

Votes

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 12 JUNE, 1900.

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 June, 1900.

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 WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP,
" to wit. } Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael
" (L.S.) } and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony
" BEAUCHAMP, }
" Governor. of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

" WHEREAS the Parliament of New South Wales has been called together for the despatch of
" business on Tuesday, the fifth day of June instant; and whereas it is deemed expedient for
" divers urgent and weighty reasons that it should be further prorogued: Now, therefore, I,
" WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, in pursuance of the power and authority in me vested as Governor
" of the said Colony, do hereby further prorogue the said Parliament until Tuesday, the twelfth
" day of June instant: 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 June instant, 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 June, in
" the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred, and in the sixty-third year of Her
" Majesty's Reign.

" By His Excellency's Command,

" JOHN SEE.

" GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!"

2. WRITS OF ELECTION:—Mr. Speaker informed the House,—

(1.) 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, who had resigned their seats, viz.:—

Edmund Barton, Esquire, Q.C., Member for The Hastings and The Macleay.
The Honorable Henry Copeland, Member for Sydney—Phillip Division.
William Henry Burgess Fiddington, Esquire, Member for Uralla-Walcha.
Varney Parkes, Esquire, Member for Canterbury.
The Honorable Francis Bathurst Suttor, Member for Bathurst.

(2.) That three of such 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:—

Francis Clarke, Esquire,—for The Hastings and The Macleay.
Daniel O'Connor, Esquire,—for Sydney—Phillip Division.
The Honorable Sydney Smith,—for Canterbury.

12th June, 1900.

3. MEMBERS SWORN :—The undermentioned gentlemen having each taken and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance, and signed the Roll of the House, took their Seats as Members for the Electoral Districts respectively named :—

Daniel O'Connor, Esquire,—for Sydney—Phillip Division.
Francis Clarke, Esquire,—for The Hastings and The Macleay.
The Honorable Sydney Smith,—for Canterbury.

4. ASSENT TO BILLS :—Mr. Speaker reported that during the recess he had received the following Messages from His Excellency the Governor :—

- (1.) Appropriation Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 1.

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, 1893, to the 30th day of June, 1900, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the Vote Advance to Treasurers, 1898-9, for supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1898, to the 30th day of June, 1899, inclusive of both dates; 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, 22nd December, 1899.

- (2.) Loan Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 2.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony, 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, 22nd December, 1899.

- (3.) Library and Art Gallery Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 3.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to incorporate the trustees of the Public Library and National Art Gallery respectively; to provide for the endowment and management of those institutions; to exempt from stamp duty donations and bequests to those institutions; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the above-mentioned 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, 29th December, 1899.

- (4.) Crown Lands (Amendment) Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 4.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the law relating to the sale and leasing, disposal, and management of Crown Lands; to provide for the determination of the capital value of land under conditional purchase, conditional lease, homestead selection, or settlement lease, and for regulating payments in respect of such land on the basis of such value; and for the reappraisalment of the rents of conditional leases; to provide for the enclosure of roads and water-courses; and in certain respects to amend the Crown Lands Acts,*"—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, 29th December, 1899.

- (5.) Tonnage Rates (Amendment) Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 5.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the law relating to Wharfage and Tonnage Rates,*"—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, 29th December, 1899.

(6.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th June, 1900.

(6.) Public Service (Superannuation) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 6.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Civil Service Act of 1884 and the Public Service Act of 1895, and any Act amending the same, with regard to certain superannuation allowances and gratuities,*"—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, 29th December, 1899.

(7.) Companies (Death Duties) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 7.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the registration of the offices of certain Companies, and to impose duties on the death of shareholders of those 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, 29th December, 1899.

(8.) Dubbo to Coonamble Railway Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 8.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Dubbo to Coonamble, provided that before commencing the said work certain land required is contracted to be conveyed to the Crown, or an indemnity is given for the cost of resuming the same; 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, 22nd December, 1899.

(9.) Land Tax (Collection) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 9.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for the collection of the Land Tax for 1899,*"—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 December, 1899.

