in time to admit of such Regulations being discussed in Parliament.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Copeland moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
10. **CASE OF STAFF-SERGEANT W. JIFFKINS**:—Mr. Waddell moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on “Case of Staff-Sergeant W. Jiffkins,” brought up on 26th August, 1896, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 23rd September, 1896.

11. **SUPPLY**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported a Point of Order from the Committee, and obtained leave to sit again so soon as the Point of Order had been decided by the House.

Point of Order:—The Chairman stated that during the consideration of the Loan Estimate for the year 1896-7, the Estimate for “Permanent and Reproductive Works” was under discussion in which was included an item “To complete the Sydney Hospital—further sum, £3,000,” when the Chairman ruled that it was not in order to discuss the conduct of the officials of that institution, to which ruling exception was taken.
Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker quoted from *May*, 10th edition, page 585, and said that he had no hesitation in stating that the ruling of the Chairman was perfectly correct.

On motion of Mr. Young Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to certain resolutions.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES FOR THE YEAR 1895-6 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Services of 1895 and Previous Years.

- (4.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £253 8s. 7d., to defray supplementary charge under the head “Services of 1895 and previous years.”

Services of 1895-6.

- (5.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £26,191 15s. 3d., to defray supplementary charge under the head “Services of 1895-6.”

ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE—1896-7.

No. I.—SCHEDULES A, B, AND C TO SCHEDULE 1 OF ACTS 18 AND 19 VICTORIA, CAPUT, 54.

- (6.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,546, to defray pensions not provided for by Schedule B to Schedule No. 1 of the Act of the Imperial Parliament 18 and 19 Vic., cap. 54, for the year 1896-7.

No. II.—EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE.

- (7.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,417, for His Excellency the Governor, for the year 1896-7.

- (8.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £973, for Executive Council, for the year 1896-7.

- (9.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,832, for Legislative Council, for the year 1896-7.

- (10.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10,525, for Legislative Assembly, for the year 1896-7.

- (11.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,526, for Legislative Council and Assembly, for the year 1896-7.

- (12.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,013, for Parliamentary Library, for the year 1896-7.

- (13.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,972, for Parliamentary Reporting Staff, for the year 1896-7.

- (14.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,200, for Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, for the year 1896-7.

No.

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No. III.—CHIEF SECRETARY.

- (15.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,481, for Chief Secretary, for the year 1896-7.
- (16.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £11,178, for Auditor-General, for the year 1896-7.
- (17.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £22,398, for Registrar-General, for the year 1896-7.
- (18.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £250, for Vice-President of the Executive Council and Representative of the Government in the Legislative Council, for the year 1896-7.
- (19.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £9,400, for Aborigines Protection Board, for the year 1896-7.
- (20.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £332,337, for Police, for the year 1896-7.
- (21.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £92,253, for Lunacy, for the year 1896-7.
- (22.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,775, for Master in Lunacy, for the year 1896-7.
- (23.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £135, for Medical Board, for the year 1896-7.
- (24.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £33,296, for The Medical Adviser to the Government, for the year 1896-7.
- (25.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,201, for Government Statistician, for the year 1896-7.
- (26.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,136, for Registrar of Friendly Societies and Trades Unions, for the year 1896-7.
- (27.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,664, for Agent-General for the Colony, for the year 1896-7.
- (28.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £96,518, for Charitable Institutions, for the year 1896-7.
- (29.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,626, for Fisheries Commission, for the year 1896-7.
- (30.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £956, for Fire Brigades, for the year 1896-7.
- (31.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,000, for Re-organisation of the Public Service, for the year 1896-7.
- (32.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,575, for Botanic Gardens, for the year 1896-7.
- (33.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,005, for Nursery Garden, Campbelltown, for the year 1896-7.
- (34.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,695, for Government Domains, for the year 1896-7.
- (35.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,100, for Garden Palace Grounds, for the year 1896-7.
- (36.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,280, for Centennial Park, for the year 1896-7.
- (37.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,595, for Electoral Office, for the year 1896-7.
- (38.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,078, for Military Secretary, for the year 1896-7.
- (39.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £161,133, for Permanent and Volunteer Military Forces, for the year 1896-7.
- (40.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,734, for Naval Forces—Naval Brigade, for the year 1896-7.
- (41.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,466, for Naval Forces—Volunteer Naval Artillery, for the year 1896-7.
- (42.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,745, for Naval Forces—Torpedo Defence, for the year 1896-7.
- (43.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £55,345, for Charitable Allowances, for the year 1896-7.
- (44.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £62,140, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.

No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

- (45.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £22,846, for Treasury, for the year 1896-7.
- (46.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,471, for Stamp Duties, for the year 1896-7.
- (47.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £45,800, for Land and Income Tax, for the year 1896-7.
- (48.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £54,576, for Customs, for the year 1896-7.
- (49.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £80, for Gold Receivers, for the year 1896-7.
- (50.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £600, for Gold and Escort, for the year 1896-7.
- (51.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £78,656, for Government Printer's Department, for the year 1896-7.
- (52.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (52.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £94,653, for Stores and Stationery, for the year 1896-7.
- (53.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £8,617, for Mercantile Explosives Department, for the year 1896-7.
- (54.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £23,746, for Board of Health, for the year 1896-7.
- (55.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £160, for Board of Pharmacy, for the year 1896-7.
- (56.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,202, for Shipping Masters, for the year 1896-7.
- (57.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £60,530, for Marine Board of New South Wales, for the year 1896-7.
- (58.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,625, for Lifeboats, for the year 1896-7.
- (59.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,651, for Public Wharfs, for the year 1896-7.
- (60.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,250, for Board of Exports, for the year 1896-7.
- (61.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £244,084, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.
- (62.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100,000, for Advance to Treasurer, for the year 1896-7.

No. IV.—RAILWAYS.

- (63.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,827,197, for Railways and Tramways—Existing Lines, Working Expenses, for the year 1896-7.
- (64.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10,500, for Railways and Tramways—Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.

No. V.—THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

- (65.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £11,310, for The Attorney-General, for the year 1896-7.
- (66.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £30,215, for Crown Solicitor—Quarter Sessions, for the year 1896-7.

No. VI.—SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

- (67.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,900, for Department of Lands—Contingencies, for the year 1896-7.
- (68.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,300, for Minor Roads, for the year 1896-7.
- (69.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £36,000, for Land Agents, Appraisers, and others—Contingencies, for the year 1896-7.
- (70.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,900, for Land Appeal Court—Contingencies, for the year 1896-7.
- (71.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £26,998, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.
- (72.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £77,850, for Survey of Lands—Contingencies, for the year 1896-7.
- (73.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,430, for Trigonometrical Survey of the Colony—Contingencies, for the year 1896-7.
- (74.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,634, for Special Services—Detail Surveys of Cities, Towns, and Suburbs—Contingencies, for the year 1896-7.
- (75.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,000, for Special Services—Labour Settlements, for the year 1896-7.
- (76.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £149,386, for Department of Lands—Survey of Lands, for the year 1896-7.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

- (77.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £46,788, for Establishment, for the year 1896-7.
- (78.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £584, for Miscellaneous, for the year 1896-7.
- (79.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £670,000, for Public Works and Services, for the year 1896-7.
- (80.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £70,050, for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, for the year 1896-7.
- (81.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10,276, for Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, for the year 1896-7.

No. VIII.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

- (82.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,960, for Department of Justice, for the year 1896-7.
- (83.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,298, for Master in Equity, for the year 1896-7.
- (84.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,985, for Prothonotary, for the year 1896-7.
- (85.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £22,471, for Sheriff, for the year 1896-7.
- (86.)

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- (86.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,415, for Bankruptcy Court, for the year 1896-7.
- (87.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,656, for Probate and Intestate Estates Office, for the year 1896-7.
- (88.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,356, for District Courts, for the year 1896-7.
- (89.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,608, for Coroners, for the year 1896-7.
- (90.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £85,567, for Petty Sessions, for the year 1896-7.
- (91.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100,699, for Prisons, for the year 1896-7.
- (92.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,587, for Patents and Copyright, for the year 1896-7.
- (93.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,514, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.

NO. IX.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, LABOUR AND INDUSTRY.

- (94.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £665,446, for Public Instruction, under the Act 43 Vic. No. 23, for the year 1896-7.
- (95.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £12,549, for Industrial Schools, for the year 1896-7.
- (96.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,029, for Observatory, for the year 1896-7.
- (97.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,156, for Museum, for the year 1896-7.
- (98.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,901, for Public Library of New South Wales, for the year 1896-7.
- (99.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,969, for National Art Gallery, for the year 1896-7.
- (100.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £29,600, for Labour and Industry Branch, for the year 1896-7.
- (101.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,000, for Centennial Park (Suspense Account), for the year 1896-7.
- (102.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £15,150, for Grants in aid of Public Institutions, for the year 1896-7.
- (103.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,278, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.

NO. X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

- (104.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £67,843, for Department of Mines, for the year 1896-7.
- (105.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £21,701, for Prevention of Scab in Sheep, for the year 1896-7.
- (106.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,653, for Imported Stock, for the year 1896-7.
- (107.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £795, for Registration of Brands, for the year 1896-7.
- (108.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £150, for Management of Pounds and Commons, for the year 1896-7.
- (109.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £11,045, for Public Watering-places and Artesian Boring, for the year 1896-7.
- (110.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £23,145, for Agriculture and Forestry, for the year 1896-7.
- (111.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,819, for School of Mines and Assay Works, for the year 1896-7.
- (112.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £31,639, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.

NO. XI.—THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

- (113.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £721,287, for Postal and Electric Telegraph Department, for the year 1896-7.

In Anticipation of and Chargeable to Loan Votes.

NO. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

- (114.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £165,800, for Railways and other purposes, for the year 1896-7.

NO. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

- (115.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £15,000, for Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage, for the year 1896-7.

NO. XI.—THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

- (116.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £40,000, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1896-7.

Additional

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ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES—1896-7.

No. II.—EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE.

(117.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £200, to defray additional charge under the head "Parliamentary Reporting Staff."

No. III.—CHIEF SECRETARY.

- (118.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100, to defray additional charge under the head "Police."
 (119.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,734, to defray additional charge under the head "Lunacy."
 (120.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £75, to defray additional charge under the head "Master in Lunacy."
 (121.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £200, to defray additional charge under the head "Government Statistician."
 (122.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £26, to defray additional charge under the head "Registrar of Friendly Societies and Trades Unions."
 (123.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10, to defray additional charge under the head "Military Secretary."
 (124.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,754, to defray additional charge under the head "Permanent and Volunteer Military Forces."
 (125.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £90, to defray additional charge under the head "Fisheries Commission."
 (126.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £565, to defray additional charge under the head "Botanic Gardens."
 (127.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10,430, to defray additional charge under the head "Charitable Allowances."
 (128.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,751, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous Services."
 (129.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £247, to defray additional charge under the head "Civil Service Board."
 (130.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £160, to defray additional charge under the head "Medical Adviser to the Government."

No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

- (131.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,765, to defray additional charge under the head "Treasury."
 (132.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £894, to defray additional charge under the head "Customs."
 (133.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £110, to defray additional charge under the head "Stores and Stationery."
 (134.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £49, to defray additional charge under the head "Mercantile Explosives Department."
 (135.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £454, to defray additional charge under the head "Board of Health."
 (136.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100, to defray additional charge under the head "Marine Board of New South Wales."
 (137.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £295, to defray additional charge under the head "Public Wharfs."
 (138.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £20,000, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous Services."

No. V.—ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

- (139.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,000, to defray additional charge under the head "Contingencies."
 (140.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £825, to defray additional charge under the head "Crown Solicitor."

No. VI.—SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

- (141.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,624, to defray additional charge under the head "Department of Lands."
 (142.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £750, to defray additional charge under the head "Church and School Lands."
 (143.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £800, to defray additional charge under the head "Contingencies."
 (144.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £714, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous Services."

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

- (145.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £225, to defray additional charge under the head "Roads."
 (146.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £209, to defray additional charge under the head "Harbours and Rivers."
 (147.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £21, to defray additional charge under the head "Metropolitan Sewerage Construction."
 (148.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £630, to defray additional charge under the head "Government Architect."
 (149.)

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- (149.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £58, to defray additional charge under the head "Establishment."
 (150.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £867, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous."
 (151.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £50,150, to defray additional charge under the head "Public Works and Services."

No. VIII.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

- (152.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £277, to defray additional charge under the head "Department of Justice."
 (153.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £50, to defray additional charge under the head "Master in Equity."
 (154.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £91, to defray additional charge under the head "Sheriff."
 (155.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £524, to defray additional charge under the head "District Courts."
 (156.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £687, to defray additional charge under the head "Petty Sessions."
 (157.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £394, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous Services."

No. IX.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, LABOUR, AND INDUSTRY.

- (158.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,000, to defray additional charge under the head "Technical Education Branch."
 (159.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £275, to defray additional charge under the head "Public Library of New South Wales."

No. X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

- (160.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,565, to defray additional charge under the head "Mines and Agriculture."
 (161.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £110, to defray additional charge under the head "Public Watering Places and Artesian Boring."
 (162.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,050, to defray additional charge under the head "Imported Stock."
 (163.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,500, to defray additional charge under the head "Mines."
 (164.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,675, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous Services."

No. XI.—POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

- (165.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £618, to defray additional charge under the head "Postmaster-General."

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND OTHER SERVICES, PROPOSED TO BE PROVIDED FOR BY LOAN.

Permanent and Reproductive Works.

No. III.—CHIEF SECRETARY.

- (166.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £26,000 for Military: being £12,000 for defence purposes generally, including electric and search lights and sub-marine mines; and £14,000 for purchase of 1,000 magazine rifles and equipment.

IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

- (167.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £300,000 for Railways: being £150,000 towards improvements in grades and curves—further sum; £100,000 for additions to rolling stock; and £50,000 for additions to railway lines, stations and buildings, and other purposes, including safety appliances.

No. VI.—SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

- (168.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £35,000 for Secretary for Lands: being £10,000 for Hay irrigation works; and £25,000 towards clearing or otherwise improving Crown lands.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

- (169.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £3,690 for road from Albion Park, *via* Macquarie Pass, to Robertson.
 (170.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £51,000 for Bridges: being £3,500 for Stonequarry Creek, in Picton; £12,900 for Dunmore, Paterson River; £18,600 for Kempsey, Macleay River; and £16,000 for Tweed River, at Murwillumbah.
 (171.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £325,700 for Harbours and Rivers: being £6,000 for Tweed River improvements; £1,000 for Clarence River—removal of reefs, Maclean—further sum; £11,000 for Hastings River improvements; £18,000 towards North Harbour reclamation, Newcastle; £15,000 for improvement of the navigation of Macleay River; £10,000 for landing silt from sand pumps and other dredges, and forming ground; £10,000 for Bellinger River improvements—further sum;
 £10,000

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£10,000 for Manning River entrance improvements—further sum; £3,000 for Moruya River improvements; £104,000 for Darling Harbour Wharf—extension of railway to Port Jackson—purchase of land; £100,000 for duplicate main from Prospect to Potts' Hill (in conjunction with present canal and pipe-line, including land compensation); £8,000 for Wollongong Harbour Trust—cost of works taken over by the Government; £14,000 for fascine bank round East Kempsey—flood protection; £5,000 for Long Cove reclamation and wharfage; £4,000 for dredge dock, Clarence River; £4,700 for extension and reconstruction of Queen's Wharf, Newcastle; and £2,000 for boiler-shop, store, tools, &c., Fitzroy Dock.

(172.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £147,450 for Government Architect: being £3,000 to complete the Sydney Hospital—further sum; £19,750 for Court-houses—erectons, additions, &c.—Wyndham and Bourke (further sums), Parkes, West Maitland, Redfern, and White Cliffs; £1,500 for Colonial Secretary's and Public Works Building—to complete additions; £10,600 for Government Printing Office—electric light plant, additional accommodation, and appliances; £1,200 for Berrima Gaol—erection of Governor's quarters, &c.; £30,000 for Kenmore Hospital for Insane—additional buildings; £7,200 for Hospitals—additions, &c.—Parramatta, Newcastle, and Rydalmere; £7,900 for Lock-ups—erection, &c.—Wentworth, Hill End, Tinonee, Forbes, and Quirindi; £1,700 for Health Board Offices—further sum; £3,500 for Royal Mint—alterations and repairs to buildings, &c., renewal of machinery—further sum; £2,200 for Local Land Board and Survey Offices, East Maitland, Dubbo, and Hay—completion—further sum; £3,200 for Land Board and Survey Office, Bourke—erection; £2,500 for erection of Buildings at Forbes to be used as a Local Land Board and District Survey Office; £1,400 for Law Offices, Chancery Square—additional accommodation; £1,600 for Australian Museum, new roof; £1,000 for Governor Philip's statue, foundations, &c.; £5,000 for Newcastle boatmen's quarters; £2,500 for Custom House—alterations; £3,700 for Public Works and Colonial Secretary's Buildings, leading-in lines, &c., electric-lighting plant, and steam or hotwater plant; £800 for Botanical Gardens—drainage of buildings; £350 for Justice Department—additions; £1,500 for Newcastle Old Court-house—converting into post and telegraph office; £800 for Governor's country residence, Hill View; £5,200 for Police Stations and Quarters, erection, &c.—Eden, Albury, Lismore, and Gladstone; £13,350 for post offices—erectons, additions, &c.—Lismore, Alexandria, Peak Hill, Summer Hill, Murwillumbah, Carrington, Randwick, and Arncliffe; and £16,000 for General Post Office—additions.

(173.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £131,020 for Sewerage Construction: being £3,500 for Double Bay stormwater channel extension; £15,000 for South Willoughby and outfall works, and land resumption; £19,000 for Mossman's and outfall works; £3,500 for Double Bay low level; £3,500 for stormwater sewer, Newcastle District, Pasturage Reserve, Drainage Extension; £14,700 for branch drains—New Lambton, Lambton, Adamstown, and Hamilton; £6,000 for drainage of sea slopes, Bondi and Waverley extension; £700 for stormwater channel through Callan Park reclamation; £6,620 for country towns sewerage—Parramatta sewerage, Orange stormwater drainage, Liverpool stormwater drainage, Picton stormwater drainage, Narrandera stormwater drainage, and country towns sewerage generally; £5,000 for Northern Slopes, North Sydney; £9,000 for providing new sewers, and for elevating sewage into main Bondi outfall sewer at Woolloomooloo; £33,000 for branch sewer, draining parts of Randwick and Waverley; £9,000 for sewerage in low-level zone at Rushcutter's Bay; and £2,500 for Necropolis—drainage.

(174.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £130,500 for electric tramway from Circular Quay to Redfern Railway Station, and also along Harris-street to the intersection of John-street.

(175.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £144,450 for railway construction: being £32,730 for Nevertire to Warren railway; £73,170 for Tamworth to Manilla railway; £4,300 for Jerilderie to Berrigan railway; £27,250 for Berrigan to Finlay railway; and £7,000 for railway trial surveys.

(176.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £100,000 for works in connection with water conservation and irrigation drainage, and land resumptions under the Water Rights Act.

(177.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £233,500, for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage: being for water—£69,500 for general reticulation and other works in connection with water supply within the County of Cumberland; £14,500 for improvement to water supply of Boroughs of Leichhardt and Balmain; £12,000 for manufacture and erection of steel storage tanks at Wahroonga, Pymble, and Hornsby, for districts along Milson's Point to Hornsby railway line and duplicate engine at Chatswood; £6,000 for erection of buildings for caretakers, &c., of depots and water stations, additions to engine-house, Crown-street; £9,000 for improvements, &c., to supply canal above Prospect Reservoir; £20,500 for duplicate engines and boiler, Centennial Park Reservoir; £12,000 for duplicate trunk main, Chatswood to North Sydney (to recoup advance from revenue): and for sewerage—£5,000 for extension of reticulation in the City; £66,000 for reticulation in Waverley, Paddington, Randwick, Waterloo, and North Sydney; £10,000 for Darling Harbour low-level works; and £9,000 for Circular Quay low-level works.

(178.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £15,000 for Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board: being £5,000 for reticulation and other works; and £10,000 for extension of water-mains and constructing a reservoir to supply the Sulphide Corporation, Cockle Creek.

NO. IX.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, LABOUR, AND INDUSTRY.

(179.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £54,000 for Public Instruction, Labour, and Industry: being £7,000 for erection of country technical colleges and technological museums; £1,000 for additions to Technical College, Sydney; £40,000 for erection of new school buildings of a permanent character; and £6,000 for additions to Art Gallery.

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No. X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

(180.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £77,000, for Mines and Public Watering Places and Artesian Boring: being £6,000 for resumption of accommodation house, &c., at Jenolan Caves, and to provide improved buildings; £15,000 to provide water supplies for mining townships, &c.—further sum; £20,000 for metallurgical and assay works, School of Mines, and to promote the development of the mining industry; £10,000 for agricultural colleges and experimental farms—further sum; and £26,000 for public watering places and artesian boring—construction of works in connection with artesian boring and water supplies on stock routes and Crown Lands for the construction of public watering places and appliances and expenditure incidental thereto.

No. XI.—POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

(181.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £50,000 for Miscellaneous Services—construction and extension of telegraph and telephone lines generally—further sum.

II.—Other Works.

To be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue in thirty years, by Means of an Annual Sinking Fund.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

(182.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £6,135 for relaying wood blocks in King-street, Newtown, from Bligh-street to the Railway Bridge.

(183.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £56,500, for erection of bridges at the undermentioned sites—Wollondilly River, at Rossi's Crossing; Wollomombi River, Armidale to Kempsey; Byron Creek, Road Possum Shoot to Brooklet; Deep Creek, Moonee to Congarini; Bargo River, Main South Road; Birce River, Molten Plains to Brewarrina; Culgoa River, at Weilmoringle; Deep Creek, Bega to Nimitybelle; Wilson's Creek, Littleton to Bembooka; Bega River, at Bega, Main South Coast Road; Duck Creek, at Canonbar, Canonbar to Pine Ridge; Narromine; Broadwater Creek, Broadwater Creek to Lawrence; Westbrook Bridge, Camden to Oaks; Cowal, at Trangie; Coalbaggie Creek, Dubbo, Coonamble to Collie; Warren Creek, Coonamble to Tunderbrine Creek; Hunter River, at Morpeth; Rockey Creek, Grebert's to Solferino; Fortis Creek, Grebert's to Solferino; Carrigatell Creek, Forbes to Marsden and Wyalong, including land compensation; Lagoon Creek, Kempsey to foot of Jeogla Mountain; Lower Creek, Armidale, near 59 Mile; Wheeny Creek, at Blaxland's Ridge; Cox's River, at Junction Main West Road; Bow Bridge, Main South Coast Road; Weean Creek, Inverell to Strathbogie; Gil Gil Creek, at Wilboa; Billabong, at Cape Billabong Creek to Urana; Camden Haven, at Kendall; Tuross Estuary, Trunkatabella Bridge, Main South Coast Road; Twelve-Mile Creek, Pilliga to Walgett; Burren Creek, Walgett, *via* Burren, to Narrabri; Nepean River, at Harvey's Crossing—(further sum); Molonglo River, at Burbong, Goulburn to Cooma; Queanbeyan River, at Queanbeyan; Seven Hills, No. 1 near station; Seven Hills, No. 2 near station; Swamp, Blacktown Road, Blacktown to Windsor Road; Bluff River, Glen Innes to Tenterfield; Sandy Creek, Tenterfield to Ballina.

(184.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £55,800 for Harbours and Rivers: being £4,000 for Byron Bay Jetty; £12,000 for New Wharf, Circular Quay (late A.S.N. Co.'s Wharf); £15,000 for conversion of grab dredges to sand-pump dredges; £1,500 for dredge dock, Richmond River—further sum; £1,800 towards fitting steam steering gear on tugs and electric light on dredges and "Thetis"; £4,500 for wharf and crane at Bourke; £2,000 for new ballast jetties at Stockton; and £15,000 for self-propelled steam sand-pump dredge for deepening shallow bars.

(185.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £49,113 for Government Architect: being £13,530 for court-houses—erection, additions, &c.—Cudal, Pambula, Glen Innes, Delegate Court and Watch-house, Lismore, Tibbooburra—purchase of building, Gilgandra Court-room and offices, Hillston, Peak Hill Court and Watch-house—additional sum, West Kempsey—further sum, Albury, Darlinghurst, Water Police Court, Buckley's Crossing Court and Watch-house, Armidale, Court-houses generally; £623 for purchase of site for court-house and lock-up at Burwood; £2,000 for Government Printing Office—installation of a system of fire extinction; £4,120 for gaols, additions, &c.—Maitland—quarters in connection with new wing for females, Gaols—additions, repairs, &c., and Cobar Lock-up gaol; £750 for Parramatta Hospital—additions, Medical Superintendent's quarters; £1,825 for lock-ups—erection, additions, &c.—Cobar, Coolah, Gunnedah, and Rockley; £14,225 for police stations and quarters—additions, &c.—Enngonia, Tamworth, Broken Hill, Taree, Forbes, Jindera, Nowendoc, Ungaree, Gloucester, Mungindi, Narrabri, Coolah, police buildings generally, and lock-ups; and £12,040 for post and telegraph offices—erection, additions, &c.—Camden, Warren, Howlong, Bega, Cooma, Boggabri, Moree, and minor towns.

(186.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £3,000 for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage—improvement for better disposal of sludge at Cook's River, Botany.

III.—Repayment of Loans.

(187.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £65,800 to meet 5 per cent. debentures falling due in 1897—In January,—Railways and Public Works—30 Vic. No. 23.

3rd November, 1896.

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF PUBLIC WORKS
PROPOSED TO BE PROVIDED FOR BY LOAN.

Permanent and Reproductive Works.

No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

(188.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £150,000, for Government Tramways: being for conversion of the existing Tram Lines to an Electric System, and to provide additional Rolling Stock in connection therewith.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

(189.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £17,500, for Harbours and Rivers: being £2,500 for Completion of Sea Wall, Rushcutters' Bay, east side, and £15,000 for Improvements to Cook's River at Botany, providing for discharge of Flood Waters.

(190.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £19,353, for Government Architect: being £14,000 for Offices for Inspector-General of Police and Comptroller-General of Prisons; £1,653 for Police Stations—Erections—Tibooburra, Currabubula, and Milparinka; £1,000 for Post Offices—Erections, Additions, &c.—South Broken Hill; £1,200 for Court-houses—Erections, Additions, &c.—Taree and Hillston; £1,000 for Government House, Sydney—External rebuilding; and £500 for Additional Accommodation, Law Courts, Chancery Square.

(191.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £1,590, for Sewerage Construction: being for Construction of Drain across Reclamation to connect Main Drain, Long Cove.

No. XI.—POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

(192.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £20,000, for Miscellaneous Services: being for Construction and Extension of Telegraph and Telephone Lines generally—further sum.

II.—Other Works.

To be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue in thirty years by means of an Annual Sinking Fund.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

(193.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £1,775, for Bridges: being for erection of Bridges at the undermentioned sites—Bokhara Road, Walgett to Brenda; Whitton, over Lagoon.

(194.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1896-7, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £500, for Sewerage Construction: being for construction of Drain between Court-House Hill and Belongil Creek, Byron Bay.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolutions were read a second time and agreed to.

12. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to certain resolutions.

Ordered, on motion of the Chairman, that the resolutions be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

(4.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Supplementary Service of the financial year 1895-6 and previous years, the sum of £26,583 19s. 5d. be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

(5.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Service of the financial year 1896-7, the sum of £6,937,183 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

(6.) *Resolved*,—That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty, during the present Session, a sum not exceeding £2,271,376, be raised by the sale of Debentures or the issue of Stock, secured upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund of the Colony, and bearing interest at a rate not exceeding 4 per centum per annum, to defray the expenses of certain Public Works and Services of the Colony, and for other purposes.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolutions were read a second time, and agreed to.

13. APPROPRIATION BILL:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in founded on resolutions of Ways and Means, Nos. 4 and 5, to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the supplies granted for the service of the year from the 1st day of July, 1896, to the 30th day of June, 1897, inclusive of both dates, and for the period from the 1st day of July, 1895, to the 30th day of June, 1896, inclusive of both dates, and for previous years; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales, certain sums to make good the supplies granted for the service of the year, from the 1st day of July, 1896, to the 30th day of June, 1897, inclusive of both dates, and for the period from the 1st day of July, 1895, to the 30th day of June, 1896, inclusive of both dates, and for previous years; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

3rd November, 1896.

14. LOAN BILL:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means, No. 6, to authorise the raising of a loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed and read a second time To-morrow.

15. REFERENDUM BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, passed.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to provide means of legislation in cases of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, That the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council, with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide means of legislation in cases of disagreement between the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 4th November, 1896, A.M.

16. COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENT BILL:—The following message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Young, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 80.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood waters.

Government House,

Sydney, 3rd November, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

17. TAMWORTH TO MANILLA RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and *Mr. Ashton* reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

18. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) Hunter District Water and Sewerage Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.

(2.) Net-fishing in Port Hacking Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.

(3.) Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (*Extension of Railway into the City of Sydney*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Young, "That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of extending the railway from Redfern into the city of Sydney;"—until Tuesday, 1st December.

(4.) Rabbit Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 1st December.

(5.) Truck Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 1st December.

(6.) Police Regulation Act Amendment Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the "Police Regulation Act of 1862" in certain respects;—until Tuesday, 1st December.

(7.) Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Bill (No. 2); consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; and for other purposes;—until Tuesday, 1st December.

(8.) Municipalities Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading;—until Tuesday, 1st December.

19. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Twenty minutes before Ten o'clock, a.m., until Four o'clock p.m., This Day.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,

Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 77.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 4 NOVEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Inmates of the Rookwood Asylum:—*Mr. Watson*, for *Mr. Smailes*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that certain inmates of the Rookwood Asylum have accorded to them privileges denied to other inmates?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the said privileged inmates are allowed a special diet and permitted to dine with the attendants?
- (3.) Is it a fact that such concessions are allowed because of the influence of certain Members of Parliament?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1 and 2.) Certain inmates at all the Asylums receive special diet, but do not dine with the attendants.

(3.) There is no interference on the part of Members of Parliament.

(2.) Weir on the Narran River at Angledool:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) When will tenders be called for the work in connection with the construction of a weir on the Narran River at Angledool?
- (2.) Is he aware that this work has been in hand for nearly twelve months?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) I have given instructions for tenders to be invited in a fortnight.

(2.) I am not aware, as the work referred to has only recently been transferred to my Department.

(3.) Travelling Stock Routes in the Western Division:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
When will he propose to Parliament some measure dealing with the present unsatisfactory state of the travelling stock routes in the Western Division?

Mr. Brunker answered,—In the absence of my honorable colleague, I think all I can say is that I believe the Minister for Lands has already given the matter consideration.

(4.) Mr. District Court Judge Docker:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the conduct of Mr. District Court Judge Docker when he was presiding at the trial of Carter, Manning, and McCooley, for alleged conspiracy to defraud, at Narrabri?

(2.) If not, will he call for a report of the facts as published in the *Narrabri Herald* and *Narrabri Age*?

(3.) Will he take the necessary steps to prevent a recurrence of the lengthy sitting which was held in this case?

Mr. Gould answered,—

(1.) My attention has not been called to this matter.

(2.) I have not seen the report referred to in the paragraph.

(3.) If the Honorable Member will make me acquainted with the circumstances of the case, I will have the matter inquired into.

(5.) The late Mr. A. C. Fraser:—*Mr. Willis* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that the late Archibald Colquhoun Fraser, who held the position of Under Secretary for Justice for many years, and who recently retired on a pension, which stopped at his death, has left two daughters totally unprovided for?

(2.) Will he, in view of the very unfortunate circumstances surrounding Mr. Fraser's death, immediately after his retirement from the service, recommend Parliament to make some provision for those two ladies?

Mr. Gould answered,—I am not aware, but if the matter is brought to my notice I will have inquiry made into the whole circumstances.

4th November, 1896.

2. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:—Mr. Reid, referring to the complaints which had been made public about the assessments under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act, stated that the Government would take every care that no unfair exaction from the people was made, and would, before the close of this Session, invite both Houses to pass a short Bill to extend the time of payment of the tax, so that the Commissioners should have an opportunity of adjusting mistakes made in land values before it was necessary to make any payments.

3. PAPERS:—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Address, adopted on 23rd September, 1896, "Case of Thomas Suffield."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(2.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(3.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(4.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(5.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Burrawang Leasehold Area.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL (No. 2):—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Cook, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Governor.

Message No. 81.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with votes taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to provide for compensation to owners and occupiers affected by the operation of this Act; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 3rd November, 1896.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Berrigan to Finley Railway Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled, "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument in writing to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 4th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

(2.) Tamworth Water Supply Works Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 4th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

(3.) Public Service (Superannuation) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 4th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th November, 1896.

6. TAMWORTH TO MANILLA RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*), on motion of Mr. Young, read a third time, and passed.
Mr. Young then moved, that the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th November, 1896.*
7. WOLLONGONG HARBOUR TRUST (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Molesworth moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
(1.) When the Wollongong Harbour Trust was formed.
(2.) The amount of public money paid to the said Trust for improving the Harbour of Wollongong.
(3.) The amount of such money expended under Government supervision.
(4.) The total amount paid as fees to the members of the Trust to the present time.
Question put and passed.
8. CONSOLIDATION OF AUSTRALASIAN LOANS (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a copy of the despatch of Sir P. O. Fysh upon the consolidation of Australasian loans.
Question put and passed.
9. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) International Patents and Trade Marks Arrangements Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
(2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
(3.) Old Age Provision Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with the view of making competent provision for old age; and for other purposes connected therewith;—until Wednesday next.
(4.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
(5.) Judges Relatives Disqualification Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(6.) Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
(7.) Maitland Gaslight Act Amendment Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Hume, Mr. Lyne, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The necessity of suspending the collection of the Land Tax, pending a reappraisal of land values." And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
11. COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENT BILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters.
Question put and passed.
12. APPROPRIATION BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.
(2.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, passed.

Mr.

4th November, 1896.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the supplies granted for the Service of the year from the first day of July, 1896, to the 30th day of June, 1897, inclusive of both dates, and for the period from the 1st day of July, 1895, to the 30th day of June, 1896, inclusive of both dates, and for previous years; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the supplies granted for the Service of the year from the 1st day of July, 1896, to the 30th day of June, 1897, inclusive of both dates, and for the period from the 1st day of July, 1895, to the 30th day of June, 1896, inclusive of both dates, and for previous years; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th November, 1896.*

13. **LOAN BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time at a later hour of the day.
14. **HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 5 NOVEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that there was not a Quorum present in the Committee.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being a Quorum present, the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

15. **LOAN BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Bruncker, *passed.*
Mr. Bruncker then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5th November, 1896, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 78.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 5 NOVEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Gratuities to Retrenched Officials of the Customs Department :—*Mr. O'Sullivan*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he kindly state the intentions of the Government with reference to the payment of gratuities, as provided for in section 11, part 2, of the Public Service Act of 1895, so far as it refers to tide-waiters and other temporary officers retrenched by the Public Service Board from H.M. Customs ?

(2.) Is he aware that many of the retrenched officers are in urgent need of the allowance provided for by the Public Service Act ?

(3.) Is it a fact that over three months have elapsed since the retrenchments were effected, and that no allowances have been given up to the present to those retired from the position of tide-waiters ?

(4.) If so, will he see that, in view of the urgency of the cases, the claims of the retired officers are satisfied as early as possible ?

Mr. Reid answered,—Tide-waiters do not come within the purview of the section referred to. With regard to temporary officers whose cases do, every effort is being made to deal with their cases promptly.

- (2.) Assessors under the Land and Income Tax Act :—*Mr. Hogue* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House, before the prorogation of Parliament, a list of the persons who assessed lands throughout the Colony under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895, giving in each case the particular districts for which each assessor acted ?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is considered undesirable to disclose these particulars at the present time.

- (3.) Revenue received from Brewarrina and District :—*Mr. Waddell*, for *Mr. Willis*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the amount of revenue derived from all sources received by the Government from the town and district of Brewarrina ?

Mr. Reid answered,—An effort will be made to prepare the required information in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.

- (4.) *Mr. Coleman*, Assessor under the Land Tax :—*Mr. O'Sullivan* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a *Mr. Coleman* was assessor (or valuer) for the Land and Income Tax Department for the Cumberland-street portion of Gipps Division ?

(2.) Is it a fact that some of the valuations made by *Mr. Coleman* have been increased by the Land and Income Tax Department ?

(3.) Is it also a fact that *Mr. Coleman* was censured by the officials of the Land and Income Tax Department for the lowness of his valuation ?

(4.) If a second assessor made a different valuation to that of *Mr. Coleman*, what is the name of that second assessor ?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is not considered desirable to give any information of a personal nature concerning the assessors at the present time.

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- (5.) Assessments of Country Lands under the Land Tax:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What course does he intend to take in regard to assessments for purpose of land tax of country lands in many instances over-valued?
 - (2.) Will he appoint a competent man to deal with these assessments, as in the case of city and suburban properties by the appointment of Mr. Sievers?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) I have already explained to the House the course which it is intended to take in this matter.
 - (2.) I think the course suggested by the Honorable Member well worthy of consideration.
- (6.) Exchange of Land on the Tubbo or Argoon Estate:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that he is negotiating for the exchange of land on the Tubbo or Argoon Estate?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that nearly all the freehold land proposed to be exchanged is waterless, and that the land to be given in exchange is on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River?
 - (3.) What is the proposed area to be taken, and the proposed area to be given in exchange?
 - (4.) What is the Government value of the land proposed to be taken, and what is the value of that proposed to be given?
 - (5.) Will he state what portions of land on the estate it is proposed to take, and what portions of land it is proposed to be given in exchange?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—This case is now with the Local Board for report, and until the nature of the Board's recommendation is known it cannot be said with any degree of certainty what form the exchange will take.
- (7.) Police Superannuation and Reward Funds:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. H. H. Brown, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that the Police Superannuation and Reward Funds are insolvent; if so, from what fund does he propose to pay the pensioners when the money in hand is expended?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—There are at present adequate funds to pay all charges against the Fund.
- (8.) Royalties on Timber:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he introduce this Session the Bill necessary to enable him to make the promised reduction in timber license fees and royalties on timber?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The Bill has been prepared, but I am afraid it will not be possible to introduce it this Session. It will be one of the measures dealt with next Session.
- (9.) Names of Landowners unknown to Municipal Councils:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he allow the Land Tax Commissioners to furnish Municipal Councils with the names and addresses of landowners unknown to the Municipal Councils, and known to the Land Tax Commissioners, in order to assist the Municipal Councils in recovering unpaid rates on such properties?
- Mr. Reid answered,—Yes.
- (10.) Railway Sleepers on the Northern Line:—Mr. Wheeler asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Was the lowest tender for the supply of railway sleepers on the Northern Line accepted?
 - (2.) Whose tender was accepted, and what was the price per sleeper?
 - (3.) Will delivery of such sleepers be taken at Wyong railway station?
 - (4.) If not, why?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I am informed that tenders were recently invited for sleepers on the Metropolitan Division, the tender of Messrs. Scott, Sibbald, & Co., for delivery at Rooty Hill, Schofield's Siding and South Creek, at 3s. 1½d. per sleeper, being accepted.
- (3 and 4.) Lower tenders were received for delivery at Wyong, viz., 3s. 1d., but as the sleepers in question were required for use on the western end of the division it was more convenient to receive supplies at the stations already mentioned, and so avoid long haulage.
- (11.) Telegraph Poles supplied by Mr. Flemming:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) The number of telegraph poles that have been supplied by Mr. W. Flemming from 1st January, 1894, to 1st October, 1896?
 - (2.) For how many of the poles were tenders called through the *Government Gazette* or any newspaper?
 - (3.) The length and size of each pole, and where they were delivered by Mr. Flemming?
 - (4.) Were any of the poles supplied by Mr. P. B. Walker or Mr. Rutherford sending a memorandum to Mr. Flemming?
 - (5.) What were the contents of the memoranda in each case?
 - (6.) Did any other contractors receive memoranda similar to Mr. Flemming's, asking them to quote prices for telegraph poles that were supplied by Mr. Flemming from 1st January, 1894, to 1st September, 1896; if so, the names of each contractor, and date that each letter was sent?
 - (7.) Is it a fact that between 1st January, 1894, and 1st September, 1896, a great number of telegraph poles were sent from different railway stations within the county of Cumberland, by Mr. Flemming, and that vouchers or orders were sent to station-masters, signed by Mr. Rutherford, charging freight of poles to the Telegraph Department; the number of poles so sent; the date and amount charged to the Department from January, 1894, to September, 1896?
 - (8.) The number of telegraph poles supplied by Mr. Flemming that vouchers, signed by Mr. Rutherford charging freight to the Telegraph Department, were given; also dates of vouchers?
 - (9.) Did any other contractor who supplied telegraph poles between 1st January, 1894, and 1st September, 1896, receive a like concession, and, if so, the names of the contractors, stations that poles were sent from, number of poles sent, and date of each consignment?

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(10.) Is it a fact that Mr. Flemming received 8s., 9s., 10s., 12s., 14s., and 16s. each for poles supplied by him since 1st January, 1894, to 1st September, 1896; and what price did he supply telegraph poles for since 1st September, 1896, and present date; also, length and size of such poles supplied?

(11.) How many contractors were asked by letter to quote prices for poles which Mr. Flemming supplied since 1st September, 1896, to present date; also length and size of poles that were supplied by Mr. Flemming at 8s., 9s., 10s., 12s., 14s., and 16s. each; and at what railway stations were poles delivered?

Mr. Cook answered,—A large portion of the information asked for by the Honorable Member will take some time to collect, but I will have a return prepared, and will lay the same upon the Table when ready.

(12.) Case of Hungerford *v.* the Wollongong Harbour Trust:—*Mr. Watson*, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Government agreed to refer the claim of Mr. Thomas Hungerford against the Wollongong Harbour Trust, and the equity suit which Mr. Hungerford had commenced, to arbitration?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Government nominated the arbitrator?

(3.) Is it a fact that the arbitrator found that Hungerford's contract had been cancelled fraudulently, and awarded Hungerford compensation accordingly?

(4.) Are the Government taking steps to set aside the award, with the object of compelling Hungerford to seek redress at law again; if so, for what reason?

Mr. Gould answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by my honorable colleague the Attorney-General:—

(1 and 2.) Yes.

(3.) The arbitrator found that the contract had been cancelled *malá fide*.

(4.) Steps are being taken to set aside the award, but not with the object mentioned, one of the reasons being that there was no evidence of *malá fides*.

(13.) Valuers under the Land Tax Act:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What were the names of the valuers and the districts in which a second valuer was appointed to revise assessments under the Land Tax Act?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is considered undesirable to disclose these particulars at the present time.

2. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Twenty-fifth Report from the Printing Committee.

3. CITY OF SYDNEY MUNICIPAL LOAN BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to raise by debentures the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds for the purposes of the "City of Sydney Municipal Loans Act of 1893," and for purposes incidental to the above objects.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to raise by debentures the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds for the purposes of the 'City of Sydney Municipal Loan Act of 1893,' and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

4. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

(1.) International Patents and Trade Marks Arrangements Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.

(2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.

(3.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.

(4.) Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.

(5.) Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Wednesday next.

(6.) Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Thursday next.

(7.) Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday next.