(10.) Early Closing Bill (No. 2):—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 10.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act for the early closing of shops and to regulate the hours of employment in shops,*"—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 December, 1899.

(11.) Goulburn to Crookwell Railway Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 11.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Goulburn to Crookwell, provided that before commencing the said work certain land required is contracted to be conveyed to the Crown; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1888, so far as they relate to the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line of railway; to authorise the construction of the said line on 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, 22nd December, 1899.

(12.)

12th June, 1900.

(12.) Treasury Indemnity Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 12.

Governor.

A Bill, "An Act to indemnify the Colonial Treasurer, the Officers of the Treasury, and other persons, in respect of certain unauthorised withdrawals and payments from the Public Accounts of the Colonial Treasurer in the Banks keeping such Accounts,"—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 December, 1899.

(13.) Loan Account (Transfer) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 13.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to authorise the loan of money from the Trust Fund and the Consolidated Revenue Fund and the Bank keeping the Government account to the General Loan Account, and to provide for the application and repayment of such money; to amend section seventeen of the Audit Act, 1898; to indemnify the Treasurer and other officers and persons in respect of certain drawings and payments from the General Loan Account made without the warrant of the Governor; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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, 22nd December, 1899.

(14.) Treasury Bills Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 14.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to authorise the issue of Treasury Bills,"—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 December, 1899.

(15.) Probate Duties (Amendment) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 15.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to impose certain probate and other duties, and to amend the Stamp Duties Act, 1898,"—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 December, 1899.

(16.) Gold and Mineral Dredging Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 16.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to regulate mining for gold and other minerals by dredging, pumping, sluicing, or other method, in the beds of rivers and lakes, under tidal or standing waters, under the ocean contiguous to the coast line, and in, on, and under any land contiguous to the aforesaid places; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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, 22nd December, 1899.

(17.) Wellington Presbyterian Church Lands Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 17.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to cancel the appropriation of certain land in the town of Wellington, to divest the Minister of Public Instruction of his estate in the said land, to dedicate the said land as a site for a Presbyterian Church and Manse, and to authorise certain dealings with the same,"—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 December, 1899.

(18.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th June, 1900.

(18.) Companies Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 18.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act for consolidating enactments relating to 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, 22nd December, 1899.

(19.) Infants Custody and Settlements Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 19.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the law relating to the custody of infants and the settlement of the property of infants*,"—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 December, 1899.

(20.) Justices (Fines) Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 20.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for the payment and recovery of moneys adjudged by Justices of the Peace to be paid, and with regard to imprisonment awarded by such Justices*,"—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, 29th December, 1899.

(21.) Campbelltown Municipal Enabling Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 21.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make provision for the election of a Mayor of the Municipality of Campbelltown*,"—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, 22d December, 1899.

(22.) Bright's Estate Leasing Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 22.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable William John Wiseman and William Robson, or other the trustees or trustee for the time being of the will of the late John Bright, to grant building and improving leases of certain lands devised by the said will, and to make roads, streets, and ways over and upon the said lands; 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 forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 29th December, 1899.

(23.) Capertee Tramway Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 23.

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 Ginduntherie, 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, 29th December, 1899.

(24.)

12th June, 1900.

(24.) Fisher Trusts Declaratory Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 24.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to declare the trusts of certain property passing under the will of William Charles Wentworth, late of Vacluse, near Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales, Esquire, deceased, in trust for his daughter Thomasine Cox Fisher, her husband and 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 forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,
Sydney, 29th December, 1899.

5. NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Speaker acquainted the House that during the recess he had received the following Message from His Excellency the Governor:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 25.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to abolish the Marine Board; to constitute a Department of Navigation and Courts of Marine Inquiry, and to define the powers and duties of such Department and Courts; to amend the Navigation Acts of 1871-1896 in other respects; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly, was presented to the Governor for the Royal Assent.

Acting upon the advice tendered to him by the Honorable the Attorney-General, the Governor, on the 5th day of December, 1899, reserved this Measure for the signification of Her Majesty's pleasure thereon.

The Governor was thereupon invited by his Responsible Advisers to exercise the powers vested in him, under the Royal Instructions, and assent to the Bill as a matter of urgency.