5. PAPERS:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report on Leprosy in New South Wales for the year 1895.

(2.) Return to an order made on 4th November, 1896,—"*Consolidation of Australasian Loans.*" Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Public Roads Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend and consolidate the law relating to the opening, closing, and survey of roads; to make provision for the disposal of unnecessary roads and of lands resumed or withdrawn but not required for roads, and of certain other lands; for the prevention of the obstruction and injury of roads; for the alignment and the alteration of the alignment of streets in Municipalities; for granting*"

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granting leave to place public gates in certain cases; and for other matters of the like nature; and for that purpose to amend the Act 4 Wm. IV No. 11, the Public Gates Act of 1875, and the Crown Lands Acts of 1884 and 1889,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

PUBLIC ROADS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 5th November, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 2, clause 2, line 3. After "simple" insert "or conditionally leased"
- Page 2, clause 2. After line 6 insert "'Incomplete purchase' means a conditional purchase under any Crown Lands Act or a purchase by auction or otherwise from the Crown in respect of which a balance of the purchase money remains unpaid"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 21. Omit "reserved, set apart"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 22. Before "thoroughfare" insert "public"
- Page 2, clause 2, lines 23 to 26. Omit "and any land defined, designed, or intended for a road, or for intercommunication in subdivision of the Crown estate, or reserved as a road in the measurement and granting of Crown lands"
- Page 2, clause 2, line 27. After "otherwise" omit remainder of clause.
- Page 2, clause 4, line 47. After "month" insert "from the date of the publication of such notice in the Gazette."
- Page 2, clause 4, line 51. Omit "well grounded"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 5. Omit "either"
- Page 3, clause 5, lines 5 and 6. Omit "or with such modification thereof as may appear to him to be expedient"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 6. After "may" insert "with the consent of the owner"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 15. Omit "feet" insert "yards"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 18. Omit "Minister" insert "Local Land Board"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 21. After "made" insert "with the consent of the owner"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 26. After "Crown" insert "or a conditional lease"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 28. After "purchase" insert "or conditional lease"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 30. After "or" insert "conditional lease or"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 33. After "Minister" insert "with the consent of the owner"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 37. Omit "or other purchase" insert "purchase or conditional lease"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 38. After "purchase" insert "or conditional lease"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 45. After "purchase" insert "or conditional lease"
- Page 4, clause 6, line 7. After "lease" insert "other than a conditional lease"
- Page 4, clause 6, line 9. Omit "if necessary" insert "by the Local Land Board"
- Page 4, clause 7, lines 17 to 22. Omit "or
(ii) The Minister is satisfied that a road as surveyed is the best in the public interests, and the opening of it is an urgent public necessity; or
(iii) A road not yet legally established has been formed and is in use"
- Page 4, clause 8, line 33. Omit "the preceding sections" insert "this Act"
- Page 4, clause 8, line 35. After "may" insert "by the Minister or the owner of the land"
- Page 4, clause 9, line 43. Omit "ascertained" insert "determined by the Local Land Board unless an agreement be arrived at between the Minister and the owner"
- Page 5, clause 9, line 4. After "purchase" insert "or conditional lease"
- Page 5, clause 10, line 11. After "lease" insert "other than a conditional lease"
- Pages 6 and 7, clauses 16 and 17. Omit clauses 16 and 17 insert the following new clause:—

Boundary roads and other roads so called may be declared public roads.

The Governor may by notification in the *Gazette* declare any road to be a public road, and thereupon the same shall be dedicated to the public accordingly, and shall be withdrawn from any lease or license from the Crown under which it was held, and no compensation shall be payable in respect thereof; and if the road be situate within a municipality such notification as aforesaid shall have the effect of vesting the care, construction, and management thereof in the Council of the municipality within the meaning of section one hundred and seventeen of the Municipalities Act of 1867. And where any road so declared as aforesaid has been provided in subdivision of the Crown estate for alienation, or reserved in the measurement of Crown lands, the official plans of survey which show the road in question or part thereof in connection with the lands subdivided or measured shall be accepted as *prima facie* evidence of the width and position of the same, but nothing in this section shall prevent any alteration of the width of any road prior to or by the notification as aforesaid.

- Page 7, clause 18, line 17. After "on" insert "proclaimed"
- Page 7, clause 19, line 35. Omit "well grounded"
- Page 7, clause 19, line 37. Omit "road" insert "said road or such part thereof"
- Page 8, clause 20, lines 6 to 8. Omit "dealt with under the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts, or may be sold by auction or private contract as may seem to the Minister expedient" insert "granted to the owner or owners of adjoining lands in fair proportions, or in accordance with any agreement made by such owners; and the value of such land, to be determined by the Local Land Board, shall be paid for the same"
- Page 8, clause 20, line 9. After "purchase" insert "or conditional lease"

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- Page 8, clause 20, line 10. *After* "purchase" *insert* "or conditional lease notwithstanding that the maximum area prescribed for any conditional or other purchase by the Crown Lands Acts be thereby exceeded, or may be granted in exchange for lands taken or resumed, or hereafter to be taken or resumed under the provisions of any Act, other than this Act, authorising the resumption or acquisition of land for public purposes, or for lands contracted or hereafter to be contracted by instrument in writing to be conveyed or to be transferred from the owners to Her Majesty, or to any Constructing Authority for and on behalf of Her Majesty, in exchange for Crown land or any unnecessary road or roads"
- Page 8, clause 20, line 12. *After* "approve" *insert* "Provided that if any owner of land adjoining a road so closed shall not within three months from receipt of notice of the determination of value by the Land Board as aforesaid agree to pay such value and receive a grant of such land, the said land may be dealt with under the provisions of the Crown Lands Acts, or may be sold by auction or private contract, as may seem to the Minister to be expedient."
- Page 8, clause 20, line 14. *Omit* "temporarily"
- Page 8, clause 20, line 15. *After* "road" *insert* "or part of a road for any period not exceeding six months"
- Page 8, clause 20, line 16. *After* "road" *insert* "or part thereof"
- Page 8, clause 21, line 22. *After* "Crown" *insert* "or conditional lease"
- Page 8, clause 21, line 23. *Omit* "purchase" *insert* "holding"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration at a later hour of the day.

(2.) Public Health Bill:—

Mr. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to promote the Public Health*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

PUBLIC HEALTH BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 5th November, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, lines 6 and 7. *Omit* "seven and no more" *insert* "not less than seven nor more than ten"

Page 2, clause 3, line 7. *After* "President" *insert* "four of whom at least shall be legally qualified medical practitioners"

Page 2. *After* clause 7 *insert* the following new clause:—

It shall be lawful for the Board of Health, whenever it deems it necessary in the interest of the public health or the health of any persons, on giving the notice prescribed, to enter by its members, officers, or servants, any premises vested in or under the control of the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, or the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, or the council of any municipality, or any other person or corporation, for the purposes of water supply or sewerage, and inspect the same and any works thereon or therein constructed or used for the said purposes, and any other works belonging to the Water Supply and Sewerage Board, council, person, or corporation to whom notice has been given as aforesaid, or connected therewith, and constructed or used for the said purposes.

Power of board to inspect works of water supply and sewerage and make recommendations to the Secretary for Public Works.

And any Water Supply and Sewerage Board, council, person, or corporation as aforesaid, on receiving notice as aforesaid, shall instruct their officers and servants to aid and assist the Board of Health in making and causing to be made the said inspection, and shall permit the members of the Board of Health, or its officers or servants, to inspect any apparatus and things used in connection with any works of water supply or sewerage of the said Water Supply and Sewerage Board, council, person, or corporation, and any records, books, or plans relating to the said works, or to any works connected therewith.

The Board of Health may at any time make a report to the Secretary for Public Works whenever in its opinion any danger to public health, or to the health of any persons, could be removed or diminished by the exercise by any Water Supply and Sewerage Board, or by the council of any municipality, or by any other person or corporation, of their powers under any Act dealing with water supply and sewerage, recommending what steps should be taken by the Water Supply and Sewerage Board, or by the council, person, or corporation, for that purpose. And the Secretary for Public Works shall thereupon proceed as he may think fit.

Page 2, clause 8, lines 40 and 41. *Omit* "(a) Within the boundaries of the City of Sydney, the Municipal Council of Sydney"

Page 3, clause 9, line 3. *Omit* "municipality or group of municipalities, or for a police district" *insert* "district or group of districts"

Page 4, clause 19. *Omit* clause 19.

Page 4, clause 21, line 52. *Omit* "absence" *insert* "default"

Page 5, clause 24, line 40. *Omit* "arc" *insert* "is"

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- Page 5, clause 24, lines 53 and 54. *Omit* "the medical officer of health, or some officer authorised
"by him" *insert* "a legally qualified medical practitioner"
- Page 6, clause 24, lines 8 and 9. *Omit* "the medical officer of health, or some officer authorised
"by him" *insert* "a legally qualified medical practitioner"
- Page 6, clause 24, line 27. *Omit* "unnecessary"
- Page 6, clause 25, line 41. *Omit* "unnecessary"
- Page 6, clause 25, line 53. *Omit* "licensing" *insert* "local"
- Page 7, clause 26, line 6. *Omit* "the local authority" *insert* "a legally qualified medical prac-
"titioner"
- Page 7, clause 26, lines 6 and 7. *Omit* "to that effect" *insert* "signed by him"
- Page 7, clause 29, line 41. *After* "proprietor" *insert* "or trustees"
- Page 7, clause 29, line 44. *After* "proprietor" *insert* "or trustees"
- Page 7, clause 30, line 48. *Omit* "knowingly or negligently"
- Page 8, clause 30, line 5. *After* "pounds" *insert* "unless such person satisfy the Court that he
"was ignorant of the existence of such disease"
- Page 8, clause 31, line 10. *Before* "conveyance" *insert* "public"
- Page 8, clause 31. At end of clause *add*
"If—

- "(a) a person hires or uses a public conveyance other than a hearse for conveying
"the body of a person who has died from any infectious disease without
"previously notifying to the owner or driver of the conveyance that such
"person died from infectious disease; or
"(b) the owner or driver does not immediately after the conveyance has to his
"knowledge been used for conveying such body provide for the disinfection of
"the conveyance—
"he shall be liable to a fine not exceeding five pounds, and if the offence continues to a
"further fine not exceeding forty shillings for every day during which the offence
"continues."

Pages 8 and 9, clause 35. *Omit* clause 35.

Page 9, clause 37. *Omit* clause 37.

Page 12, clause 44, line 36. *Omit* "tenant" *insert* "occupier"

Page 12, clause 44, line 37. *Omit* "the occupier" *insert* "such person"

Page 14, clause 50, line 10. *After* "area" *insert* "and for the regulation of the deposit of house
"refuse, rubbish, and garbage, and for the destruction thereof"

Page 15, clause 53, line 21. *Omit* "passing" *insert* "commencement"

Page 15, clause 53, line 27. *After* "of" *insert* "not less than two pounds nor more than"

Page 15, clause 53, line 29. *Omit* "public" *insert* "Government"

Page 15, clause 53, line 34. *After* "months" *omit* remainder of clause.

Page 16, clause 54, line 26. *Omit* "the Adulteration" *insert* "this"

Page 16, clause 58, line 53. *Omit* "the Adulteration Act or"

Page 16. *After* clause 58 *insert* the following new clause:—

Where the prosecutor in any case under this Part has caused the food or drug forming the
subject of prosecution to be analysed by any competent analyst, the reasonable expense of and
attending such analysis (to be assessed by the justices) may in case of a conviction be awarded
against the defendant as part of the costs of the prosecution if the convicting justices think fit;

Provided that before the making of such analysis the person prosecuted has had reasonable
notice of the time and place of the intended production of the food or drug to the analyst for
examination, with the name of such analyst, and has been allowed to attend on such production."

Page 18. *After* clause 61 *insert* the following new clauses:—

(I) Every person who for purposes of sale—

(a) mixes or causes or permits to be mixed any ingredient or material with any
food, or colours any such article, or causes or permits the same to be coloured,
so as in any such case to render such article injurious to health; or

(b) mixes or causes or permits to be mixed any ingredient or material with any
drug, or colours any such drug, or causes or permits the same to be coloured,
so as to affect injuriously the quality or potency of such drug—

shall for the first offence be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty pounds, and in case of any
subsequent offence shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and be liable to imprisonment, with or
without hard labour, for a term not exceeding six months.

(II) Every person who sells any food or drug mixed with any such ingredient or material,
or so coloured as aforesaid, whereby such food or drug has been rendered injurious to health,
shall be liable for each offence to the like penalties as are in the first subsection provided in respect
of the mixing or colouring of any such food or drug.

(i) Every person who—

(a) for purposes of sale mixes or causes or permits to be mixed any ingredient or
material with any food or drug in order thereby fraudulently to increase its
weight, bulk, or measure, or to conceal its inferior quality; or

(b) to the prejudice of the purchaser sells any food or drug mixed with any ingre-
dient or material whereby the weight, bulk, or measure of such food or drug
has been increased or its inferior quality concealed—

shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, and for any subsequent offence to a
penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

(ii) Every person who to the prejudice of the purchaser—

(a) sells any food or drug which is not of the nature, substance, or quality of the
food or drug demanded by such purchaser; or

(b) any compounded food or drug which is not composed of ingredients in accordance
with the demand of the purchaser—

shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding twenty pounds, and for any subsequent offence to a
penalty not exceeding fifty pounds.

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Expense of
analysing
articles.

42 Vic. No. 14,
s. 12.

Mixing drugs r
articles with
ingredients
injurious to
health.

42 Vic. No. 14
. 1.

Selling any such
drug or article.
Ibid., s. 2.

Mixing or selling
food or drugs to
increase bulk.

42 Vic. No. 14,
s. 4.

Selling food or
drugs not of the
nature
demanded.

Ibid., s. 5.

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- Page 18, clause 62, line 7. *Omit* "at the time of sale the seller declares the food or drug to be" *insert* "it is sold as"
- Page 18, clause 62, line 13. *Omit* "section four or section five of the Adulteration" *insert* "the last preceding section of this"
- Page 18, clause 62. At end of clause *add* "Provided that it shall not be necessary to so affix a label in the case of food generally known to users as a compounded article or a drug not recognised by the British Pharmacopœa mixed with any matter or ingredient not injurious to health and not intended fraudulently to increase its bulk, weight, or measure, or to conceal its inferior quality"
- Page 18, clause 63. *Omit* clause 63.
- Page 18, clause 64, lines 26 and 27. *Omit* "five of the Adulteration" *insert* "sixty-two of this"
- Page 18. *After* clause 64 *insert* the following new clause:—
Every person who sells and delivers, or causes or permits to be sold and delivered, for immediate consumption by the buyer or any other person, any intoxicating liquor containing fusel oil in a proportion injurious to health, shall be liable for the first offence to a penalty not exceeding *fifty* pounds, and in case of any subsequent offence shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and be liable to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any term not exceeding *six* months. Sale, &c., of certain liquors in unfit state. 42 Vic. No. 14, s. 8.
- Page 18, clause 66, line 39. *Omit* "the Adulteration Act or"
- Page 18, clause 66, line 42. *After* "knowledge" *insert* "that the nature, state, or condition of the food or drug was such as would render him liable to prosecution under this Act unless he further proves that he had no reasonable means of ascertaining the condition of such food or drug."
- Page 18, clause 66, line 49. *Omit* "the said Acts" *insert* "this Act"
- Page 18, clause 66, line 52. *Omit* "the said Acts" *insert* "this Act"
- Page 18, clause 66. At end of clause *add* "and the Court that inflicts the penalty on him may suspend the operation of the conviction for any period not exceeding three months to enable him to recover, as hereinafter provided, from the person from whom he purchased the food or drug."
- Page 19, clause 67, line 1. *Omit* "the Adulteration Act or"
- Page 19, clause 67, line 5. *After* "liable" *insert* "Provided that a servant shall not be liable if he proves that the offence was committed in a store, shop, stall, or other similar place in which business was, at the time of the committing of the offence, conducted under the personal superintendence of some other person."
- Page 19, clause 67, line 11. *Omit* "the said Acts" *insert* "this Act"
- Page 19, clause 67, line 14. *Omit* "the said Acts" *insert* "this Act"
- Page 19, clause 68, lines 27 and 28. *Omit* "sections three, six, seven, nine, ten, and eleven of the Adulteration Act are" *insert* "The Act forty-second Victoria, number fourteen is"
- Page 19, clause 69, lines 30 and 31. *Omit* "'Adulteration Act' means the Act forty-second Victoria number fourteen"
- Page 19, clause 69, lines 36 and 37. *Omit* "and 'article of food or drink' in the Adulteration Act"
- Page 19, clause 70. *Omit* clause 70.
- Page 19, clause 71, line 48. *After* "cheese" *omit* remainder of clause *insert* "Provided that this section shall not apply to persons who are not engaged in the manufacture of butter and cheese"
- Page 20, clause 75, lines 14 and 15. *Omit* "in Council"
- Page 20, clause 75, line 28. *After* "section" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 20. *After* clause 75 *insert* the following new clause:—
The Governor, on the recommendation of the Board, may make regulations to have effect within such districts as he may, on the recommendation of the Board, proclaim by notification in the *Gazette* for regulating the storage of waste and refuse upon and the removal of the same from premises where meat is sold or exposed for sale, and this and the last preceding section shall be construed as one with the Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act, 1894. Governor may make regulations.
- Page 20, clause 76, line 44. *After* "city" *insert* "fund or the"
- Page 20, clause 76, line 44. *After* "funds" *insert* "as the case may be."
- Page 20, clause 76, line 46. *Omit* "included in the calculation"
- Page 24, clause 90. *After* line 15 *insert* "'Municipality' means a borough or municipal district, and includes the City of Sydney"

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration at a later hour of the day.

7. **ADJOURNMENT.**—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Cobar, Mr. Waddell, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The scrubbing and ring-barking of the West Bogan lands by the Government."

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Waddell moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

5th November, 1896.

8. PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 14th October, 1896, a.m., in reference to the Patents Law Amendment Bill,—

Disagrees to the Assembly's amendment in this Bill,—because the remedial legislation carried out by the provisions of the Bill would be so greatly curtailed as to make the measure practically useless; and because the Council has, by a proviso added to the clause, now rendered unnecessary the elimination of the words objected to by the Assembly,—

But proposes to amend the clause by adding at the end thereof the words "Provided that in the case of specifications deposited and letters patent granted before or after the commencement of this Act, any person adversely affected may appeal by motion to the Supreme Court in its Equitable Jurisdiction against any leave to amend granted by the Examiner of Patents or the Minister of Justice, as provided in the second section hereof, and the costs of such appeal shall be in the discretion of such Court, and notice of such appeal shall be lodged within six months from such leave being granted,"—in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole on Tuesday next.

9. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL (No. 2):—Mr. Cook moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with votes taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to provide for compensation to owners and occupiers affected by the operation of this Act; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects.

Question put and passed.

10. HUNTER DISTRICT WATER AND SEWERAGE ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 46.

Noes, 15.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Schey,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Young,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Parkes,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Davis,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Thomas.
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Black,	Tellers,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Cotton,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Cruickshank.
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Morton,	
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Bavister.	
Mr. Whiddon,	Tellers,	
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Dick,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington.	
Mr. Hughes,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, passed.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Act of 1892, the Country Towns and Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts Amendment Act of 1894, and the Hunter District Water Supply (Partial Duplication) Act, 1895; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5th November, 1896.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

5th November, 1896.

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11. **FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 6 NOVEMBER, 1896, a.m.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to some, amended other, and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, the report was adopted.

12. **PUBLIC HEALTH BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to but amended one, amended another, and agreed to the remainder of the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

13. **COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, that the reception of the resolution stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next.

14. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Bruncker moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter before Four o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 79.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment: Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Fees for Advertising Meeting in Insolvent Estates:—*Mr. Wheeler*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that a fee of 7s. 6d. is charged against every insolvent estate for the advertising of meeting in same in country papers, and that not more than 4s. of that amount is paid per insertion of such advertisement by the Government Printer?

(2.) Is the residue, admitting that this is a correct statement of the case, returned to the estate?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The Registrar in Bankruptcy has informed my honorable colleague that a sum of 7s. 6d. is received by him in each estate, and paid by him into the Treasury for advertising expenses, and the Government Printer states that the cost of the bankruptcy notices varies from 3s. 6d. to 6s. 6d., according to the length of the advertisement and the price per inch.

(2.) The actual cost of advertising is charged to the vote "Advertising for the Public Service," which is recouped from the Registrar in Bankruptcy's Advertising Account Trust Fund. Any balance in hand will be transferred to the Consolidated Revenue, in terms of section 8 of the Audit Act of 1870.

- (2.) Parliamentary Representatives Allowance Act:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) What were the costs in the suit as to the validity of the Parliamentary Allowances Act?

(2.) Has the plaintiff paid the amounts of the costs?

(3.) If so, what does the item of £244 on the Additional Estimates refer to?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by my honorable colleague the Attorney-General:—

(1.) All the costs of the suit are not yet ascertained.

(2.) The plaintiff has paid £124 5s. 1d., the costs of the Equity proceedings and appeal to the Full Court, and has paid into Court £200 as security for costs on appeal to the Privy Council, which have been taxed at £191 10s. 10d.

(3.) The item of £244 on the Additional Estimates is to meet the expenses of the Crown Solicitor's agent in England, which amount to £243 6s. 1d.

- (3.) Registration of Brands Act Amendment Bill:—*Mr. Jessep* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Having regard to the Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the Registration of Brands Act of 1866, and the Registration of Brands Act Amendment Act of 1874," which lapsed in the Legislative Council at the close of last Session, has he considered the advisability of restoring it to the Business Paper?

(2.) If so, will he endeavour to do so before the close of the present Session?

(3.) If not, will he fix the earliest date possible?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—It is not possible to restore this Bill to the Business Paper this Session, but it is intended to introduce a measure of this kind early next Session.

- (4.) Metallurgical Works at Clyde:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What sum has been expended up to date in the erection of buildings and machinery at the Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde?

(2.) How long is it since the erection of the buildings was commenced?

(3.) Is it true that the Assay Branch is very much behind in its work, and that in some cases samples sent a month ago are not yet assayed?

(4.) Is it intended at an early date to provide additional rooms and appliances for carrying on the assaying of samples sent?

Mr.

10th November, 1896.

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) £4,053 12s. 11d.
- (2.) Operations commenced on the ground on the 2nd October, 1895.
- (3.) The work in this branch is necessarily slightly in arrears, as the assaying was at a standstill while the appliances were being dismantled in Sydney and re-erected at Clyde.
- (4.) As already intimated, if it be found that further accommodation is required to carry on the work it will be provided.

(5.) Employment of Mr. Sievers :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In what capacity and at what salary was Mr. Sievers previously employed by the Government?
- (2.) In what capacity and at what salary was Mr. Sievers employed by the Savings Bank of New South Wales?
- (3.) What special reasons are there for employing Mr. Sievers in connection with the Land Tax Act at so high a salary as £740 per annum, and upon whose recommendation has he been appointed?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) As Land Valuer, Public Works Department, from 1st July, 1891, to 31st July, 1892; paid salary at the rate of £600 per annum. As Acting Land Valuer from 16th December, 1895, to 30th April, 1896; paid at the rate of £400 per annum.
- (2.) Mr. Sievers was Land Valuer for the Savings Bank of New South Wales, having been selected from 285 applicants. I am not aware of the terms of his engagement.
- (3.) The salary of £740 will include all Government valuations, and the salary named is the salary attached to the office without any duty in the Land and Income Tax Department; so that the appointment will effect an important economy.

(6.) Work at Botany Sewerage Farm :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that work now being carried out at the Botany Sewerage Farm was intended for married men only?
- (2.) How many single men are now employed on the works?
- (3.) Has a married man (ganger) been lately dismissed, and a single man named Peacock appointed in his place?
- (4.) Will he take steps to carry out the original intention of this work to employ married men only?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The work was intended for married men, and for men with families dependent upon them.
- (2.) Careful inquiries have been instituted, and I am informed that only one single man is employed, who is the leading plate-layer.
- (3.) A ganger named Connolly was disgraced, and Peacock, who is a widower with four children to keep, has been employed in his stead. Connolly, however, is now engaged on the works.
- (4.) There is no necessity to make any change at present.

(7.) Kenmore Asylum Contract :—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Will he raise the minimum wage standard for the next Kenmore Asylum contract to the price fixed for the metropolitan area?
- (2.) Is he aware that the purchasing power of workmen's wages in Goulburn will go no further than Sydney?

Mr. Young answered,—The minimum wage was fixed after very carefully considering the whole question as between city and country, and I see no reason at present to depart from the decision arrived at.

(8.) Newspaper Trains :—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) At what time do the newspaper trains leave Sydney every morning?
- (2.) Is any change contemplated in the running of these trains; if so, what is the nature of the change projected?
- (3.) What sum of money is paid by the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Daily Telegraph* respectively for the use of these trains?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that the goods trains which convey the newspapers leave Sydney for Southern Line at 4.0 a.m., Western Line at 4.0 a.m., and Illawarra Line at 3.30 a.m.
- (2.) It is proposed to start the Southern train at 3.0 a.m. as from the 1st December.
- (3.) No payment is made by the papers in question, but an annual sum is allowed the Railway Commissioners by the Postal Department for the conveyance of newspapers generally by rail.

(9.) Fees to Members of the Public Works Committee :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Members of the Sectional Committee of the Public Works Committee respectively draw a fee of £3 3s. for each day's absence in the country (Sundays excepted) besides the allowance of 30s. per day for expenses?
- (2.) Does the Chairman *pro tem.* of the Sectional Committee get an additional guinea for presiding?

Mr. Reid answered,—The terms of remuneration for the services specified are fixed by Act of Parliament, 53 Vic. No. 11, which will afford the Honorable Member all the information he requires.

(10.) Reserve within the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's Land, Tweed River :—Mr. Kelly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is there a reserve of 100 feet (or reserved road) along the right bank of the Murwillumbah Creek and the left bank of the Tweed River, within the Colonial Sugar Refining Company's portion No. 3, of 200 acres, parish Murwillumbah, county Rous, subdivided and sold since issue of deed?
- (2.) Is he aware if any part of the road is now in occupation of persons who believe they have a legal right thereto; if so, would he cause such road to be defined on the ground?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Mr. Brunker answered,—

(1.) The original deed of grant of this land contained a reservation of a road 1 chain wide along the river-bank, and also a reservation of 100 feet above high-water mark. The latter reservation is now being rescinded, having been held to have been made in error. The road has, by proclamation, been diverted from the river-bank south of Wharf-street for a distance of about 2 chains, but at no other place in the grant.

(2.) I am not aware.

- (11.) Boiler Inspection Bill :—Mr. Nelson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he introduce a Boiler Inspection Bill next Session; if not, will he raise any objections to a private Member introducing a Bill?

Mr. Reid answered,—I presume the Honorable Member is fully aware of the difficulty of passing such a Bill in “another place.” I may state, however, that the Government will deal with the matter next Session, and make a strong effort to bring about legislation.

- (12.) Colonial Secretary's Office :—Mr. Nelson asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to keep the officials working during the night at the Colonial Secretary's Office; if not, why is the sum of £3,700 to be expended in installing the electric light in the building?

Mr. Brunker answered,—There is no intention on the part of the Government to keep officials working during the night. The installation of the electric light has been recommended in order to insure greater safety against fire, together with greater convenience and economy; the annual cost being estimated to be less than is now paid for the gas service.

- (13.) Lighting of the Technical College :—Mr. Nelson asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) What amount of money has it cost the Government for gas during the last three years at the Technical College?

(2.) Would it not be cheaper, better, and more in harmony with the college, if an electric installation were put in the building?

(3.) Will he give this matter his careful consideration?

Mr. Garrard answered,—

(1.) For the three years ended 30th September last, £1,663 11s. 10d.

(2.) This matter has received consideration, but the electric light is not suitable for several of the classes.

(3.) Answered by No. 2.

- (14.) Assessed Value of Lands of the Colony :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the aggregate value of all land in New South Wales, as shown by the total valuations made by the assessors?

(2.) What would be the estimated returns therefrom per annum under the Land Tax, if not reduced?

(3.) What was the annual return anticipated by the Treasurer in his forecast?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1 and 2.) The information desired is not obtainable at present.

(3.) The forecast in 1895 was £508,000 from Land and Income Tax combined. Since that forecast was made the Bill was amended in several important respects, the ultimate effect of which was to make the probable revenue from Income Tax greater and that from Land Tax less.

- (15.) Issue of Free Railway Passes to Delegates of the Bathurst Federal Convention :—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that free passes have been granted to the delegates selected by the privately-run Bathurst Federal Convention, is he prepared to extend the same privilege to delegates to the Political Labour League Conference to be held in Sydney on 26th January next?

Mr. Reid answered,—I have received no application of the kind from the Political Labour League, and I think the Honorable Member will perceive a difference between a meeting of delegates on a national question such as that of federation and a conference identified with a militant party organisation.

2. PAPER :—Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—Return to an Address, adopted on 20th October, 1896,—“Case of Police v. William Hamilton, tried at Hillgrove Police Court.” Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. CLAIM OF MR. THEOPHILUS STEPHENS—CROWN LAW DEPARTMENT :—Mr. Howarth (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Return to Order, “Claims of Mr. Theophilus Stephens—Regina v. Sugarman and Fernandez,” laid upon the Table on 10th September, 1896, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on “Claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens—Crown Law Department.” Question put and passed.
4. FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL :—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Garrard, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly, having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 3rd November, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Factories and Shops Bill,—

Disagrees to the amendment in the Title, as consequential upon other disagreements in the Bill.

Agrees to the amendments in clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6, but proposes to amend the amendment in clause 2, line 13, by omitting the word “inspector,” and inserting the word “Minister.”

Disagrees to the omission of clauses 7 and 8, because the effect would be to load the registers with defunct factories, cause confusion in statistics, and largely increase the cost in working the Act.

Agrees

10th November, 1896.

Agrees to the amendments in clauses 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, and to the first two amendments in clause 16.

Disagrees to the omission of sub-clause IV of clause 16, because by omitting it the only penalty against sweating would be removed.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 17, to the insertion of the new clause to follow clause 21, and to the amendments in clauses 28 and 30.

Agrees to so much of the amendment in clause 31 as omits the words "one hundred pounds," but proposes to substitute the words "fifty pounds" for the words "forty shillings," proposed to be inserted, because the penalty proposed by the Council is not proportionate to the gravity of the offence.

Agrees to the amendment in clause 35, but proposes to amend such amendment by omitting the word "inspector" and inserting the word "Minister."

Disagrees to the amendments in clause 38,—

- (1.) Because it is considered desirable that the protection of this Act should be extended to males of a higher age than that proposed by the Council, and
- (2.) Because unless this minimum rate of overtime were fixed, many young persons, such as "improvers," might be compelled to work overtime for little or no remuneration.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 41.

Disagrees to the omission of clause 42, because it is necessary to protect young persons, whilst in ill-health, from demands made upon them by employers or guardians.

Agrees to the omission of clause 44, and to the amendments in clause 45, lines 34 to 41.

Disagrees to the amendments in clause 45, lines 8, 9, and 31, because it is considered desirable that the protection of this Act should be extended to males of a higher age than that proposed by the Council, and to females of whatever age.

Disagrees to the amendments in clause 45, lines 14 to 27, because—

- (a) It is desirable to have half a holiday in the week for young persons.
- (b) As it stands, overtime might be continuous for nearly two months, and
- (c) Unless the occupier of a shop keeps the record, there are no means of checking overtime, even though the matter of overtime be left as fixed by the Council.

Disagrees to the first amendment in clause 46, because this clause would be useless unless power were given to limit the hours of the shops in the second schedule.

Disagrees to the remaining amendments in clause 46 as consequential upon disagreements in clause 45.

Disagrees to the omission of clauses 47, 48, and 49, because in the interests of the public information should be supplied with regard to the class of labour employed in the manufacture of furniture, and the best known method of so doing is embodied in these clauses.

Disagrees to the insertion of the two new clauses to follow clause 49, because—

- (1.) The spirit of legislation in this colony is opposed to the recognition of distinctions in regard to religious bodies.
- (2.) The question of permitting Sunday work by non-Christian bodies of workmen should, if the principle is to be adopted, be dealt with in some comprehensive measure, and not by piece-meal legislation.
- (3.) It will greatly increase the cost of administration, inasmuch as the work of inspection must be carried out on seven days of the week.
- (4.) The clause unduly favours one class in exempting it from a rule which is applied to all other classes in the community.
- (5.) It opens up the way to unfair competition, by permitting a Jewish occupier to have two establishments, one worked by Gentiles and the other by Jews, thus keeping his business open every day of the week.
- (6.) By permitting Sunday work with closed doors the way is opened to sweating.
- (7.) No similar exemption is made in the legislation of the sister colonies.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 51, because it would relieve the employer from his proper share of responsibility, and cast it upon the employee.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.

And the Legislative Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the amendments upon the Council's amendments in the Bill.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

5. PUBLIC HEALTH BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 5th November, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Public Health Bill,—

Disagrees to the omission of clause 35, but proposes to amend it by omitting from line 55 the word "board" and inserting the word "Governor," and by omitting from line 56 the words "council of any municipality" and inserting the words "Board of Health,"—because, with the amendments now incorporated, it is hoped the objection to a clause properly finding a place in all complete measures of legislation for the public health will disappear.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill, but proposes to further amend clause 76 by inserting after the word "be," in line 46, the words "wholly defrayed from the said Consolidated "Revenue Fund."

And the Legislative Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the amendments upon the Council's amendments in the Bill.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th November, 1896.

6. LAND TAX VALUATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having appointed a Select Committee on "Land Tax Valuations and Assessments," and that Committee being desirous to examine Edward Mann Clark, Esquire, and John Perry, Esquire, Members of the Legislative Assembly, in reference thereto, requests that the Legislative Assembly will give leave to its said Members to attend and be examined by the said Committee on such day and days as shall be arranged between them and the said Committee.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 10th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

Mr. Lyne moved, That Edward Mann Clark, Esquire, and John Perry, Esquire, have leave to attend and give evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on "Land Tax Valuations and Assessments," if they think fit.

Debate ensued.

And it being Eight o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on the 23rd September, 1896.

7. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the day postponed until Thursday next:—
 (1.) Public Works Acts Further Amendment Bill; second reading.
 (2.) Judges Relatives Disqualification Bill; second reading.
 (3.) Orange Show Ground Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
8. DUPLICATE MAIN FROM PROSPECT TO POTTS' HILL:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a duplicate main from Prospect to Potts' Hill in connection with the Sydney Water Supply.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
9. SEWERAGE WORKS FOR THE TOWN OF PARRAMATTA:—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That the question of the expediency of constructing sewerage works for the town of Parramatta be again referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for consideration and report.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 69.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Storey,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millen,
Mr. Buvister,	Mr. Sec,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Lyne,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Bull,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Harris,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Reid,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Greene,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Gormly.
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Harvey,	Mr. Ball,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Wood,	

Noes, 5.

Mr. Hurley,
 Mr. Waddell,
 Mr. Griffith.

Tellers,

Mr. Haynes,
 Mr. Dacey.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

10. CITY OF SYDNEY MUNICIPAL LOAN BILL:—
 (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.
- (2.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, *passed*.
 Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to raise by debentures the sum of One hundred and fifty thousand pounds for the purposes of the City of Sydney Municipal Loan Act of 1893, and for purposes incidental to the above objects.*"
 Question put and passed.

Ordered,

10th November, 1896.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message :—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to raise by debentures the sum of One hundred and fifty thousand pounds for the purposes of the City of Sydney Municipal Loan Act of 1893, and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

11. PUBLIC ROADS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported a Point of Order from the Committee, and obtained leave to sit again so soon as the Point of Order had been decided by the House.

Point of Order:—The Chairman stated that a proposal having been made to amend clause 6, line 18, page 4, by inserting after the word "prescribed" the words "unless an agreement be arrived at between the Minister and the lessee," in order to qualify the Council's amendment, he ruled that the proposal was not in order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the amendment as proposed was quite in order.

On motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had disagreed to some, amended other, and agreed to remainder of the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Carruthers, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 5th November, 1896, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Public Roads Bill,—

Agrees to the first two amendments in clause 2.

Disagrees to the remaining amendments in clause 2,—because the interpretation of the word "road," as in the Bill originally, is necessary in order that the objects of the Bill may be carried out, and because under the limited definition involved in the Council's amendment clauses 6, 16, 18, and 19 would be inoperative, as they are intended largely to apply to roads designed in subdivisions but not yet public thoroughfares.

Agrees to the amendments in clause 4, and to those in clause 5, lines 5 to 15.

Disagrees to the omission of the word "Minister" in line 18, but proposes to insert after such word the words "after report by the," and agrees to the insertion of the words "Local Land Board."

Agrees to the amendments in clause 6, but proposes to further amend such clause by inserting after the word "prescribed" in line 9, in that clause, the words "unless an agreement be arrived at between the Minister and the lessee,"—in order to save the delay and the expense of reference to the Board when unnecessary.

Agrees to the amendment in clause 7, which omits subclause (II).

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 7 which omits subclause (III),—because this subclause is merely intended to apply to parts of roads which have been constructed, and have been in use by the public, but which have not been formally dedicated, and concerning which doubts may have arisen as to the limits or width of the road.

Agrees to the amendment in clause 8, line 33.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 8, line 35,—because the regulations should prescribe all the details to carry out the intentions of the clause, and the Council's amendment gives a power of reference to an owner of land of too general a character.

Agrees to the amendments in clauses 9 and 10, to the omission of clauses 16 and 17, and the insertion of a new clause to follow clause 17.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 18,—because the introduction of the word "proclaimed" defeats the object of the clause, inasmuch as "boundary roads" is a term used in the Crown Lands Acts with a specific meaning, and such roads are not proclaimed. The clause is intended to merely extend the privilege conferred by the Public Gates Act, so that when two proprietors concur in an application for a gate on a road separating their properties it may be entertained.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.

And the Legislative Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council in the amendments upon the Council's amendments in the Bill.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 11th November, 1896, a.m.*

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th November, 1896.

12. APPROPRIATION BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales certain sums to make good the supplies granted for the Service of the year from the 1st day of July, 1896, to the 30th day of June, 1897, inclusive of both dates, and for the period from the 1st day of July, 1895, to the 30th day of June, 1896, inclusive of both dates, and for previous years; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 10th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

13. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's Message of 5th November, in reference to the amendment in the Patents Law Amendment Bill, postponed until To-morrow.

14. LIQUOR TRAFFIC LOCAL OPTION BILL (No. 2):—The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to regulate and prohibit, in accordance with votes taken in certain areas, the sale and the keeping for sale of intoxicating liquors, and the granting and renewing of licenses for the sale of such liquors within those areas; to provide for compensation to owners and occupiers affected by the operation of this Act; to amend the law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors and the granting and renewing of licenses for the same; and for purposes of and incidental to the aforesaid objects,—

Point of Order:—Mr. Copeland submitted that this Order of the Day was to consider substantially the same resolution as was agreed to by this House on the 2nd September, 1896, and contravenes Standing Orders Nos. 187 and 188.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker sustained Mr. Copeland's objection, and stated that the Rules of this House and those of the House of Commons were exactly in accord as to this matter, and he must rule that this Order of the Day was the same in substance and argument as that referred to by Mr. Copeland.

Whereupon the Order of the Day dropped.

15. COOKS' RIVER IMPROVEMENTS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the reception of the resolution from the Committee of the Whole,—

Mr. Reid moved, That the resolution be now received.

Question put and passed.

The resolution was then read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered, That the Bill be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

16. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 31.

Noes, 17.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Caun,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Smailes,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Howarth,	
Mr. Ashton,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Millen.
Mr. Dacey,	

Mr. Chanter,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Schey.
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Lyne,	
Mr. McLaughlin,	
Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. Wood.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The House adjourned accordingly, at five minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 80.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 11 NOVEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Fees Received by Mr. Heydon from the Crown:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Crick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What amount has been paid to Mr. Heydon in connection with the Mercadool cases?
- (2.) What amount remains due in connection therewith?
- (3.) What is the total amount claimed by Mr. Heydon in connection with these cases?
- (4.) Was any agreement entered into as to his remuneration; if so, what was it?
- (5.) What was the total amount paid to Mr. Heydon in connection with what was known as the Dean case, including the amount paid in connection with the prosecution of Mr. Crick, a Member of this House?
- (6.) What amount has been paid to Mr. Heydon for his services as Acting Judge?
- (7.) Has he, since the prosecution of Mr. Crick, been offered the position of Acting Judge?
- (8.) Will he state any other payments made to Mr. Heydon from the Consolidated Revenue during the last three years?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) £1,107 14s. The number of days engaged before Local Land Board at Gunnedah and Sydney were fifty-two between the period 28th January and 1st June, 1896. The amount paid to Mr. Heydon covers his fees in connection with the case before the Local Land Board, which is completed so far as that body is concerned.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) Mr. Heydon appeared for the Crown before the Land Appeal Court during seventeen days in October, but no arrangement as to fees has yet been made.
 - (5.) This will be found in the return laid upon the Table of this House on 27th May of this year.
 - (6.) In 1892, two special fees, one of £262 10s., and another of £250.
 - (7.) This is a question which I scarcely think it proper to answer.
 - (8.) 1894, nil; 1895, £78 6s.; 1896, nil.
- (2.) Noxious Weeds:—*Mr. Schey*, for Mr. Hurley, asked the Secretary for Mines,—In view of the circumstance that nearly the whole of the travelling stock reserves, camping grounds, and stock routes in the Bathurst Land District are overrun with a noxious growth known as the sweetbriar, when does the Government intend taking action in eradicating the noxious weeds?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—This matter is in the hands of my honorable colleague the Secretary for Lands, who has prepared a Bill to deal with the question.

(3.) Working of the Government Diamond-drill near Orange:—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. Hurley, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Government diamond-drill has been at work since the month of February last on the company's property known as the Ballarat of New South Wales, near Orange?
- (2.) What is the weekly cost of this plant to the Government?
- (3.) Who pays the Government for the diamond-drill plant on the property referred to?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes; since January last.
 - (2.) About £15 13s.
 - (3.) This work was viewed as purely prospecting, and the company defray the cost of carriage of the plant to the site and all fuel and water used.
- (4.) Rabbit Bill—Noxious Weeds Bill:—*Mr. Schey*, for Mr. Hurley, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What has become of the Rabbit Bill, including rabbits and noxious weeds, that the Minister for Lands promised the Honorable Member for the Murray on the 11th June last?
 - (2.) Considering that in many districts there are noxious weeds and no rabbits, and in other districts there are rabbits and no noxious weeds, will the Government bring in two Bills, one Bill for rabbits and one Bill for noxious weeds?

Mr.

11th November, 1896.

Mr. Carruthers answered,—The Noxious Weeds Bill is ready for introduction, and the Rabbit Bill was introduced into Parliament this Session, but not proceeded with owing to the pressure of public business. It is probable that the Noxious Weeds Bill as drafted will be laid upon the Table of this House to-morrow, so that copies of it may be circulated through the country. In the recess I purpose inviting a conference of landholders to consider these Bills, so as to secure the benefit of the practical experience and knowledge of those on whose behalf the legislation is proposed.

- (5.) Visitors to the Sydney Hospital :—*Mr. Waddell*, for *Mr. Willis*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a notice was recently posted outside the Macquarie-street entrance to the Sydney Hospital stating that all visitors, except those having special orders from the Medical Superintendent, had to go round to the back gate in the Domain?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that this course was adopted owing to complaints having been made by residents in Macquarie-street about visitors congregating near the hospital?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Provision is now made, for the convenience of the visitors and the public, for the admission of ordinary visitors to the patients at the Domain entrance to the hospital.
- (2.) No; the arrangement was made solely in the interest of the hospital and for its better management.

- (6.) The Sydney Hospital :—*Mr. Waddell*, for *Mr. Willis*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the attention of the authorities of the Sydney Hospital been directed to the remarks made on the 3rd November last, in Committee of Supply, when the item “£24,142, Chief Secretary,” was under discussion in the Additional Estimates (pp. 4659–60, *Hansard*)?
- (2.) If not, will he direct their attention to them?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes; the attention of the directors has been drawn to the matter.

- (7.) Refunds under the Income Tax :—*Mr. Millen*, for *Mr. Ashton*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- When is it intended to refund to taxpayers excess amounts paid as income tax under assessments which subsequent to payment were either modified or cancelled?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that refund certificates are now in course of preparation.

- (8.) Retrenched Tide-waiters :—*Mr. Perry* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a number of tide-waiters were retrenched by the Public Service Board?
- (2.) Have any of the retrenched men been re-employed?
- (3.) Is it a fact that some of the retrenched tide-waiters had been in the service for upwards of nine years?
- (4.) Is it a fact that a man named Brombie and a lad named Anderson have been put on the tide-list in preference to re-employing those officers who were retrenched?
- (5.) How long were these two persons previously in the Government employ?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that,—

- (1.) The Public Service Board kept on the tide-list all persons formerly employed who were recommended by the Head of the Department as officers it was desirable to retain.
 - (2.) No; if, as above stated, it was considered desirable to employ them they would not have been retrenched.
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4.) Both Brombie and Anderson were employed permanently in the Customs until they were transferred to the Land and Income Tax Office. They were subsequently put on the Customs Tide List.
 - (5.) Brombie has been in the Service between two and three years; Anderson nine months.
- I will be glad to show the Honorable Member the papers in this case if he desires to see them.