The Governor having satisfied himself that an urgent necessity existed for the bringing of this Bill into immediate operation, and having been informed by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies that the Board of Trade did not consider the Measure was repugnant to the provisions of Section 736 of the Merchant Shipping Act of 1894, 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, 17th March, 1900.

6. 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 Sir William Lyne, at twenty-eight minutes past Twelve o'clock, until Four o'clock This Day.

The House resumed, pursuant to adjournment.

7. ELECTORATE OF URALLA-WALCHA:—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Writ issued by him during the recess for the election of a Member to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the Electoral District of Uralla-Walcha had been duly returned, with a certificate endorsed thereon by the Returning Officer, of the election of William Henry Burgess Piddington, Esquire, to serve as such Member.

8. MEMBER SWORN:—William Henry Burgess Piddington, 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 Uralla-Walcha.

9. DISPATCH OF NEW SOUTH WALES TROOPS TO SOUTH AFRICA:—Mr. Speaker read to the House the following letter:—

Sir,

Government House, Sydney, 12th June, 1900.

I have the honor, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, to transmit to you the sub-joined copy of a telegraphic despatch which has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

"I desire you will convey to the Legislature of the Colony under your Government when it reassembles the grateful thanks of Her Majesty's Government for the generous assistance and support afforded by New South Wales in connection with the war. The action of the Colonies has shown to the world that the whole Force of the Empire is available for the maintenance of British interests, has produced a lasting impression in this Country, and inaugurates a new era in their relations with the Mother Country. New South Wales and the other Colonies have reason to be proud of the part taken by their troops in the success already achieved."

His Excellency will be glad if you will take an opportunity of conveying this Message to the Members of the Legislative Assembly.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

WILFRID ABEL SMITH,

Captain, Private Secretary.

The Honorable the Speaker of the
Legislative Assembly.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th June, 1900.

10. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Gundagai to Tumut.
 - (2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Glebe Island Improvements.
 - (3.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Wharfage, Woolloomooloo Bay.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
11. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Proclamations and Regulations under the Imported Stock Acts 1871–1896 respecting “Tick Fever or Texas Fever.”
 - (2.) Proclamation under the Diseases in Sheep Act of 1866.
 - (3.) Proclamation under the Diseases in Sheep Act of 1866 respecting the introduction of Sheep from Victoria.
 - (4.) Proclamation under the Vegetation Diseases Act, 1897, prohibiting the introduction of any plant from certain portions of Victoria.
 - (5.) Proclamation under the Vegetation Diseases Act, 1897, declaring *Phylloxera Vastatrix* to be a disease.
 - (6.) Proclamation under the Diseases in Sheep Act of 1866, notifying the alteration in the boundaries of the Sheep Districts of Broulee, Cooma, Moree, Walgett, and Warialda.
 - (7.) Regulations under the Gold and Mineral Dredging Act, 1899.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Interim Report by Messrs. T. A. Dibbs, J. Russell French, and F. N. Yarwood, the Committee appointed by the Government to inquire into the Public Accounts.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
12. ORDNANCE LANDS TRANSFER BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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*.
13. 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:—

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND
GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

The grave and unexpected responsibilities cast upon my Advisers since the prorogation of Parliament have caused unavoidable delay in assembling you for the despatch of business.

2. I have remarked with deep satisfaction that a spontaneous recognition of that underlying unity of sentiment and interests, which connects the British Empire, prompted the offer of local troops to take their part with other Soldiers of the Queen in maintaining the supremacy of Great Britain upon the Continent of Africa.

The Government, relying on the hearty support of Parliament, despatched to South Africa three contingents of troops: The voluntary contributions of private citizens almost entirely provided for another: In addition, a Contingent of Imperial Bushmen was formed and sent at the request of the Imperial Government.

It is profoundly gratifying to observe that the Australian soldiers have won distinction in the field and shown a courage and devotion to duty which has earned the especial praise of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts and other Commanding Officers.

3. By means of prompt and energetic measures the ravages of a dread disease, which at one time threatened to gain a foothold in our midst, have, under God's providence, been stayed.