- (9.) Telephone Tunnels constructed by Messrs. McCredie Brothers :—*Mr. Perry* asked the Post-master-General,—

- (1.) Were tenders called for designs for the telephone tunnels now being constructed under the supervision of Messrs. McCredie Brothers?
- (2.) Is he aware that a 5 per cent. commission, to be paid the Messrs. McCredie on the cost of this work, is out of all proportion to the value of the work done by this firm?
- (3.) Is the supervision of the work entrusted to the firm above mentioned or to *Mr. Donald*?
- (4.) Is it usual to employ architects to supervise the construction of a tunnel?

Mr. Cook answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) It is the usual rate of commission paid to architects and consulting engineers.
- (3.) The work is carried out under the supervision and direction of Messrs. McCredie, *Mr. Donald* being the clerk of works.
- (4.) I do not know, having never before had experience of such matters.

- (10.) Water Supply at Cumnock Public School :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- Is he aware that the water supply at the Public School at Cumnock, owing to the continued drought, is nearly exhausted; and will he see that steps are taken to have an underground tank constructed, in order to prevent a water-famine arising in future?

Mr. Garrard answered,—I am not aware. Inquiry will be made.

- (11.) Land Tax Assessment :—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The number of persons who have up to date paid the Land Tax Assessment?
- (2.) The number of acres the revenue so collected represents for unimproved capital value?
- (3.) So far as known from returns that have been sent in to the Commissioners of Taxation, what is the probable or approximate amount of revenue likely to be received from Land Tax Assessment?
- (4.) The amount of revenue from this source collected up to the present date?

Mr.

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Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) 902.
- (2.) This information cannot be supplied.
- (3.) Cannot be estimated at present.
- (4.) £3,070; but the earliest date at which there is any necessity for anyone to pay land tax is the 22nd December next. This date will be extended by another thirty days if the Bill I am about to introduce should be passed.

(12.) Refreshment-room at Molong Railway Station :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it intended to shortly close the refreshment-room at Molong Railway Station, or of removing the same to Orange; if so, for what reason?
- (2.) In the event of the refreshment-room at Molong being closed, is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners to compensate Mrs. Roberts (a widow) for the expense she has been put to in erecting the necessary buildings for carrying on the refreshment-room?
- (3.) In the interest of the travelling public, will the Railway Commissioners consider the necessity of retaining, as at present, the refreshment-room at Molong, seeing that the arrival of the train at Molong at 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. affords the public better time for obtaining refreshments than at Orange, where the train arrives at 5 a.m. and 8 p.m., Molong being 50 miles from Parkes and 70 miles from Forbes?
- (4.) Is it not a fact that refreshment-rooms exist at Bathurst, Blayney, and Wellington, on the Main Western Line, and will he continue the refreshment-room at Molong, as at present, it being the branch line to Parkes, Forbes, and Condobolin, and the most convenient place for the travelling public to obtain refreshments?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed no interference with the refreshment-room at Molong is proposed.

(13.) Parkes' Royal Commission on Public Works Department :—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What has been the total cost to date of the Commission on Public Works instituted at the request of Mr. Varney Parkes?
- (2.) How has the money been distributed, the names of the persons receiving same, and the respective amounts received?
- (3.) How does he propose to distribute the further sum of £500 recently voted?
- (4.) When is it proposed to close the inquiry?

Mr. Reid answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(14.) Unimproved Values of Freehold Lands on Mathoura, Moira, &c. :—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What unimproved value per acre has been placed upon the freehold lands held by the lessees of Mathoura, Moira, and Pericoota Stations in the Land District of Deniliquin?
- (2.) Has a higher value been placed upon selectors' land of a similar quality in the same districts; if so, what is the excess value?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The Commissioners are not at liberty to disclose the information.
- (2.) There is no reason to suppose that a higher value has been placed upon selectors' land than upon land of similar quality the property of other owners.

(15.) Levels of Cross-street, Double Bay :—Mr. Millen, for Mr. Knox, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the levels of Cross-street, Double Bay, have been altered by the contractor for the sewerage works in that locality?
- (2.) Was the consent of the Woollahra Municipal Council to such alterations asked for or obtained?
- (3.) By whose authority or direction were such alterations in the levels made?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) Yes, to suit the top of the inlet chamber of the ejector at the intersection of Cross and Pelham Streets, but the alteration is considered rather an improvement than otherwise.
- (2 and 3.) The Departmental Engineer conferred with the Council's Engineer, and the alteration was made as suggested by the Council's officer.

(16.) Refreshment-rooms on the Government Railways :—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How many refreshment-rooms are there on the Government railways of New South Wales?
- (2.) How many different lessees occupy the same?
- (3.) Will he give the names of each lessee, with the name of the room or rooms he leases, the term of lease, and the amount of rental paid in each case?
- (4.) Under what authority are the lessees given the right to sell fermented and spirituous liquors?
- (5.) What charge (if any) is made for the above privilege?
- (6.) What is the total cost, including value of land, repairs, improvements, and interest, of the various refreshment-rooms referred to above?
- (7.) Do the lessees of the several refreshment-rooms, or their servants, enjoy any privileges from the Railway Commissioners by way of rebate or reduction in carriage of goods and chattels or railway fares not given to the general public?
- (8.) Has any inspection ever been made in the public interest of these refreshment-rooms, or an analysis ever made of the food or liquors offered for sale at each place?
- (9.) When do the various leases expire?

Mr. Reid answered,—This should be moved for in the form of a return.

(17.)

11th November, 1896.

- (17.) Telegraph Poles delivered at Darling Harbour:—*Mr. F. Clarke*, for *Mr. T. R. Smith*, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Were tenders called by memoranda being sent to contractors on 7th September asking them to quote prices for telegraph poles to be delivered at Darling Harbour?
 - (2.) What were the length and size of such poles?
 - (3.) Who was the successful tenderer?
 - (4.) What price did he receive for 30-foot poles; also price for 36-foot poles?
 - (5.) Who paid the freights of above poles to Darling Harbour?
- Mr. Cook* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Ten 36-foot poles, and forty 30-foot poles, 12 inches in diameter at base and 7 inches at top.
 - (3.) *William Fleming*, *St. Mary's*.
 - (4.) 5s. for 30-foot poles, 6s. for 36-foot poles, as shown in *Gazette* notice, dated 17th September last.
 - (5.) Paid by contractor.
- (18.) Select Committee on Conditional Purchase by *George Vincent*:—*Mr. Travers Jones* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to oppose the Order of the Day in reference to the appointment of a Select Committee on Conditional Purchase made by *George Vincent* in the district of *Grundagai*?
 - (2.) Does he object to the Select Committee being appointed which deliberated on the case last Parliament and brought up their report?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—As I have referred to the Land Board to assist me in coming to a decision, I cannot make any promise until the information has been supplied.
- (19.) Amounts due to Assessors under the Land Tax Act:—*Mr. Travers Jones* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that 25 per cent. of the amount due to assessors under the Land Tax Act is retained by the Commissioners until after the time allowed for appeal against their assessments or valuations expires?
 - (2.) In the event of the time for payment of the tax being extended to 90 and 120 days, will the percentage retained be not paid until the extended time expires?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) The balance of the amount of the contract will be paid after thirty days have elapsed from the notice of assessment, provided that no appeal has been lodged; but, in the event of an appeal, it will not be paid until after the final sitting of the Courts of Review for hearing appeals under the Land Tax. This arrangement is in terms of the contracts entered into with the assessors.
- (20.) Wheat in the Berrigan District:—*Mr. Travers Jones* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is he aware that 30,000 bags of wheat (last season's crop) in the Berrigan district, have been bought up by *Adelaide* millers, and sent down the *Murray River* in barges to *Adelaide*?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that there is no import duty on produce crossing the Border into South Australia from New South Wales?
 - (3.) What is the freight by barges per bushel on wheat from *Tocumwal* to *Adelaide*?
 - (4.) What is the cost per bushel on wheat from *Berrigan* to *Sydney* by railway?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—I will endeavour to obtain the information for the Honorable Member.
- (21.) Free Agricultural Education at the Hawkesbury College:—*Mr. Travers Jones* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Would he be in favour of establishing a system of free agricultural education at the *Hawkesbury College*, and Government experimental farms, for the sons of farmers?
 - (2.) Would the services of the students be considered full compensation for any outlay in that direction?
- Mr. Sydney Smith* answered,—
- (1.) Six bursaries are offered yearly at the *Hawkesbury College* to the sons of farmers and others who are unable to pay the required fees. The Government will consider the question of extending the privilege to those in similar circumstances who may wish to undergo a course of instruction at one of the experimental farms.
 - (2.) No; the services rendered by students on the farms do not, as a rule, fully compensate for the cost of their maintenance and education.
- (22.) *Mr. W. B. Wilkinson*, of *Dubbo*:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has *Mr. W. B. Wilkinson*, of *Dubbo*, been employed by the Government to conduct any cases before the Land Boards at either *Dubbo*, *Warren*, or *Nyngan*, during the last twelve months?
 - (2.) If so, in what cases has he been employed?
 - (3.) What fees have been paid him by the Government?
- Mr. Carruthers* answered,—
- (1 and 2.) The records will show that these Questions have already been answered this Session, and I must refer the Honorable Member to them.
 - (3.) *Mr. Wilkinson* has not been paid any fees during the past twelve months.
- (23.) Exchange of Lands in the Wagga Wagga District:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Secretary for Lands,—Where applications have been made in the *Wagga Wagga Land Board District* to exchange private lands for Crown lands, will searching inquiries be made, so that superior Crown lands well situated for settlement, are not exchanged for inferior private lands?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Mr. Carruthers answered,—All lands, the subject of exchange proposals, are inspected and valued by the Departmental surveyors, the proposals are then carefully reviewed by the district surveyors, and are finally considered by the Local Land Board sitting in open court, before a recommendation is made to the Minister. This has been the procedure, and it will not be departed from.

(24.) Exchanges of Lands on Gobbogumbalin Holding:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) In making exchanges of Crown lands for private lands on Gobbogumbalin Holding, Land District of Wagga Wagga, did the Crown take private lands in exchange, and allow the improvements on such lands to remain the property of the lessee of the pastoral holding?

(2.) In the *Gazette* notice proclaiming the exchanged lands open for homestead selection, was an estimated value of improvements placed in connection with each lot?

(3.) Have a number of the applicants since received notice, from the pastoral lessee who exchanged the lands with the Crown, to pay sums for alleged improvements which are much in excess of the values notified in the *Gazette* notice?

(4.) Will steps be taken in future that, when lands are exchanged, the improvements be surrendered to the Crown with the lands?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) It is understood that in some instances the improvements have been appraised by the Local Land Board at a higher rate than the estimated value notified in the *Gazette*; the matter is, however, being further inquired into.

(4.) Whenever practicable the surrender of the improvements is insisted upon in exchanges of land.

(25.) Workmen at the Fitzroy Dock:—Mr. Wilks asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the practice for the last twenty years, in reference to workmen belonging to Fitzroy Dock (when on temporary service on stations outside Sydney), been to grant them allowances at the rate of 5s. per day and a saloon passage on the coastal steamers?

(2.) Is it a fact that recently these regulations have been altered?

(3.) If so, what is the nature of these new regulations?

(4.) By whose instructions have they been altered?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) Until recently the practice was to grant an allowance of 4s. per day to workmen absent from head-quarters, and those who received 10s. per day and over were allowed saloon passages; whilst workmen paid under 10s. per day were given steerage passages.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes, as follows:—"Mechanics, when absent from head-quarters on departmental work, for periods of one to twenty-one days, shall be allowed 4s. per day; this rate, however, only to apply "when a job shall last twenty-one days or under." "Mechanics shall be allowed steerage fare by "boat * * *"

(4.) By the Public Service Board, with the approval of the Governor.

(26.) Reappraisal of Leaseholds in the Western Division:—Mr. Millen asked the Secretary for Lands,—Having regard to the loss of time which has taken place in connection with reappraising leaseholds in the Western Division, and in gazetting same, will he be so good as to state what steps (if any) he proposes to take to secure to lessees the advantages of such reappraisal, to which they are equitably entitled, and for which they have paid a substantial sum?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—I have already had the matter under consideration, and will inform Mr. Millen when the matter has been decided.

(27.) The Southern Newspaper Train:—Mr. Schey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Mr. Schey's Question No. 8, of 10th instant, will he please say if the earlier running of the Southern newspaper train now being arranged for is for the purpose, or with a view, of securing that the Sydney free-trade dailies shall reach the southern districts of the Colony in advance of the Victorian protectionist papers?

Mr. Reid answered,—It is for general purposes of public convenience both in regard to goods traffic and newspapers.

(28.) Training-walls at Entrance to Clarence River:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. See, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What amount has been expended upon the south training-wall now being carried out at the mouth of the Clarence River?

(2.) What amount is still available for expenditure from the last vote taken for carrying out the aforesaid work?

(3.) Is it the intention of the Government to proceed with the north training-wall at an early date?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) £74,113 19s. 1d.

(2.) £26,110.

(3.) The north training-wall is in course of construction at the present time, and it is intended to proceed with the Goodwood Island training-wall at once.

(29.) Federation of the Australian Colonies:—Mr. Hurley, for Mr. Copland, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the action of the Queensland Government with reference to federation of the Australian Colonies, will he announce before closing the Session whether he will be prepared to proceed in the matter with the other Colonies during the forthcoming recess, irrespective of Queensland's action?

Mr. Reid answered,—I do not think it will be possible to do what the Honorable Member suggests. The matter is at present the subject of communication between the Colonies.

11th November, 1896.

(30.) Case of Inspector Battye:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What steps (if any) have been taken in Conditional Purchase Inspector Battye's case, who was adjudged guilty, of having received a bribe, by the late Commission which sat on the Nanimi dummyming case?

(2.) When are proceedings against Battye likely to be initiated?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—Mr. Battye was dismissed the Service, and is now an inmate of the Asylum for the Insane.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Department of Lands for the year 1895.

(2.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Vic. No. 18.

(3.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18, and the 57th section of the Act 58 Vic. No. 18.

(4.) Abstract of Crown Lands reserved from sale for the Preservation of Water Supply or other Public Purposes, in accordance with the 101st, 109th, and 112th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(5.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report respecting the application by Tindall and party for mineral leases at Hillman's Tank.

(2.) Return to an Order, made on 21st July, 1896,—“Application for Mining Lease at Wombat by Ballard, Honour, and party.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of West Narrabri.

(2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Broken Hill.

(3.) Report of the Moama Fire Brigades Board.

(4.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for quarter ended 30th September, 1896.

(5.) Return to an Order, made on 13th November, 1895,—“Death of Mary Herman.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. CLAIM OF MR. THEOPHILUS STEPHENS—CROWN LAW DEPARTMENT:—Mr. Howarth, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 20th October, 1896; together with Appendix.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. EVIDENCE BEFORE THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION BY MR. H. C. L. ANDERSON:—Mr. Lync, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 28th July, 1896.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Tamworth Water Supply Works Bill:—

*By Deputation from His Excellency.*FREDK. M. DARLEY,
*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 82.*

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Town of Tamworth, and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Act amending the same, to the said works,*”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

(2.) Public Service (Superannuation) Bill:—

*By Deputation from His Excellency.*FREDK. M. DARLEY,
*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 83.*

A Bill intituled “*An Act to apply certain provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895, relating to the Superannuation Fund, to every person in the employment of the State,*”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th November, 1896.

(3.) Berrigan to Finley Railway Bill:—

*By Deputation from His Excellency.*FREDK. M. DARLEY,
*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 84.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Berrigan to Finley; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such work shall not be commenced unless the private lands required for the construction of the line be contracted by instrument in writing to be conveyed by deed of gift, transfer, or exchange from the owners to the Crown, save and except in the case of town allotments; and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

(4.) Lawson's Estate Mortgage Enabling Bill:—

*By Deputation from His Excellency.*FREDK. M. DARLEY,
*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 85.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the trustees of a settlement made by Archibald Lawson to mortgage certain lands and hereditaments comprised in the said settlement, for the purpose of enabling the trustees to effect improvements thereon,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

(5.) Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act Amendment Bill:—

*By Deputation from His Excellency.*FREDK. M. DARLEY,
*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 86.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Electoral Law,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent, His Excellency has, in the name of Her Majesty, assented to the said Bill, and has this day transmitted it to the Legislative Council, to be numbered and forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th November, 1896.*

6. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—

- (1.) Net-fishing in Port Hacking Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday, 25th November.
- (2.) Fisheries Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday, 25th November.
- (3.) Lands for Closer Settlement Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill 'be' now read a second time,"—
Upon which Mr. Rose had moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be," and inserting the words "referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report."
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Millen, Mr. Watson, "Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, and the Mover,"—instead thereof;—until Wednesday, 25th November.
- (4.) Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
- (5.) Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
- (6.) Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
- (7.) Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
- (8.) Church Acts Repealing Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
- (9.) City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
- (10.) City and North Sydney Tunnel-Roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.

7. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Price brought up the Twenty-sixth Report from the Printing Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Lang Division, Mr. Hughes, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—
"The action of the Government in granting railway free passes to the Delegates attending the Bathurst Federal Convention."

And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

Mr. Hughes moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

11th November, 1896.

9. COLLISION BETWEEN THE "SOL" AND "ALATHEA" STEAMERS :—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 22nd September, 1896; together with Appendix. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
10. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council :—
- (1.) Loan Bill :—
- MR. SPEAKER,—
- The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
- Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th November, 1896.
- JOHN LACKEY,
President.
- (2.) Hay Irrigation (Amendment) Bill :—
- MR. SPEAKER,—
- The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Hay Irrigation Act, and to repeal the Hay Irrigation Act Amendment Act, 1895,*" returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
- Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th November, 1896.
- JOHN LACKEY,
President.
11. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Reid (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That in view of the early closing of the Session, and the necessity for dealing with the papers laid upon the Table, leave be given to the Printing Committee to sit during the sitting of the House. Question put and passed.
12. NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT :—Mr. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of erecting new Houses of Parliament for the Colony. Debate ensued. Question put. The House divided.

Ayes, 50.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Branker,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Russell Jones,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Asleek,	Mr. Lée,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Robert Jones,	Mr. Black,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Law,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. See,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. Mabony,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Bawister,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Davis,	Mr. Egan.
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Lyne,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Molesworth.

Noes, 32.

Mr. Chanter,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Chapman,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Waddell.
Mr. McLaughlin,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Crnickshank,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Perry,	
Mr. Millen,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Smalles,	
Mr. McFarlane,	
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Nelson,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Rose,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Watkins,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

13. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council :—
- (1.) Tamworth to Manilla Railway Bill :—
- MR. SPEAKER,—
- The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Tamworth to Manilla; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888 so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of Railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on certain public roads; to provide that such works shall not be commenced if the compensation to be paid for the land required to be resumed is estimated to exceed the sum of two thousand pounds, unless there has been paid to the Constructing Authority a sum equal to or greater than the amount estimated in excess of that sum; and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
- Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th November, 1896.
- JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th November, 1896.

(2.) Public Health Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated the 10th November, 1896, in reference to the Public Health Bill,—

Insists upon its amendment which omits clause 35,—

1. Because the closing of cemeteries is best effected by Act of Parliament, according to precedent, when every care for the public health can be combined by the Legislature with due consideration for private interests and feelings.

2. Because, by the Municipalities Act, all municipalities have full power to regulate and restrict the interment of the dead, within their boundaries, in such a manner as amply to protect the public health.

3. Because the clause provided simply for the absolute closing of cemeteries, when it should at least have contained provisions for protecting the owners of ground therein upon their complying with regulations proper to conserve the public health.

And agrees to the Assembly's further amendment in clause 76 of this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,

JOHN LACKEY,

Sydney, 11th November, 1896.

President.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.

14. INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION IN SYDNEY:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable to hold an International Exhibition in Sydney in the year 1899. Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER, 1896, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 43.

Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Smailes,	Mr. Morgan,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Black,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Law,	Mr. O'Reilly.
Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Fegan,	Tellers,
Mr. Griffith,	Mr. Ball,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. Bavister,	

Noes, 18.

Mr. Chanter,
Mr. See,
Mr. Lync,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Wood.
Tellers,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. AHeck.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

15. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

- (1.) Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to extend the time of payment of the Land Tax for the year 1896.

Question put and passed.

Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to extend the period for the payment of the Land Tax for the year 1896*,"—which was read a first time.

Mr. Reid moved, That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

- (2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

- (3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Reid, passed.

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to extend the period for the payment of the Land Tax for the year 1896*."

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to extend the period for the payment of the Land Tax for the year 1896*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 12th November, 1896, a.m.

16.

11th November, 1896.

16. COOK'S RIVER IMPROVEMENTS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Young moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. J. C. J. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Wheeler,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Bavister,	Mr. Davis,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Storey,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Ball,	Mr. Black,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Smailcs,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Dick.
Mr. Lonsdale,	Mr. Wilks,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Jessop,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Watson.

Tellers,

Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Miller.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Young, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Young, the report was adopted.

Mr. Young then moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to take their seats to the right and left of the Chair respectively, declared the determination of the House to be in the *affirmative*, as there were only four Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Waddell, Mr. Miller, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Watkins.

(2.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Young, *passed*.Mr. Young then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Bill be carried to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to sanction the construction of certain works for the improvement of Cook's River, near Tempe, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 12th November, 1896, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at one minute after Three o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.*J. P. ABBOTT.
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 81.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER, 1896.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment. Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Contracts for Telegraph Poles :—*Mr. Perry*, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Flemming received from 8s. to 16s. each for telegraph poles supplied between September, 1895, and September, 1896, when memoranda were only sent to Mr. Flemming; and is it a fact that Mr. Flemming supplied similar poles, when memoranda were sent to other contractors on 5th September last, at 5s. and 6s. each delivered at Darling Harbour?

(2.) Is from 8s. to 16s. each the usual price; and are similar poles delivered at 5s. and 6s. each?

(3.) If poles are to be delivered at Darling Harbour, is it usual for the Telegraph Department to pay freight to stations between Darling Harbour and the station at which they are required?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) Yes. Mr. Flemming was paid from 8s. to 16s. per pole, the price usually paid for poles supplied in small quantities under 100. On the 5th September his offer to supply ten 36-foot poles at 6s. each, and forty 30-foot poles at 5s., was accepted, as notified in *Gazette* notice of 17th September. 1,000 poles were also tendered for by Mr. Tobin in May last, and accepted at 6s. each (see *Gazette* notice 16th July).

(2.) Yes; this is the usual price where small lots have to be obtained for urgent work.

(3.) Yes; but the contractor pays freight to Darling Harbour when delivery is to be at that place.

(2.) Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde :—*Mr. Chapman*, for Mr. Hurley, asked the Secretary for Mines,—(1.) Has he seen the remarks in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 10th November, by the *Daily Telegraph's* mining reporter, on the Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde?

(2.) What is the object of the works?

(3.) Is it a fact that these works have already cost over £10,000 under the management of a supposed highly-qualified and highly-paid metallurgist, and so far have not given satisfaction?

(4.) Is it a fact that the metallurgist has gone far enough to prove that he is a failure; if so, will he allow the said metallurgist to further squander the taxpayers' £20,000, for which provision has been made in the Loan Estimates just passed the Legislative Assembly?

(5.) Has the Mines Department no officer who has the necessary practical qualifications to entitle him to advise the Minister on the Clyde blunders?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) To treat experimentally parcels of ores to determine the best method of extracting their valuable contents, with a view to advising miners as to the best plant to erect in connection with their mines.

(3.) It is not a fact that £10,000 has been spent on these works; the total cost to date, including cost of land, siding, buildings, machinery, &c., amounts to £4,053 12s. 11d. The machinery has only just been started, and in new works of the kind slight defects and disarrangements unavoidably take place, but these will be remedied in a day or two. It has already been stated that the full plant is not yet ready, but that is no reason why the Department should not utilise that already in position. Directions have been given for all possible expedition to be used in erecting the chlorination and cyanide plants.

(4.) The metallurgist has not proved a failure; he was selected by a Board in England, and appointed on the recommendation of a Board of Experts in the Colony, who examined his credentials, and I have no reason to doubt (from his testimonials and the work he has already performed in other parts of the world) his ability to carry out the work for which he was selected.

(5.) Certainly there are other officers in the Department who are competent to advise should it be necessary to seek information of the kind.

(3.)

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(3.) Employees at Ocean-street and North Shore Tram Engine-houses:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What number of hours per day do men work who are employed at the engine-house of the Ocean-street tram?
- (2.) What number of hours per day do men work who are employed at the engine-house of the North Shore tram?
- (3.) Why is a distinction (if any) made in regard to the number of hours worked at each of these places?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the men at the engine-house at the North Shore work about three-quarters of an hour longer daily than the men at the power-house, Ocean-street, the exigencies of the service requiring that this difference should exist—the service given to the public on the North Shore covering a longer period of time than in the city.

(4.) Exchanges of Land on Wooroolgen Run:—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Pyers, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) When will the exchanges on Wooroolgen Run be completed?
- (2.) When will the exchanged land be open for selection?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The case is now with the district surveyor for survey of the lands to be exchanged, and until survey has been completed the exchange cannot be effected and the land made available for settlement. The district surveyor will be instructed to expedite action as far as possible.

(5.) Letter-sorters at the General Post Office:—Mr. Carroll asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Why were not the lieu days given to the letter-sorters on their leave?
- (2.) Why is the Mail Branch brought on at 6 a.m., when the mails do not arrive at the General Post Office until 6:30 a.m.?
- (3.) Why are the clerks in the Mail Branch made work overtime without pay?
- (4.) Are the letter-sorters made work overtime for a sum approximating 6d. per hour?

Mr. Cook answered,—

(1.) Officials in the Mail Branch have to attend on holidays for about three hours. It has never been recognised as a general rule that they should get a day off in lieu of these holidays, but where possible this has been allowed in the case of those requesting leave for urgent reasons. The large staff of the Mail Branch would not permit of each official receiving a whole day in lieu of the three hours worked on a holiday, but the Superintendent intends to recommend, in view of the attendance of the Mail Branch staff on every holiday, that an extra week be added to the annual leave of absence.

(2.) Until recently the sorters were not in attendance when the mails arrived in the morning; the Southern and Western mails arrived at 6:15, and the sorters did not attend until 6:30. Through this late arrival all the correspondence for the suburbs could not be sent away by the first mail. It was therefore decided to require the sorters to attend at 6 a.m. to cope with the heavy morning mail work, and deal with the Northern and Illawarra mails received during the night, and thus do away with public inconvenience. Although the sorters come on duty half an hour earlier, they are only required to work seven hours a day.

(3.) It has been decided that clerks in the Mail Branch shall receive overtime as heretofore.

(4.) Letter-sorters are paid 7s. 8d. a month for working on an average less than eight hours in sorting English mails.

(6.) Travelling Stock Reserves:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Will he cause inquiries to be made regarding the truth of the statement subjoined, published by a reputable Sydney agricultural journal:—"From Goulburn to Hay, on the Murrumbidgee, and from there to the Victorian boundary, large reservations were made for travelling stock at distances of 9 miles apart. Many of these were fenced off years ago, and included as part of the squatters' and selectors' holding. Unless immediate measures are taken to define their area and positions it is more than probable that they will be claimed as freehold by virtue of undisputed possession held over twenty years"?

(2.) Is he aware that complaints of a similar character are freely made in several other important pastoral districts in New South Wales?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) No.

(7.) Road Contractors in the Uralla-Walcha Electorate:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Do not contracts entered into between road contractors and the Department provide for progress payments of 75 per cent.?

(2.) If so, what is the reason for the non-payment of the usual percentage to road contractors in the electorate of Uralla-Walcha?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) No. The general conditions provide that "payments may be made * * * unless the same shall become not payable by reason of anything contained in the conditions * * * in the proportion of 80 per cent. on the value of the work returned," and it is further "expressly declared that until a certificate has been given by the Engineer to the Minister that the work done by the contractor has been executed and completed to his satisfaction, the contractor shall have no right or claim in respect of any work done or materials provided, nor to the payments from time to time to be made * * *."

(2.) I am not aware that money properly due to road contractors in the Uralla-Walcha electorate has not been paid, but if the Honorable Member will give particulars of any case where this has occurred, I will have inquiries made.

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- (8.) Appointment of Land Valuer:—Mr. W. H. B. Piddington asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have the Government appointed a competent valuator to revise the assessments made by valutors upon country lands for purposes of the land tax?
 - (2.) If not, will such an appointment be made?
- Mr. Reid answered,—This is, as I said before, a matter to be carefully considered. I have not yet had time to deal with it, but will do so very soon.
- (9.) Postal Pillars:—Mr. Affleck asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware that several of the old postal pillars have been removed, and small new postal boxes put in their places?
 - (2.) Is he aware that on these new boxes there are places for showing the hours at which the boxes will be cleared?
 - (3.) Is he aware that those places are left blank, and, as the time is not now shown, will he cause the blanks to be filled, so that the public may know when the boxes will be emptied?
- Mr. Cook answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) Yes, in some instances, but for a few days only, until the holders for the indicators' time of clearance are received from the makers.
- (10.) The Agent-General:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it true that the Agent-General is now 78 years of age?
 - (2.) How long has he occupied the position of Agent-General?
 - (3.) Is it intended soon to relieve him of his arduous duties, and appoint a much younger man fresh from the Colony?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) The Agent-General is 76 years of age.
 - (2.) 16½ years.
 - (3.) The question of the retirement of the Agent-General from the position which he has so long and so honourably filled, to the great advantage of this country, has not yet reached a definite stage.
- (11.) Retiring Allowance of Constable Lyons:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. F. Clarke, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Constable Lyons, who was attacked by the Bridge-street burglars, has been retired from the Service as unfit for further police duty owing to injuries received in the affray?
 - (2.) Is it also a fact that the only allowance offered him from the Police Superannuation Fund is 3s. 6d. per day?
 - (3.) Is said fund not in a condition to pay him the 7s. per day as provided for by the Police Act in such cases?
 - (4.) If not, will he make provision to pay him the deficient 3s. 6d per day out of the Consolidated Revenue, the same as was done in Constable Alford's case?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Inspector-General of Police has furnished the following Answers:—
- (1 and 2.) Yes.
 - (3.) The Act does not provide for payment of full pay pensions in such cases. Police who have been crippled for life in encounters with bushrangers receive no higher pension than Lyons, who has simply a stiff elbow-joint. It is further proposed to find him light employment as a messenger.
 - (4.) The circumstances would not justify such a course.
- (12.) Overhead Bridge at Nyngan Railway Station:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When do the Railway Commissioners propose to have the overhead bridge at the railway station, Nyngan, constructed?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that an overhead bridge will be erected as soon as possible, similar works authorised prior to this work being first completed.
- (13.) Convictions under the Licensing Act:—Mr. McLean asked the Minister of Justice,—What was the number of convictions for drunkenness, including those for drunkenness with disorderly conduct, last year—(1) between the hours of 8 a.m. on Saturdays and 8 a.m. on Sundays; (2) between 8 a.m. on Sundays and 8 a.m. on Mondays?
- Mr. Gould answered,—The number of convictions for drunkenness only, and of other convictions in which drunkenness formed part of the charge (drunkenness with disorderly conduct), during 1895, was as follows:—(1) Between 8 a.m. on Saturdays and 8 a.m. on Sundays, 5,560; (2) between 8 a.m. on Sundays and 8 a.m. on Mondays, 1,196.
- (14.) Proposed Railway from Grogan to Cudal:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he yet arrived at any definite decision with regard to the construction of a branch line of railway from Grogan to Cudal; if so, when is the work likely to be proceeded with?
 - (2.) Is the report of the surveyor favourable or unfavourable to the construction of this line?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) The reports on this line are not favourable.
- (15.) Refreshment-rooms on the Government Railways:—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) How many refreshment-rooms are there on the Government Railways of New South Wales?
 - (2.) How many different lessees occupy the same?
 - (3.) Will he give the names of each lessee, with the name of the room or rooms he leases, the term of lease, and the amount of rental paid in each case?
 - (4.) Under what authority are the lessees given the right to sell fermented and spirituous liquors?
 - (5.) What charge (if any) is made for the above privilege?

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(6.) Do the lessees of the several refreshment-rooms, or their servants, enjoy any privileges from the Railway Commissioners by way of rebate or reduction in carriage of goods and chattels or railway fares not given to the general public?

(7.) Has any inspection ever been made in the public interest of these refreshment-rooms, or an analysis ever made of the food or liquors offered for sale at each place?

(8.) When do the various leases expire?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) I am informed the lessees of the railway refreshment-rooms, and rents paid, are as under—

Lessees.	Rooms.	Annual Rental.	Term of Lease.
		£ s. d.	
H. Smith	Redfern	600 0 0	1 year from 1 Jan., 1896.
"	Parramatta... ..	90 0 0	5 years from 1 Jan., 1896.
"	Penrith	144 0 0	" "
"	Mount Victoria	540 0 0	" "
"	Bathurst	225 0 0	" "
"	Blayney	135 0 0	" "
"	Wellington	414 0 0	" "
"	Nyngan	270 0 0	" "
"	Murrurundi	193 10 0	" "
"	Werris Creek	648 0 0	" "
"	Armidale	270 0 0	" "
"	Glen Innes... ..	5 0 0	" "
"	Wollongong	96 0 0	" "
W. Lawrence	Moss Vale	900 0 0	" "
H. G. Downton	Goulburn	301 10 0	" "
"	Gosford	368 8 0	" "
"	Newcastle	378 0 0	" "
Mrs. Thompson	Queanbeyan	36 0 0	" "
A. Boyd	Yass	192 0 0	" "
"	Harden	216 0 0	" "
Mrs. Connell	Cootamundra	26 0 0	" "
B. L. Davis	Junee	838 16 0	" "
H. McCutcheon	Albury	300 0 0	" "
H. B. Ballard	Singleton	204 0 0	" "

(4 and 5.) Authority is given under the provisions of the Licensing Act, the usual fee being paid.
 (6.) Ordinary rates are charged upon all commodities except fruit and ice. Fruit is carried by passenger train at goods rates, and a concession is allowed in respect to the carriage of ice. The conditions also provide for the issue of a pass to the lessees between their rooms and Sydney.

(7.) Yes.

(8.) This is answered by reply to Questions 1, 2, and 3.

(16.) Coal Mines Regulation Act:—Mr. Edden asked the Secretary for Mines,—Does his Department interpret section 6, clause 8, of the Coal Mines Bill, as classing all persons who are working underground as being miners?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—The interpretation put upon the clause is that only persons engaged in hewing coal are to be taken into consideration.

2. **BETTING AND GAMBLING SUPPRESSION:**—Mr. Garrard presented a Petition from W. Wools Rutledge, Superintendent Central Methodist Mission, on behalf of the congregation of citizens of Sydney worshipping at the Centenary Hall, York-street, Sydney, on the 8th instant, praying the House will be pleased to pass into law some measure which will prevent the spread of this evil of gambling, which is sapping the foundations of society, and destroying that principle of honest industry which is one of the fundamentals of a nation's stability.
 Petition received.

3. **PAPERS:**—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for Public School Purposes, at Mundowey and Wandella.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Certificate of the Public Service Board respecting the appointment of a Government Printer in succession to Charles Potter, Esquire, retired.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Correspondence from the Agent-General respecting shipment of oranges per s.s. "Ophir."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Certificate of Public Service Board respecting the appointment of an additional Solicitor to the Crown Solicitor's Office, with annexure.

(2.) Certificate of Public Service Board respecting the appointment of Legal Secretary to the Honorable the Attorney-General.

(3.) Return to an Address, adopted on 27th August, 1896,—“Case of Police v. William Barber, tried at Police Court, Oblev.”

(4.) Return to an Address, adopted on 3rd September, 1896,—“Prosecutions against the late M. S. Montegrusti.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table.—Report of the Registrar on the operation of Friendly Societies for the year 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table.—A Bill to consolidate the Laws relating to Crown Lands.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. LAND TAX VALUATIONS AND ASSESSMENTS:—Mr. Russell Jones presented a Petition from the Council of the Borough of Petersham, stating (1) that the values placed upon lands within the borough by the Taxation Commissioners are in very many cases excessive, and will require readjustment if the Act, under which the taxes are being levied, is to be equitably administered; (2) that in Petitioner's opinion it is very unjust to compel payment of the taxes imposed by the Commissioners prior to the hearing of appeals; (3) that every facility should be given for the hearing of appeals in the various centres of population; and praying the House will take such steps as in its wisdom may be deemed necessary to give effect to the requests in the Petition set forth.
Petition received.
5. CLAIM OF RICHARDSON, TURNER, & Co.:—Mr. Sleath, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 22nd October, 1896, A.M.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. THE ABATTOIRS:—Mr. Hawthorne, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 2nd June, 1896; together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Municipal Loans Further Validation Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to enable the Governor to validate certain Loans to Municipalities, and the securities, if any, therefor*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 12th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

MUNICIPAL LOANS FURTHER VALIDATION BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 12th November, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, Preamble, line 8. *After* "1867" *insert* "And whereas in some cases the moneys have been borrowed for and applied in the payment of liabilities for permanent improvements effected before such loans were authorised by the Governor in Council:"
- Page 2, clause 1, lines 7 and 8. *Omit* "(notwithstanding any such failure as aforesaid)"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 12. *After* "council" *insert* "and specified in such proclamation"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 15. *After* "with" *insert* "and as if the moneys had been properly borrowed and applied thereunder:"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 19. *After* "bonds" *insert* "but subject to such priority the validated securities shall rank in the order of their date of creation."
- Page 2, clause 1, line 20. *Omit* "action" *insert* "motion"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 21. *Omit* "versus" *insert* "(Limited) against"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 21. *Omit* "Lambton Municipality" *insert* "Municipal District of Lambton"
- Page 2, clause 1. At end of clause *add* "unless and until the costs of and incidental to the said motion and all proceedings thereon have been paid by the said bank. And in the case of the said municipal district all the debts thereof upon debentures and mortgages hereby validated shall rank and take priority in the order of date of their creation, and no order shall be made by any court entitling any mortgagee to receive the rates or any other revenue of the said municipal district so as to apply the same in payment or reduction of his debt in priority to the debt of any holder of a debenture of a date prior to his mortgage."

Page 2. *After* clause 1 *insert* the following new clause:—

Notwithstanding any informality or illegality with regard to the raising of a loan of ten thousand pounds to pay off a sum or sums of money amounting to ten thousand pounds borrowed by the municipality of Lismore, and secured by debentures falling due on or about the first day of October, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, such first-mentioned loan shall be a good and valid loan; and it shall be lawful for the said municipality to borrow a sum of ten thousand pounds upon the securities authorised by the Municipalities Act of 1867, the Municipal Gas Act of 1884, and the Municipal Gas Act Amendment Act of 1886, to pay off the same.

Validating loans
of the municipi-
pality of
Lismore.

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration at a later hour of the day.

(2.)

12th November, 1896.

(2.) City of Sydney Municipal Loan Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of Sydney to raise by debentures the sum of One hundred and fifty thousand pounds for the purposes of the City of Sydney Municipal Loan Act of 1893, and for purposes incidental to the above objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 12th November, 1896.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

8. PITT TOWN SETTLEMENT:—*Mr. Watson*, for the Chairman, *Mr. Hughes*, brought up the Progress Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 6th October, 1896; together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
9. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—On motion of *Mr. Affleck*, the Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill discharged.
Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.
10. ADJOURNMENT:—*Mr. Speaker* stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Bourke, *Mr. Millen*, a Notice, under the 49th Standing Order, that he desired to move the adjournment of the House, to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance, viz.—"The delay in the re-appraisal of Western Division leases under the Land Act of 1895."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Millen moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
11. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—*Mr. Speaker* reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
The Legislative Council agrees to the Free Conference requested by the Legislative Assembly in its Message, dated 27th October, 1896, on the subject of the Assembly's amendment upon the Council's amendment disagreed to by the Council and insisted on by the Assembly, and the Council's amendments disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council, in the Mining Laws Amendment Bill, and appoints that the same be held in the Back Library, at the hour of nine o'clock this evening, and that the Honorable George Henry Cox, the Honorable Andrew Garran, the Honorable Charles Gilbert Heydon, the Honorable John Hughes, the Honorable Henry Edward Kater, the Honorable Richard Edward O'Connor, the Honorable Sir Arthur Renwick, the Honorable Alexander Brown, the Honorable Henry Norman MacLaurin, and the Honorable Edmund Webb, be the Managers thereof on its behalf.
*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 12th November, 1896.*
12. GORE AND ARTARMON ESTATES, NORTH SHORE:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 11th August, 1896; together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
13. PUBLIC HEALTH BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Mr. Reid*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Council's Message of 11th November in reference to the amendments in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee does not insist upon its disagreement to the Council's amendment which omits clause 35.
On motion of *Mr. Reid*, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 11th November, 1896, in reference to the Public Health Bill,—
Does not insist upon its disagreement to the Council's amendment which omits clause 35.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 12th November, 1896.*
14. PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Mr. Gould*, *Mr. Speaker* left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Legislative Council's Message of 5th November in reference to the amendments in this Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again at a later hour of the day.
15. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL (*Free Conference*):—The time having arrived for holding the Free Conference with the Legislative Council, the Clerk, by direction of *Mr. Speaker*, called over the names of the Managers appointed on behalf of the Assembly, all of whom answered to their names. The Managers then proceeded to the Conference, attended by the Sergeant-at-Arms, the business of the House being suspended during their absence, in accordance with Standing Order No. 231.

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th November, 1896.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 1896, A.M.

The Managers having returned,—

Mr. Reid, on their behalf, reported that the Managers chosen by this House had met the Managers appointed by the Legislative Council, and having conferred together with reference to the Assembly's disagreements to certain amendments made by the Council in the Mining Laws Amendment Bill, they had agreed to the following report, which was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, viz. :—

The Managers appointed by the Legislative Assembly by resolution of 27th October, 1896, whereby a Free Conference with the Legislative Council was requested on the subject of the disagreements to certain of the Legislative Council's amendments in the Mining Laws Amendment Bill, report to this Honorable House that, having met the Managers appointed by the Legislative Council in its behalf, the following resolutions were agreed upon, viz. :—

1. That the Legislative Council does not insist upon its amendment inserting the following words in clause 2, lines 7 and 8 "the rate of twenty shillings per acre per annum" and agrees to the insertion in place thereof of the original words "a rate per acre per annum to be fixed by the Warden."

2. That the Legislative Council does not agree to the omission of the following words in clause 3, lines 52 and 53 "with the consent of the owner either at law or in equity."

3. That the Legislative Assembly agrees to the last proviso in clause 3, being a consequential amendment.

4. That the Legislative Assembly does not insist upon the omission of new clause 9, which it was mutually agreed to amend so as to read as follows :—

"Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, the owner or lessee of any private land in which the minerals have not been reserved to the Crown containing a deposit of any mineral other than coal, to which the said Act does not apply, may, without any authority to enter, or any lease under the said Act or this Act, mine for, win, and remove such mineral, notwithstanding that there may be associated with such mineral any mineral (hereinafter called 'associated mineral,') to which the said Act does apply, where the value of any associated mineral does not exceed fifty per centum of the value of the mineral in this section first mentioned. Provided that the owner aforesaid may grant to any person, by lease or otherwise, the right to mine for, win, and remove such mineral and any associated mineral as aforesaid from his private land, and no prospecting license shall be granted in respect of any land upon which such mining operations have been commenced. Provided further that the foregoing provisions shall extend to protect from prospecting license or authority only the lode *bonâ fide* worked on such land by the owner or lessee, and land covering the same to the width of two hundred and twenty yards along the course of the said lode.

"G. H. REID,

13th November, 1896, a.m.

"For the Managers appointed on behalf of the Assembly."

On motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the report of the Managers of the Free Conference appointed by the Assembly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the resolutions adopted by the Free Conference, and reported by the Managers appointed by the Legislative Assembly.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

16. LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to extend the period for the payment of the Land Tax for the year 1896*,"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 12th November, 1896.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

LAND AND INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 12th November, 1896.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 13. Omit "payment without fine" insert "proceedings for recovery"

Examined,—

ARCH. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendment.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered,

12th November, 1896.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to extend the period for the payment of the Land Tax for the year 1896.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.*

17. MINING LAWS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 27th October, 1896, in reference to the Mining Laws Amendment Bill,—

Does not insist upon its disagreement to the Assembly's amendment upon the Council's amendment in clause 2, which omits the words "the rate of twenty shillings per acre per annum," and inserts in lieu thereof the words "a rate per acre per annum to be fixed by the Warden."