This emergency required the exercise of the exceptional and latent powers vested by our Constitution in the Executive Government; but you will be invited at an early date to affirm your approval of the steps which have been taken.

You will also be invited to consider measures for preventing such outbreaks for the future, by amending the Public Health Act and providing for the better government of the City of Sydney.

4. In the interest of the public health it became necessary for the Government to take possession of a large area of water-frontages near Sussex-street. In order to carry out the necessary operations in this area promptly, effectively, and to the greatest public advantage, I issued a Proclamation under the Lands for Public Purposes Resumption Act, vesting this and other adjoining lands in the Crown. By this means a long-desired opportunity is given for improving the shipping facilities of the Port, and establishing a uniform system of wharfage under the control of the Government. You will be invited at an early date to give your approval to a measure giving full effect to the Proclamation referred to, and providing for the acquisition of such other lands as may be necessary for the profitable user of the resumed area, and the reconstruction of the adjacent portion of the City.

5. I congratulate you upon the near prospect of the establishment of the Australian Commonwealth, which will, I trust, prove to be the opening of a larger national life to all these Colonies, and add a new element of strength to the British Empire.

Immediate provision must be made for the election of members to both Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament. A Royal Commission has been appointed to suggest the necessary divisions of the State for electoral purposes, and its report will shortly be submitted for your consideration with a view to legislation.

12th June, 1900.

6. A measure to prevent and mitigate the disastrous consequences of labour disputes by the constitution of a Court for conducting and determining arbitrations about industrial matters, which shall have power to enforce its orders, will be immediately introduced and pressed forward in the hope of its becoming law before the close of the Session.

7. A Bill for establishing a Harbour Trust for the City of Sydney will be one of the first measures submitted for your consideration.

8. The working of the Early Closing Act—a measure which my Advisers believe has already produced most beneficial consequences—has disclosed certain difficulties of administration which will require an amendment of the law. Other Bills dealing with the hours and conditions of labour will also be proceeded with.

9. Important proposals will be submitted to you dealing with municipalities, which will extend the powers of local authorities, provide for the guarantee by the State of municipal loans, permit—as an alternative method of rating to be used at the option of a municipality—the levying of rates upon the unimproved value of land, and remedy serious defects in the existing law.

10. Bills will also be introduced to amend and consolidate the existing Mining Laws, to provide for the safe working of metalliferous mines, and to make provision against accidents to miners by a better system of inspection and the establishment of a relief fund in the case of disablement or death.

11. Recent events have demonstrated the necessity of putting the Volunteer Forces of the Colony upon a better footing, and you will be invited to consider a measure for this purpose.

12. The subject of Old Age Pensions has received much attention from my Advisers, and a scheme to provide for them will be submitted for your consideration.

13. A Commission has been appointed to deal with the problem of the unemployed in a systematic and comprehensive manner. By means of this machinery my Advisers hope that they will be able to relieve the chronic pressure on the labour market of temporarily idle persons who desire to work, and at the same time avoid the dangers of indiscriminate relief.

14. Although it will be many years before the present leases in the Western Districts will terminate, my Advisers feel that legislation will be required to relieve the present tenants of pressing difficulties, and prevent the abandonment of large areas of land. Accordingly, with a view to collect and diffuse information upon this subject and in order to facilitate the passage of remedial legislation, a Commission of Inquiry has been appointed to collect evidence upon the condition and prospects of the Western Districts.

Leases containing large areas in the Central Division are now terminating, and during this year upwards of 250 leases will have reverted to the Crown. The disposal of these lands will be principally a matter of administration; but, in order to give effect to such administration, a Bill will be necessary, which will be shortly submitted for your consideration.

A Bill providing for the acquisition of land for Closer Settlement will also be submitted.

15. In view of the fact that other Colonies, with which this Colony will be brought into political connection after the establishment of the Commonwealth, have a system of representation which is based upon adult suffrage, you will be asked to consider the expediency of establishing our electoral system on a similar basis.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure will be prepared with the utmost regard to economy which is compatible with the efficiency of the Public Service.