Insists upon its amendment in clause 3, page 3, lines 52 and 53, which inserts the words "with the consent of the owner either at law or in equity."

Insists upon the retention of the last proviso in clause 3.

Insists upon the insertion of a new clause to follow clause 10, but proposes to amend the said clause so as to read as follows:—"Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, the owner or lessee of any private land in which the minerals have not been reserved to the Crown containing a deposit of any mineral other than coal to which the said Act does not apply, may, without any authority to enter, or any lease under the said Act or this Act, mine for, win, and remove such mineral, notwithstanding that there may be associated with such mineral any mineral (hereinafter called "associated mineral") to which the said Act does apply, where the value of any associated mineral does not exceed fifty per centum of the value of the mineral in this section first mentioned. Provided that the owner aforesaid may grant to any person by lease or otherwise the right to mine for, win, and remove such mineral and any associated mineral as aforesaid from his private land, and no prospecting license shall be granted in respect of any land upon which such mining operations have been commenced. Provided further that the foregoing provisions shall extend to protect from prospecting license or authority only the lode *bonâ fide* worked on such land by the owner or lessee, and land covering the same to the width of two hundred and twenty yards along the course of the said lode,"—in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896 a.m.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having taken into consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 13th November, 1896, a.m., and also the report of the Managers on behalf of the Assembly at the Free Conference with the Legislative Council, in reference to the Council's amendments in the Mining Laws Amendment Bill, disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council,—

Does not insist upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in clause 3. Agrees to the insertion of the new clause, as amended, to follow clause 10.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.*

18. COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other Coloured Races, to repeal section 15 of that Act, and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the beforementioned objects,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

COLOURED RACES RESTRICTION AND REGULATION BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 13th November, 1896, a.m.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, line 17. Omit "not exceeding at any one time the period of six months"

Page 2. After clause 3, insert the following new clause:—

"This Act shall not apply, nor shall the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 apply, to ministers of religion, missionaries, native teachers, tourists, merchants, men of science, or students, and the wives and families of such persons, and also their domestic servants who are bearers of certificates of identity, specifying their occupation and their object in coming into New South Wales, or of other similar documents issued by the Government whose subjects they

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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"they are. Every such certificate or other document shall be in the English language, and shall be examined and endorsed by a British Consul, or Chargé d' Affaires, or other accredited representative of the British Government, at the place where the same is issued, or at the port or place of departure. And neither of the abovementioned Acts shall prevent the landing of any of the officers or of the crew of any vessel during her stay in any port of New South Wales, subject to such regulations ensuring the departure of all such officers and members of the crew with their ship as the Governor in Council may prescribe."

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to apply and extend certain provisions of the Chinese Restriction and Regulation Act of 1888 to other Coloured Races, to repeal section 15 of that Act, and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the beforementioned objects.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.

19. NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the Navigation Acts, 1871-1881*"; and for other purposes in connection therewith,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, including amendments in the Title, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

NAVIGATION ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 13th November, 1896, a.m.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, Title, lines 1 and 2. Omit "reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines and to"

Page 1, Title, line 3. After "1881" omit remainder of Title.

Page 1, clause 1, line 6. After "1871" omit remainder of clause.

Pages 1 to 3, clauses 2 to 6. Omit clauses 2 to 6.

Pages 3 to 5, clauses 8 to 19. Omit clauses 8 to 19.

Pages 5 to 6, clauses 23 to 29. Omit clauses 23 to 29.

Pages 7 to 12, "Schedule." Omit "Schedule."

Examined,—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments, including the amendments in the Title.

On motion of Mr. Reid, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to reconstruct the Marine Board; to provide for the cutting of load-lines; and to amend the Navigation Acts, 1871-1881*"; and for other purposes in connection therewith,"—including the amendments in the Title.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.

12th November, 1896.

20. **FACTORIES AND SHOPS BILL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

Mr. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 10th November, 1896, in reference to the Factories and Shops Bill,—

Insists upon its amendment in the Title, because in the Council's opinion the clauses having reference to the stamping of furniture are improperly included in this Bill, and should be the subject of distinct legislation.

Insists upon the omission of clauses 7 and 8, because these clauses would cause hardship to the occupiers of factories without any corresponding benefit to the workers. The necessary performance of duty by inspectors would fulfil all the conditions required.

Insists upon the omission of subclause (iv) of clause 16, because the other provisions of the Bill distinctly aim at the prevention of sweating, and the publicity involved in the publication referred to in the subclause might not effect the intended purpose.

Disagrees to the Assembly's amendment in clause 31, which proposes to substitute the words "fifty pounds" for the words "forty shillings" inserted by the Council, but proposes in lieu thereof the words "ten pounds," as a reasonable penalty, and inasmuch as it is inflicted from day to day during the continuance of the offence; and further, because the offenders would be liable to heavy damages, and would in some cases be criminally liable if injuries were sustained owing to disobedience of an order under this clause.

Insists upon its amendments in clause 38,—(1) because the ages fixed by the Council are reasonable, and are in accordance with practice elsewhere; (2) because the Council is not satisfied of the necessity or practicability of a fixed minimum rate for overtime.

Insists upon its amendments in clause 45, lines 8, 9, and 31, for reasons above stated as regards amendments in clause 38.

Insists upon its amendments in clause 45, lines 14 to 27, because (a) the provision for a half-holiday requires more distinct legislation than is provided for in this Bill, and in the absence of further provision would be inoperative and impracticable, as has occurred elsewhere; (b) as regards overtime, continuous overtime to the extent possible under the Council's amendments may be necessary in certain trades under certain circumstances; (c) the keeping of the record imposes an unnecessary difficulty upon honest employers, and is not a sufficient check on dishonest ones.

Insists upon its amendments in clause 46, because the regulations provided for under the clause as amended by the Council may be made sufficient for all cases.

Insists upon the omission of clauses 47, 48, and 49, for reasons already stated with regard to the amendment in the Title.

Insists upon its amendment in clause 51, because the clause as originally passed does not benefit the employee, and prevents the employer from making even a beneficial provision for accident, even in cases where he would not be liable for damages.

Does not insist upon its other amendments disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's remaining amendments upon the Council's amendments in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney 13th November, 1896, A.M.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Ordered, that the Legislative Council's Message be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Council's Message.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee does not insist upon its disagreements to the amendments insisted upon by the Council, nor upon its amendment in clause 31, and agrees to the Council's last amendment in that clause.

On motion of Mr. Garrard, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

Mr. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 13th November, 1896, a.m., in reference to the Factories and Shops Bill,—

No longer insists upon its disagreements to the amendments insisted upon by the Council.

Does not insist upon its amendment in clause 31 inserting the words "fifty pounds," and agrees to the Council's amendment inserting the words "ten pounds" instead thereof.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.

21. **PAPERS**:—Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Report of the Public Service Board.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—Particulars respecting application by Joseph Dempsey for Mining Lease at Byng, under the Mining on Private Lands Act.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

22. **PATENTS LAW AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's Message of 5th November, in reference to the amendment in this Bill,—Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee does not insist upon its amendment disagreed to, and agrees to the amendment proposed by the Legislative Council.

Mr. Gould moved,—That the report be now adopted.

Question put.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12 November, 1896.

The House divided.

Ayes, 48.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Mackay,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Garrard,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Lyne,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Ionsdale,	Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Bull,	Mr. Morton,
Mr. Whiddou,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Schey,	Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Sec,	Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. McCourt,	Mr. O'Sullivan.
Mr. Copeland,	
Mr. E. M. Clark,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Griffith,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Chapman.

Noes, 28.

Mr. McElhone,	Mr. Hughes.
Mr. Watson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Miller.
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Black,	
Mr. Thomas,	
Mr. Haynes,	
Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Bavister,	
Mr. Harvey,	
Mr. Simeon Phillips,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. McLean,	
Mr. Ball,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Smailes,	
Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Millard,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 5th November, 1896, in reference to the Patents Law Amendment Bill,—

Does not insist on its amendment in clause 1, and agrees to the Council's amendment, adding a proviso at the end of the said clause.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1896, a.m.*

23. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Hayes brought up the Twenty-seventh Report from the Printing Committee.
24. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Twenty-two minutes before Seven o'clock, a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock:

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.



PROCLAMATION

NEW SOUTH WALES, } By His Excellency The Right Honourable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT
 to wit. }
 (L.S.) }
 By Deputation from } HAMPDEN, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South
 His Excellency: }
 FREDK. M. DARLEY, } Wales and its Dependencies.
 Lieutenant-Governor. }

WHEREAS by the Bill passed by the Governor and Legislative Council of New South Wales, in the seventeenth year of the reign of Her Majesty the Queen, intituled "An Act to confer a Constitution on New South Wales and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty," and assented to by Her Majesty, under the authority of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, passed in the Session of the eighteenth and nineteenth years of the said reign, intituled "An Act to enable Her Majesty to assent to a Bill as amended of the Legislature of New South Wales to confer a Constitution on New South Wales and to grant a Civil List to Her Majesty," it was amongst other things enacted that it should be lawful for the Governor of New South Wales to prorogue the Legislative Council and Assembly thereof from time to time: And whereas it is expedient to prorogue the said Council and Assembly: Now, therefore, I, HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, the Governor aforesaid, in pursuance of the power and authority so vested in me, do hereby prorogue the said Legislative Council and Assembly until Tuesday, the twenty-ninth day of December next, and the same stand so prorogued accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Sydney, this sixteenth day of November, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-six, and in the sixtieth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
 JAMES N. BRUNKER.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1896.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS UNDISPOSED OF AT THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

(PROROGUED), 16 NOVEMBER, 1896.)

QUESTION :—

1. MR. T. R. SMITH *to ask* THE COLONIAL TREASURER,—
- (1.) Are the Railway Commissioners aware that the long spans of the Nepean Bridge are becoming uneven between the stone piers?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the extra speed of the trains passing over the bridge causes great vibration and danger?
 - (3.) Will the Commissioners have an inspection made, and, if necessary, will they see that a pier be placed between each of the present stone piers in the river to strengthen the present structure?
 - (4.) What is the distance from the centre of piers to the centre which carries the iron bridge?

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—ORDERS OF THE DAY :—

1. Municipal Loans Further Validation Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's Amendments.
2. Supply; resumption of the Committee.
3. Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee.
4. Net-fishing in Port Hacking Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); to be further considered in Committee.
5. Fisheries Bill; second reading.
6. Lands for Closer Settlement Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill 'be' now read a second time,"—
Upon which Mr. Rose had moved, that the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be," and inserting the words "referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report."
" (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Millen, Mr. Watson, Mr. Lyne, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Mackay, and the Mover,"—instead thereof.
7. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (*Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Young, "That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of extending the railway from Redfern into the city of Sydney."
8. Rabbit Bill; second reading.
9. Truck Bill; second reading.
10. Police Regulation Act Amendment Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the "Police Regulation Act of 1862" in certain respects.
11. Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Bill (No. 2); consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act Extension Act of 1894; to amend the law relating to water supply, sewerage, and drainage; and for other purposes.
12. Municipalities Act Amendment Bill (No. 2); second reading.

GENERAL BUSINESS—NOTICES OF MOTIONS :—

1. MR. DACEY to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend sections 1 and 3 of the Net-fishing in Port Hacking Prohibition Act Amendment Act of 1894.
2. MR. DACEY to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the "Municipalities Act of 1867," and Acts amending the same; to enable municipalities to assess and rate upon the unimproved value of all ratable land; or upon the capital value of the fee simple of all ratable property; or, in accordance with the provisions of the Principal Act, to compel purchasers of ratable property to register their names with the Council.

3. **MR. SCHEY** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the social condition of the working classes of Sydney and suburbs, more especially in respect of the three following heads of inquiry:—(a) The number of mechanics and labourers respectively who may be wholly or partially out of employment, the period during which such want of employment has been experienced, and the alleged causes thereof; (b) the course of wages in different trades and callings during the period of the last two years, and the rates obtained at the present time; (c) the existence and extent of juvenile vagrancy in the public streets, classifying, as far as may be practicable, any such returns as to age, sex, parentage, education, and place of birth.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Garrard, Mr. Lyne, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Bavister, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Watson, Mr. Moore, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Watkins, and the Mover.
4. **MR. EDDEN** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the power of the Government to dispose of the 100 feet reservation of foreshore to navigable waters is against the interests of the State.
 (2.) That it is expedient that a Bill be introduced at an early date removing all power to dispose of any foreshore to navigable waters.
5. **MR. CHANTER** to move, That the report from the Select Committee on "Senior-Sergeant Vaughan's "Reduction and Removal from Narrandera," brought up on 29th October, 1896, be now adopted.
6. **MR. W. H. B. PIDDINGTON** to move, That the report from the Select Committee on "Collision "between the 'Sol' and 'Alathea' steamers," brought up on 11th November, 1896, be now adopted.
7. **MR. MORGAN** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers relating to the retirement of Mr. John Macharg from the Church and School Lands Branch of the Public Service.
8. **MR. NEILD** to move, That the report from the Select Committee on "Application of Mr. J. F. Connelly "to mine in the parish of Currajong," brought up on 18th December, 1895, be now adopted.
9. **MR. PRICE** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the working of the Post Office and Electric Telegraph Departments.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Cook, Mr. Moore, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Chapman, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Edden, Mr. Waddell, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Watkins, and the Mover.
10. **MR. SCHEY** to move,—
 (1.) That, in view of the terrible poverty and bitter distress at present and for some time past existing through the compulsory idleness of a large portion of our fellow citizens, the Government should at once appoint a Royal Commission for the purpose of making inquiry into and reporting upon the various methods in vogue among different nations of dealing with the unemployed, pauper, and tramp classes of their several communities, and thereafter to make recommendations to the Government as to the most suitable means in their opinion of alleviating the present deplorable distress among the industrial classes, and preventing its future recurrence.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
11. **MR. SCHEY** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the manufacture of iron in this country should be encouraged,—
 (1.) By the offer of a bonus of 10s. per ton for the first 100,000 tons of pig-iron or steel ingots manufactured in New South Wales from native ores with native fuel and flux.
 (2.) By the offer of a further bonus of 10s. per ton for the first 100,000 tons of merchant iron (plates, angles, bars, &c.) manufactured in New South Wales from locally-produced pig-iron or steel ingots as aforesaid.
 (3.) By the Government using such material as may be so produced in all Government works where iron or steel is required, and similarly specifying for use of same in all Government contracts, provided always that such materials or any of them shall be able to comply with such tests as are applied to similar materials when supplied for Government works.
12. **MR. SCHEY** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, a bonus of 10s. per ton should be offered for 200,000 tons of steel rails, with fastenings, on condition that the same be locally-manufactured from locally-found raw materials; such rails to be used upon the Government railways, or any extension thereof, and to be supplied at the rate of 40,000 tons per year for a period of five consecutive years.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
13. **MR. SCHEY** to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to abolish the present system under which the Attorney-General of New South Wales acts as a Grand Jury, and for other purposes connected therewith.
14. **MR. SCHEY** to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the appointment of Crown Prosecutors, and for other purposes connected therewith.
15. **MR. SCHEY** to move, That it be an instruction to the Standing Orders Committee to frame a Standing or Sessional Order for the purpose of enabling the House to give leave for the printing in *Hansard* of the written statement of a Member who may desire not to address the House orally, securing to him the right of speech if such leave is refused, and providing for the elimination of any matter from a written statement that is inadmissible in debate in the opinion of the Speaker.
16. **MR. SCHEY** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) In view of the widespread distress and destitution at present prevailing, it is not only expedient, but urgently necessary, that the Government should immediately take steps to mitigate the same.

(2.) The usual methods of indiscriminate and intermittent charity offer only a degrading kind of relief to the poor who suffer from enforced idleness. They give the necessaries of life instead of the means of earning them, and take away the self-reliance of those whom they try to help.

(3.) It is desirable that such methods of relief be amended, so that work shall be offered—agricultural and manufacturing—to all who are in need and are able to work, that they may provide themselves with the necessaries of life.

(4.) In order to carry out the foregoing resolutions the Government should at once establish a system of labour stations, farms, or homes, somewhat akin to the establishments of the Salvation Army in East London, those of the Common Council of Paris, and the labour colonies of Germany, such institutions being permanent as regards the State, but temporary as to the relief afforded to the individual.

(5.) In addition to furnishing temporary lodging, food, &c., such institutions should be so regulated as to train and educate such of those coming within their influence as may desire it, for the purposes of taking up land and becoming permanent settlers under any of the various forms of permanent village settlement.

(2.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.

17. MR. SCHEY to move, That the following resolution, passed by the Legislative Assembly on 15th September, 1896—"That the Select Committee now sitting on 'The Abattoirs' have leave to make "visits of inspection, from time to time, accompanied by a shorthand-writer, to Abattoirs within "the Colonies, for the purpose of holding inquiries and taking evidence, and that the Committee "have leave to sit during the sittings of the House, or any adjournment thereof, for the purpose "of making such visits of inspection"—be and the same is hereby rescinded.
18. MR. SCHEY to move, That it be an instruction to the Standing Orders Committee to frame a Standing or Sessional Order, for submission to this House hereafter, for the purpose of fixing time-limits to the speeches of Honorable Members, and making distinctions in fixing same between the various classes of debate which take place in this House.
19. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the Municipalities Act of 1867 is altogether inadequate for the present requirements of municipal government, and demands that a Local Government Bill should be passed without delay.
20. MR. EWING to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with 96²¹², Simmons' valuation.
21. MR. CHAPMAN to move,—
 - (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the retirement and subsequent resignation of Mr. M. J. Fitzpatrick from the Civil Service.
 - (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Levien, Mr. Bull, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Anderson, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Reymond, Mr. McLean, Mr. Rigg, Mr. Pyers, and the Mover.
22. MR. CHAPMAN to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Attorneys Costs Act, 11 Victoria No. 33.
23. MR. CHAPMAN to move, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable to impose a tax on all stock imported into New South Wales.
24. MR. CHANTER to move,—
 - (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, a line of railway from Jerilderie to Deniliquin should be constructed with the least possible delay.
 - (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
25. MR. CHANTER to move,—
 - (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the Deniliquin and Moama Railway should be purchased by the Government to form part of the State Railways.
 - (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
26. MR. SCHEY to move, That the Referendum Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
27. MR. T. R. SMITH to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 - (1.) The number of telegraph poles that have been supplied by Mr. Wm. Fleming, of St. Marys, each year from 1st January, 1891, to 1st October, 1896.
 - (2.) The length and size of each pole, and the price paid to Mr. Fleming for each pole.
 - (3.) Who paid freights of above poles, and the number sent from each railway station, and the station at which they were delivered.
 - (4.) For how many of the above poles tenders were called through the *Government Gazette*, or any other newspaper.
 - (5.) The number of these poles supplied on receipt of a memorandum, and the names of contractors who received memoranda asking them to supply any of the above poles; also the dates these memoranda were sent to Mr. Fleming and other contractors.
28. MR. CHAPMAN to move, That the action of the Colonial Treasurer in accepting a brief, and appearing in Court as counsel for Captain Alexander Henry, in a suit against the Marine Board (which is in the Colonial Treasurer's Department), is inconsistent with his Ministerial position, and opposed to the public interest.
29. MR. MOORE to move, That the report from the Select Committee on "Annual Leases of Owen "McCosker, Cope's Creek," brought up on 30th October, 1896, a.m., be now adopted.

30. MR. SCHEY to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Public Service Act of 1895, and to provide a special Court of Appeal; and to extend the provisions of the Public Service Act of 1895 to Crown Prosecutors and teachers of the Sydney Grammar School; and for other purposes.
31. MR. SCHEY to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) All persons temporarily employed in any Department of the State service during the two years ending 30th June, 1896, excluding those sent to relief works through the Labour Bureau, but including all gangers and inspectors on relief and other works.
 (2.) The dates of their appointments.
 (3.) Their respective rates of pay.
 (4.) Whether still employed or no.
 (5.) The reasons of their several appointments.
32. MR. SCHEY to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—(a) The names of the 693 persons retired from the Civil Service, as per return of appointments laid upon the Table on 21st instant; (b) the amounts paid or to be paid to each of such persons on retirement, distinguishing in each case between pensions and gratuities; (c) the amount of leave of absence and holidays granted to each of such persons at or just prior to retirement, showing in each case whether such leave was on quarter, half, or full pay, and the rate of salary in each case.
33. MR. MOORE to move, That, in the opinion of this House, greater care should be exercised to prevent the alienation of auriferous and other mineral lands.
34. MR. O'SULLIVAN to move, That the report from the Select Committee on "Old Age Pensions," brought up on 16th September, 1896, be now adopted.
35. MR. JESSEP to move, That the report from the Select Committee on "Claim of Captain Rossi," brought up on 1st October, 1896, be now adopted.
36. MR. THOMAS FITZPATRICK to move, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Ryan's Conditional Purchases in the Wagga Wagga Land District," brought up on 10th September, 1896, be now adopted.
37. MR. LONSDALE to move, That this House disapproves of the system adopted for assessing land values under the new Land Tax Act.
38. MR. ALEXANDER CAMPBELL to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of James and Patrick Guihen, of Broghers' Creek, Kangaroo Valley, for loss sustained and expenses incurred in establishing their title to certain land at Broghers' Creek, which title was disputed by the Crown.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. Chapman, Mr. Morton, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Law, Mr. O'Sullivan, and the Mover.
39. MR. HAYNES to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) The continued occurrence of disputes in the colliery trade is a serious national loss.
 (2.) That a preventive may be found in the securing for the workers a proprietorial interest in the mines.
 (3.) That as, during the periods of industrial trouble and stagnation of 1893-4-5, the Newcastle miners contributed from its funds, and by levy, a sum of £12,000 to support its dependent poor, and as, further, the various mining lodges of the district contributed many thousands of pounds in addition in the shape of sick, burial, and distress funds, thus saving the State heavy relief payments, this House should recommend a grant of not less than £30,000 from the State funds for the securing of proprietorial interests in the mines on behalf of the colliery workers, the investment to be placed with trustees representing the Miners' Association aforesaid under such conditions as to secure a perpetual increase thereof.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:—

1. Capital Punishment Abolition Bill, reported; resumption of the Debate, on the motion of Mr. Haynes, "That" the report be now adopted,—
 Upon which Mr. Copeland had moved, that the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That" and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of clauses 1 and 8,"—instead thereof.
2. Borough of Cudgegong Cattle Sale-yards Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
3. Public Works Acts Further Amendment Bill; second reading.
4. Judges Relatives Disqualification Bill; second reading.
5. Orange Show Ground Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
6. Legal Profession Amalgamation Bill; to be considered in Committee.
7. Barristers and Solicitors Fees Bill; second reading.
8. Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
9. Borough of Lithgow Validating Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
10. Church Acts Repealing Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
11. City and North Sydney Railway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
12. City and North Sydney Tunnel-Roadway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
13. Old Age Provision Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to stimulate and encourage thrift and self-help, with the view of making competent provision for old age; and for other purposes connected therewith.

14. International Patents and Trade Marks Arrangements Bill ; second reading.
15. Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill ; to be considered in Committee.
16. Sydney and North Sydney Bridge and Tramway Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading.
17. Liens on Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill ; second reading.
18. Law Practitioners Bill ; second reading.
19. Midwifery Nurses Bill ; second reading.
20. Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill ; second reading.
21. Narandera Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading.
22. Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill ; second reading.
23. Maitland Gaslight Act Amendment Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading.
24. Australian Legal Professions Federation Bill ; second reading.
25. Coal-mining Leases ; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the disastrous results of the competition now existing in the coal trade, no more coal-mining leases should be issued for a period of twenty-five years."
26. Distress for Rent Abolition Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to abolish distress for rent.
27. Law of Libel Amendment Bill ; second reading.
28. Conditional Purchases and Conditional Leases ; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Waddell,—

" (1.) 'That,' in view of the fact that a large number of conditional purchases and additional conditional purchases which have been made at 20s. per acre are not now and were not at the respective dates of selection worth the price named, this House is of opinion that legislation should be passed empowering the Minister for Lands to have careful valuations made in all such cases, and, where it is found that land so conditionally purchased is not worth the price set upon it, to reduce such price to the appraised value, and to make a corresponding reduction in the annual payment on such land in each instance where further instalments will have to be paid before the appraised value has been reached, providing that when the appraised value of any conditional purchase is less than the amount of principal actually paid no refund will be made, but the conditional purchaser shall be entitled to a deed in fee simple of the land.

" (2.) That such legislation should provide that no person shall be entitled to a reduction on a larger area than the maximum area allowed for conditional purchase in the division within which he had selected."

Upon which Mr. Moore had moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the first word "That," and inserting the words "in the opinion of this House, in the interests of bona fide settlement, legislation should be introduced to provide for the reappraisal of conditional purchases and conditional leases in certain cases"—instead thereof.
29. North Shore Bridge Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading.
30. Licensing Laws Amendment Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the licensing laws.
31. Primitive Methodist Church Property Bill (*Council Bill*) ; second reading.
32. Usury Limitation Bill ; to be further considered in Committee.
33. Homes Protection Bill ; to be further considered in Committee.
34. City Mutual Life Assurance Society's (Limited) Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading.
35. Australasian Federation ; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Griffith, "That, in the opinion of this House, the representatives to be elected by the people of New South Wales to the forthcoming Federal Convention can only meet on equal terms representatives from the other Colonies who are also elected direct by the people, and should under no circumstances sit in convention with the mere nominees of any Government."
36. Ministerial Portfolios Reduction Bill ; second reading.
37. Stallions and Racehorses Registration Bill ; second reading.
38. Supreme Court Appeals Practice Bill ; second reading.
39. Ministerial Election Bill ; second reading.
40. Registration of Firms Bill ; second reading.
41. Native Flora Protection Bill ; second reading.
42. Co-operative Colliery Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*) ; second reading.
43. Emu Gravel and Road-metal Company's Tramway Bill (*Council Bill*) ; second reading.
44. Amended Life Assurance Encouragement Bill ; to be further considered in Committee.
45. Bills of Sale Bill ; to be further considered in Committee.
46. Half-Holiday Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill for limiting the hours of work in factories and places of business.
47. Tick Pest ; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Pyers, "That, in the opinion of this House, the loss and disasters suffered by Queensland in consequence of the spread of the tick pest, and the imminent dangers of similar loss to New South Wales by the apprehended spread of the pest to this Colony, render it necessary, in the best interests of the people, to prohibit the importation of Queensland live-stock until the pest shall have been eradicated in the latter Colony."

48. Public Works Committee Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the constitution of a Committee of Public Works in the place of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works; and for the purposes incidental thereto.
49. Conditional Purchase made by George Vincent in the District of Gundagai; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Travers Jones,—
 “(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all the circumstances attending the conditional purchase made by one George Vincent, in the district of Gundagai, on the 22nd day of August, 1878, of 640 acres, parish of Mooney Mooney, county of Harden.
 “(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Pyers, Mr. F. Clarke, Mr. O’Sullivan, Mr. Anderson, and the Mover.
 “(3.) That the Report, Minutes of Proceedings, and Evidence of the Select Committee of Session 1894-5 be referred to such Committee.”
50. Municipalities Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
51. Newspapers and Inland Letters Postage Bill; resumption of the Debate, on the motion of Mr. Griffith, “That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to impose postage upon newspapers, and to reduce the postage on inland letters.”
52. Case of Staff-Sergeant W. Jifkins; resumption of the Debate, on the motion of Mr. Waddell, “That the Report from the Select Committee on ‘Case of Staff-Sergeant W. Jifkins,’ brought up on 26th August, 1896, be now adopted.”
53. Land Tax Valuations and Assessments; resumption of the Debate, on the motion of Mr. Lyne, “That Edward Mann Clark, Esquire, and John Perry, Esquire, have leave to attend and give evidence before the Select Committee of the Legislative Council on ‘Land Tax Valuations and Assessments,’ if they think fit.”
54. Boot and Clothing Factory for Government Supplies; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Copeland, “That this House will, on Tuesday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider an Address to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause provision to be made on the Estimates for 1896-7 to cover the cost of establishing a boot and clothing factory in which to make all boots and uniforms supplied by the Government.”
55. Eight Hours Bill; second reading.

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 16th November, 1896.

F. W. WEBB,
 Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

1896.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS IN DIVISIONS AND COUNTS-OUT
DURING THE SESSION OF 1896.

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committee.	Counts-out.	Total.
Abbott, The Hon. Sir Joseph Palmer, K.C.M.G. (<i>Speaker</i>)	.....	2	.....	2
Afleck, William, Esq.	61	110	1	172
Anderson, George, Esq.	54	130	2	186
Ashton, James, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	35	70	.....	105
Ball, Richard Thomas, Esq.	40	75	1	116
Barnes, John Frederick, Esq.	39	53	1	93
Bavister, Thomas, Esq.	61	99	.....	160
Black, George, Esq.	49	62	1	111
Brown, Herbert Harrington, Esq.	11	20	.....	31
Brown, Thomas, Esq.	20	42	1	63
Brunker, The Hon. James Nixon, Esq.	67	145	4	216
Bull, Charles, Esq.	32	37	.....	69
Campbell, Alexander, Esq.	34	79	.....	113
Campbell, Archibald, Esq.	30	72	1	103
Cann, John Henry, Esq.	52	118	.....	170
Carroll, James George, Esq. Resigned, 3 September, 1896. Re-elected, 22 September, 1896	37	50	.....	87
Carruthers, The Hon. Joseph Hector, Esq.	32	40	1	73
Chanter, John Moore, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	35	39	1	75
Chapman, Austin, Esq.	29	32	.....	61
Clark, Edward Mann, Esq.	25	32	.....	57
Clarke, Francis, Esq.	20	28	1	49
Clarke, Henry, Esq.	20	20	.....	40
Collins, Charles, Esq.	10	20	.....	30
Cook, The Hon. Joseph, Esq.	59	132	2	193
Copland, The Hon. Henry, Esq.	32	38	1	71
Cotton, Francis, Esq.	49	44	1	94
Crick, William Patrick, Esq.	16	12	.....	28
Cruickshank, George Alexander, Esq.	29	54	.....	83
Ducey, John Rowland, Esq.	49	121	3	173
Davis, Thomas Martin, Esq.	39	74	1	114
Dick, William Thomas, Esq.	41	63	2	106
Edden, Alfred, Esq.	49	115	2	166
Ewing, Thomas Thomson, Esq.	10	15	.....	25
Farnell, Frank, Esq.	11	14	.....	25
Fegan, John Lionel, Esq.	49	79	.....	128
Ferguson, William John, Esq.	57	100	1	158
FitzGerald, Robert George Dundas, Esq.	7	2	.....	9
Fitzpatrick, John Charles Lucas, Esq.	42	106	2	150
Fitzpatrick, Thomas, Esq.	35	47	.....	82
Garrard, The Hon. Jacob, Esq.	57	122	2	181
Gillies, John, Esq.	32	93	.....	125
Goodwin, Thomas Henry Hall, Esq.	13	10	.....	23
Gormly, James, Esq.	29	41	1	71
Gould, The Hon. Albert John, Esq.	53	122	.....	175
Graham, James, Esq., M.D.	22	40	.....	62
Greene, George Henry, Esq.	32	24	.....	56
Griffith, Arthur Hill, Esq.	40	75	.....	115
Harris, Matthew, Esq.	33	47	.....	80
Harvey, James Frederick, Esq.	25	36	.....	61
Hassall, Thomas Henry, Esq.	12	14	.....	26
Hawthorne, John Stuart, Esq.	70	144	2	216
Hayes, James, Esq.	22	32	.....	54
Haynes, John, Esq.	42	50	.....	92
Hogue, James Alexander, Esq.	48	41	1	90
Hollis, Leslie Thomas, Esq., M.B., Ch.M.	1	.....	.....	1
Howarth, George, Esq.	33	35	.....	68
Hughes, William Morris, Esq.	54	83	2	139
Hurley, William Fergus, Esq.	58	91	2	151
Jessop, Thomas	61	130	1	192
Jones, Llewellyn Charles Russell, Esq.	18	48	1	62
Jones, Robert, Esq.	.....	66	1	94

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committee.	Counts-out.	Total.
Jones, Travers, Esq.	33	41	1	75
Keily, Joseph Bede, Esq.	36	55	1	92
Knox, Adrian, Esq.	7	23	.....	30
Law, Sydney James, Esq.	54	119	.....	173
Lee, Charles Alfred, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	31	28	.....	59
Levien, Robert Henry, Esq.	16	4	.....	20
Lonsdale, Edmund, Esq.	50	112	1	163
Lyne, William John, Esq.	43	55	.....	98
Macdonald, Hugh, Esq.	46	88	1	135
Mackay, James Alexander Kenneth, Esq.	40	103	.....	143
Mahony, William Henry, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	42	63	.....	105
McCourt, William, Esq. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	46	.....	2	48
McElhone, John, Esq.	8	3	.....	11
McFarlane, John, Esq.	36	37	1	74
McGowen, James Sinclair Taylor, Esq.	54	127	1	182
McLaughlin, John, Esq.	35	50	2	87
McLean, Francis Edward, Esq.	49	71	.....	120
McMillan, William, Esq.	9	17	.....	26
Millard, William, Esq.	46	129	2	177
Millen, Edward Davis, Esq.	35	33	.....	68
Miller, Gustave Thomas Carlisle, Esq.	37	68	2	107
Molesworth, Edmund William, Esq.	36	77	.....	113
Moore, Samuel Wilkinson, Esq.	42	68	.....	110
Morgan, William, Esq.	34	50	1	85
Morton, Philip Henry, Esq.	17	42	.....	59
Neild, John Cash, Esq.	12	13	.....	25
Nelson, Arthur David, Esq.	40	52	1	93
Newman, Henry William, Esq.	31	40	.....	71
Nicholson, John Barnes, Esq.	42	104	.....	146
✓ O'Reilly, Dowell Phillip, Esq.	38	38	.....	76
O'Sullivan, Edward William, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	40	51	.....	91
Parkes, Varney, Esq.	8	6	.....	14
Perry, John, Esq.	50	82	.....	132
Phillips, Michael Thomas, Esq.	14	8	.....	22
Phillips, Simeon, Esq.	30	73	.....	103
Piddington, Albert Bathurst, Esq.	22	39	.....	61
Piddington, William Henry Burgess, Esq.	32	38	.....	70
Price, Richard Atkinson, Esq.	32	50	.....	82
Pyers, Robert, Esq.	49	59	.....	108
Reid, The Hon. George Houston, Esq.	63	118	.....	181
Reymond, Joseph Bernard, Esq.	12	8	.....	20
Rigg, William, Esq.	35	44	1	80
Rose, Thomas, Esq.	34	30	.....	64
Ross, Andrew, Esq., M.D.	40	45	1	86
Schey, William Francis, Esq.	36	72	1	109
See, John, Esq.	31	35	.....	66
Sleath, Richard, Esq.	16	34	.....	50
Smailes, George Wells, Esq.	47	89	.....	136
Smith, The Hon. Sydney, Esq.	51	92	.....	143
Smith, Thomas Richard, Esq.	4	3	.....	7
Storey, David, Esq.	31	54	.....	85
Thomas, Josiah, Esq.	55	122	1	178
Thomson, Dugald, Esq.	35	59	.....	94
Thomson, James, Esq.	22	56	.....	78
✓ Waddell, Thomas, Esq.	39	52	.....	91
✓ Watkins, David, Esq.	50	130	1	181
✓ Watson, John Christian, Esq.	54	120	3	177
Wheeler, Henry Charles, Esq.	50	113	2	165
Whiddon, Samuel Thomas, Esq.	40	69	.....	109
Wilks, William Henry, Esq.	61	94	.....	155
Willis, William Nicholas, Esq.	31	46	1	78
✓ Wood, William Herbert, Esq.	44	87	.....	131
Wright, Francis Augustus, Esq.	31	33	.....	64
Young, The Hon. James Henry, Esq.	66	141	1	208

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 13 November, 1896, a.m.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

1896.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
DURING THE SESSION OF 1896.

1. New Writs issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
2. Select Committees:—										
On Public Matters	...	...	...	...	20					
On Private Bills	...	...	...	...	11					
					31					31
3. Standing Committees	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
4. Public Bills:—										
Originated in the Assembly—										
Received the Royal Assent	...	...	...	...	37					
Reserved	...	...	...	...	1					
Otherwise disposed of	...	...	...	...	63					
					101					
Brought from the Council—										
Received the Royal Assent	...	...	...	...	4					
Otherwise disposed of	...	...	...	...	4					
					8					109
5. Private Bills:—										
Originated in the Assembly—										
Received the Royal Assent	...	...	...	...	3					
Otherwise disposed of	...	...	...	...	10					
					13					
Brought from the Council—										
Received the Royal Assent	...	...	...	...	6					
Otherwise disposed of	...	...	...	...	2					
					2					15
6. Petitions received:—										
Printed	...	...	...	...	491					
Not Printed	...	...	...	...	14					
					505					505
7. Divisions:—										
In the House	...	...	...	...	72					
In Committee of the Whole	...	...	...	...	152					
					224					224
8. Sittings (for details see paragraph 15, page 2):—										
Days of Meeting	...	...	...	...	...					81
Hours of Sitting	...	...	...	...	...				749 h. 23 m.	
Hours of Sitting after Midnight	...	...	...	...	...				137 h. 11 m.	
Daily Average	...	...	...	...	...				9 h. 15 m.	
Adjourned for want of a Quorum—										
Before commencement of Business	...	...	...	...	0					
After commencement of Business	...	...	...	...	4					
					4					4
9. Votes and Proceedings	...	...	...	...	...					81
Entries in Votes and Proceedings—										
Of Business done	...	...	...	...	1,190					
Of Questions answered	...	...	...	...	1,050					
					2,240					2,240
Daily Average	...	...	...	...	...					27
Entries in Notice Paper—										
Of Questions	...	...	...	...	1,369					
Of Notices of Motion	...	...	...	...	6,732					
Of Orders of the Day	...	...	...	...	4,235					
Of Contingent Notices	...	...	...	...	0					
					12,336					12,336
Daily Average	...	...	...	...	...					152
10. Contingent Notice Papers	...	...	...	...	...					18
11. Orders for Papers	...	...	...	...	...					45
12. Addresses for Papers	...	...	...	...	...					7
13. Other Addresses	...	...	...	...	...					2
14. Papers laid upon the Table:—										
By Message	...	...	...	...	50					
By Command	...	...	...	...	369					
In Return to Orders	...	...	...	...	43					
In Return to Addresses	...	...	...	...	6					
Reports from Standing and Select Committees	...	...	...	...	25					
					493					493
Ordered to be Printed	...	...	...	...	186					
Not ordered to be Printed	...	...	...	...	307					
					493					493

15. Sittings of the House:—

Return of the number of days on which the House sat in the Session of 1896, stating, for each day, the date of the month and the day of the week, the hour of the meeting and the hour of adjournment, and the total number of hours occupied in the sittings of the House, and the average time; and showing the total number of hours on which the House sat each day, and the number of hours after midnight, and the number of entries in each day's Votes and Proceedings.

No.	Month.	Day.	House Met.	House Adjourned.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Mid-night.	Entries in Votes.
1	12 May	Tuesday	12 noon	12.22 o'clock p.m.	h. m. 0 22	h. m. ...	8
2	13	Wednesday	4 o'clock p.m.	10.50	6 50	...	8
3	14	Thursday	4	2.7 a.m.	10 7	2 7	22
4	19	Tuesday	4	11 p.m.	7 0	...	30
5	20	Wednesday	4	11.6	7 6	...	22
6	21	Thursday	4	12.47	8 47	0 47	22
7	26	Tuesday	4	11.35	7 35	...	10
8	27	Wednesday	4	11.27	7 27	...	16
9	28	Thursday	4	1.7	9 7	1 7	12
10	2 June	Tuesday	4	11.14	7 14	...	14
11	3	Wednesday	4	12.44	8 44	0 44	11
12	4	Thursday	4	2.8	10 8	2 8	10
13	9	Tuesday	4	11.3	7 3	...	9
14	10	Wednesday	4	11.30	7 30	...	9
15	11	Thursday	4	3.5	11 5	3 5	15
16	16	Tuesday	4	11.33	7 33	...	7
17	17	Wednesday	4	1.9	9 9	1 9	12
18	18	Thursday	4	5.51	1 51	...	6
19	23	Tuesday	4	1.4	9 4	1 4	5
20	24	Wednesday	4	3	11 0	3 0	10
21	25	Thursday	4	12.56	8 56	0 56	18
22	30	Tuesday	4	11.5	7 5	...	16
23	1 July	Wednesday	4	1.25	9 25	1 25	12
24	2	Thursday	4	11.9	7 9	...	13
25	7	Tuesday	4	12 midnight	8 0	...	13
26	8	Wednesday	4	12.40 o'clock	8 40	0 40	12
27	9	Thursday	4	10.58	6 58	...	14
28	14	Tuesday	4	10.53	6 53	...	15
29	15	Wednesday	4	11.42	7 42	...	8
30	16	Thursday	4	12.14	8 14	0 14	14
31	21	Tuesday	4	11.4	7 4	...	14
32	22	Wednesday	4	11.6	7 6	...	15
33	23	Thursday	4	2.13	10 13	2 13	12
34	28	Tuesday	4	11.9	7 9	...	11
35	29	Wednesday	4	1.42	9 42	1 42	17
36	30	Thursday	4	11.32	10 32	11 32	11
37	4 August	Tuesday	4	9.50	5 50	...	19
38	5	Wednesday	4	1	9 0	1 0	14
39	6	Thursday	4	12.41	8 41	0 41	12
40	11	Tuesday	4	12.44	8 44	0 44	15
41	12	Wednesday	4	1.52	9 52	1 52	15
42	13	Thursday	4	7.2	15 2	7 2	14
43	18	Tuesday	4	11.17	7 17	...	9
44	19	Wednesday	4	2.25	10 25	2 25	12
45	20	Thursday	4	12.36	8 36	0 36	12
46	25	Tuesday	4	2.4	10 4	2 4	12
47	26	Wednesday	4	2.21	10 21	2 21	19
48	27	Thursday	4	2.19	10 19	2 19	18
49	1 September	Tuesday	4	11.12	7 12	...	11
50	2	Wednesday	4	2.51	10 51	2 51	18
51	3	Thursday	4	2.29	10 29	2 29	17
52	8	Tuesday	4	10.46	6 46	...	14
53	9	Wednesday	4	3.45	11 45	3 45	11
54	10	Thursday	4	11.35	19 35	11 35	11
55	15	Tuesday	4	7.2	3 2	...	12
56	16	Wednesday	4	1.10	9 10	1 10	16
57	17	Thursday	4	9.39	17 39	9 39	27
58	22	Tuesday	4	9.50	5 50	...	21
59	23	Wednesday	4	1.46	9 46	1 46	24
60	24	Thursday	4	1	9 0	1 0	15
61	29	Tuesday	4	1.30	9 30	1 30	16
62	30	Wednesday	4	11.14	7 14	...	17
63	1 October	Thursday	4	3.13	11 13	3 13	22
64	6	Tuesday	4	1.17	9 17	1 17	17
65	7	Wednesday	4	12.39	8 39	0 39	10
66	8	Thursday	4	2.28	10 28	2 28	14
67	13	Tuesday	4	12.34	8 34	0 34	17
68	14	Wednesday	4	11.57	7 57	...	12
69	15	Thursday	4	3.39	11 39	3 39	15
70	20	Tuesday	4	11.19	7 19	...	21
71	21	Wednesday	4	1.55	9 55	1 55	18
72	22	Thursday	4	2.30	10 30	2 30	13
73	27	Tuesday	4	10.55	6 55	...	28
74	28	Wednesday	4	11.11	7 11	...	12
75	29	Thursday	4	2.15	10 15	2 15	13
76	3 November	Tuesday	4	9.40	17 40	9 40	19
77	4	Wednesday	4	1	9 0	1 0	15
78	5	Thursday	4	3.45	11 45	3 45	14
79	10	Tuesday	4	3.55	11 55	3 55	16
80	11	Wednesday	4	3.1	11 1	3 1	16
81	12	Thursday	4	6.38	14 38	6 38	24
Total					749 23	187 11	1,190

Average length of sitting, daily, 9 hours 15 $\frac{1}{4}$ minutes.

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 16th November, 1896.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.