I am gratified to be able to announce to you that the public revenue shows a steady increase, and that the commercial prospects of the Colony are full of hope and encouragement.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, AND

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

As soon as the exigencies of other public business permit, you will be invited to sanction various public works, which, while opening new fields of employment, will tend to develop the resources of our country lands and furnish new facilities for trade and intercourse. Among these will be a scheme of Water Conservation and proposals for light Railways and Artesian Wells.

You will also be asked to deliberate upon various other proposals for legislation, including Bills to give greater powers to the Fire Brigades Board, to improve the administration of justice, to amend the Public Service Act, to provide for the proper accommodation for shearers, to regulate street traffic, and other measures to advance the public welfare.

I now leave you to your Legislative duties with the fervent prayer that the Almighty may at all times direct your patriotic efforts to the preservation of the honour of the country and the happiness of the people.

Mr. F. Clarke then moved, and Mr. Carroll 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. T. H. Griffith, Mr. Spruson, Mr. Pricc, Mr. Goodwin, Mr. Alexander Campbell, Mr. Byrne, Mr. E. M. Clark, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

And the Committee retired to prepare the Address,—

And Mr. Clarke 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 WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

MAX 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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th June, 1900.

We desire to assure Your Excellency that the various measures indicated in Your Excellency's Speech shall receive our earnest consideration, and the necessary provision for the Public Service will be made in due course.

We join Your Excellency in the hope that, under Divine Providence, our endeavours may be guided to the enduring benefit of the Colony.

Mr. Clarke then moved, and Mr. T. H. Griffith 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.

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

Debate ensued.

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.

14. INTENDED RETIREMENT OF MR. SPEAKER:—Mr. Speaker (the Honorable Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G.) addressed the House, as follows:—

Before the House enters upon the discharge of the important duties for which it has met, I would desire to say a few words. I am pleased that I am once again permitted to address the House, and to state my reasons for desiring to vacate the Chair. It is now nearly ten years since the choice of this House fell upon me as their Speaker. I accepted the position with trepidation, for I, at least, however generous the House was, knew well my own shortcomings, and that I was not possessed of many of those qualities which are required to make a Speaker, and which induce the House to respect him as its head; but I entered upon the duties of the office determined to maintain at all cost the dignity and honor of the position to which the House had called me. How far I have succeeded it is not for me to say. I am content to be judged by my work and by my efforts. I have been chosen Speaker of this House five times, being oftener than any other Speaker since we have had in the Colony responsible Government; and I have held the office for ten years, being a period much longer than that of any other Speaker. During my term of office I can lay claim to the fact that the House has adopted a code of rules which, I think, have proved to be of immense benefit to the House. I hope the House will not suspect me of deserting my post or of shunning labour which it would be possible for me to perform. I have been happy and contented in the Service for a number of years, and I shall leave the Chair with regret. The honor of serving as Speaker of this House, the great pleasure of friendly intercourse with its Members, and the share which I have held in helping to work out the destinies of this my native Colony, has been an ample reward to me.

The work of the House during the last few years has been very great, and the constant strain produced by that labour, mentally and physically, upon me has been such that, strong as I was, I have failed to bear it. Although, thanks to the generosity of Honorable Members, and above all to my friend, Mr. McCourt, the Chairman of Committees, I have been able to take much-needed rest, which has done a great deal to restore my health, I feel that I dare not continue in the office of Speaker, as at the best I could not give the House good service; and rather than that, I am sure it is more becoming for me to retire. With regard to the Clerk of the Assembly, Mr. F. W. Webb, C.M.G., I cannot relinquish my post without expressing to him and to Mr. Arnold, the Clerk-Assistant, with Mr. Robertson, the Second Clerk-Assistant, my great obligations to them at all times for their services rendered to me freely and with good will. I will not add more; I will only offer a fervent prayer that the Members may at all times show to those who sent them here their earnest desire to carry out the great trust reposed in them.

Sir William Lyne, Mr. Reid, and other Honorable Members then complimented Mr. Speaker on his past services, and expressed their great regret at his retirement, and Mr. Speaker made his acknowledgments.

15. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House, at its rising this day, do adjourn until To-morrow at half-past Eleven o'clock.

Question put and passed.

16. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter past Seven o'clock, until To-morrow at half-past Eleven 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.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 13 JUNE, 1900.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

VACANCY OF THE SPEAKERSHIP:—The Clerk announced that he had received the following letter from Mr. Speaker:—

"My dear Mr. Webb,

"Speaker's Room, Sydney, 13th June, 1900.

"Will you kindly announce to the House my resignation of the office of Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

"I desire in tendering my resignation to tender to yourself and the Staff of the House my warmest thanks for the admirable manner in which you and they have, at all times, helped me to carry out the duties of my office; from each of you I have, at all times, had the most cordial and loyal support. Without your experienced aid I do not know what a Speaker could do.

"Yours sincerely,

"J. P. ABBOTT.

"F. W. Webb, Esquire, C.M.G., Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, Sydney."

2. ELECTION OF SPEAKER:—Sir William Lyne, addressing himself to the Clerk (who, standing up, pointed to him, and then sat down), acquainted the House that His Excellency the Governor, having been informed of the resignation by the Honorable Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G., of the office of Speaker of this House, gives leave to the House to proceed forthwith to the choice of a new Speaker.

Mr. Henry Clarke then (addressing himself in like manner to the Clerk) proposed to the House for their Speaker William McCourt, Esquire, and moved, "That William McCourt, Esquire, do take the Chair of this House as Speaker," which motion was seconded by Mr. McLean.

The House then calling Mr. McCourt to the Chair, he stood up in his place and expressed the sense he entertained of the honor proposed to be conferred upon him, and submitted himself to the House.

The House then again unanimously calling Mr. McCourt to the Chair, he was taken out of his place by Mr. Clarke and Mr. McLean, and conducted to the Chair, where, standing on the upper step, he returned his acknowledgments to the House for the great honor they had been pleased to confer upon him, and then took his seat.

Whereupon Sir William Lyne, Mr. Reid, and other Honorable Members congratulated Mr. Speaker. Sir William Lyne acquainted the House that he had ascertained from the Governor that His Excellency would be pleased to receive their Speaker at Government House at four o'clock to-day.

The House adjourned, on motion of Sir William Lyne, at a quarter past Twelve o'clock, until half-past Three o'clock This Day.

The House resumed, pursuant to adjournment.

3. PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER:—The House proceeded to Government House to present their Speaker to His Excellency the Governor,—

And having returned, Mr. Speaker reported that the Assembly had been to Government House, where he informed His Excellency the Governor that the office of Speaker having become vacant by reason of the resignation of Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G., the Assembly, in accordance with their undoubted rights and privileges, had proceeded to elect a Speaker, and as the object of their choice he presented himself to His Excellency for approval; whereupon His Excellency was pleased to approve of him as Speaker, and to offer him his congratulations.

Mr. Speaker then repeated his grateful thanks for the high honor the House had been pleased to confer upon him.

13th June, 1900.

4. PAPER:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—A copy of the Colonial Treasurer's Statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of the Consolidated Revenue and other moneys for the year ended 30th June, 1899, together with the Auditor-General's Report thereon, transmitted to the Legislative Assembly under the provisions of the Audit Act of 1870. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. SPEAKER'S COMMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE:—Mr. Speaker reported that His Excellency the Governor had been pleased to issue a Commission, under the Seal of the Colony, empowering him to administer the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance to such Members as may hereafter present themselves to be sworn,—which Commission was read at length by the Clerk, as follows:—

“By His Excellency the Right Honorable WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 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, WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, as Governor of the Colony of New South Wales, do hereby authorise the Honorable William McCourt, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of the said Colony, 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 thirteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred, and in the sixty-third year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

“BEAUCHAMP.

“By His Excellency's Command,

“JOHN SEE.”

6. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council,—

(1.) Companies Acts Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

A Bill, intituled “An Act to amend the Companies Acts of 1874 and 1888,”—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly during a previous 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, 13th June, 1900.

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 a previous Session,—

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

(2.) Inebriates Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

A Bill, intituled “An Act to provide for the care, control, and treatment of Inebriates and for purposes incidental to the abovementioned objects,”—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly during a previous 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, 13th June, 1900.

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 a previous Session,—

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

7. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Shelter for Drivers of the Electric Trams:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—With the view of providing shelter for the drivers of the electric trams from wet weather, and at other times from a blinding dust on the various routes, will he consult with the Railway authorities with the view of providing such shelter both in the interest of the drivers and of public safety?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes.

(2.) Moore Park Tip:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the visit paid by the Premier, accompanied by Alderman Jessep, M.P., to what is known as the Moore Park Tip, when he was reported to have said that he thought the Government might possibly resume this place, with the view of closing it, so as to put a stop to what has for many years been a menace to the health of the surrounding districts, has the matter been further dealt with, and is it the intention of the Government to close this dangerous and unhealthy place in the interest of public health?

Sir

13th June, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—What I said was that probably the Government would use some portion of land further on for an Infectious Diseases Hospital, and that the tip, which was in an objectionable state at the time, could be made inoffensive by working on a face and covering it in with sand.

- (3.) Debenture-holders of Treasury Bills :—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the cost in excess of 3 per cent. that will have to be paid by the State to debenture-holders of the £500,000 worth of Treasury Bills issued in May last?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The cost in excess of 3 per cent. that will have to be paid to holders of £500,000 worth of Treasury Bills issued in May last—that is, the difference between 3 per cent. and $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.—is, per annum, £2,500. It may be pointed out, however, that the Bills were sold at 5s. 4d. premium, netting 2s. 11d. premium. The gross proceeds were £501,345 7s. 6d.; less brokerage, £604 15s.; net proceeds, £500,740 12s. 6d.

- (4.) Glebe Island Abattoirs :—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the total amount of revenue received from the Glebe Island Abattoirs for each of the years 1897, 1898, and 1899?

(2.) How much has been received to date for the current year?

(3.) What has been the total expenses in connection with the Abattoirs for each of the years 1897, 1898, and 1899?

(4.) What have been the expenses to date for the present year?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) 1897—£9,459 7s. 2d.; 1898—£9,524 2s. 1d.; 1899—£9,852 8s. 1d.

(2.) £4,274 18s. 6d. (1st January to 31st May, 1900).

(3.) 1897—£6,931 13s. 1d.; 1898—£6,879 14s. 2d.; 1899—£7,421 13s. 2d.

(4.) £3,376 5s. 1d.

- (5.) Road from Flyer's Creek to Carcoar :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the sum set apart for improving the Flyer's Creek to Carcoar road for the year commencing July, 1899?

(2.) How much of this sum has been expended on this road?

(3.) Why has the balance not been expended?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) £183 6s. 8d.

(2 and 3.) The expenditure exceeds the above amount by £16 13s. 4d.; therefore, there is no balance.

- (6.) Extension of the Early Closing Act :—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Public Instruction,—When will the provisions of the Early Closing Act be extended to Mount McDonald and other unincorporated towns in connection with which applications for the extensions of the Act have been made?

Mr. Perry answered,—The provisions of the Early Closing Act will be extended to incorporated areas as soon as practicable after the Amending Bill has become law.

- (7.) Increments to Officers of the Public Service :—Mr. Bruncker asked the Attorney-General,—What is the cause of delay in payment to officers of the Public Service, who, in pursuance of the terms of Regulations established by the Public Service Board, became entitled to increments to their salaries during the past year?

Mr. Wood answered,—The cases of all the officers in regard to whom there was no question as to their receiving the increment of salary provided under the Regulations, have already been dealt with by the Public Service Board, and the names of such officers have been gazetted. The Board are now considering the appeals from officers in whose cases the increment has not yet been granted.

- (8.) Hunter River Flood Mitigation :—Mr. Bruncker asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the subject of Hunter River flood mitigation received the consideration of the Government during the recess?

(2.) Is it intended to carry out the promise made by the Honorable the Premier and the Minister for Public Works on the 24th October, 1899, to refer the question to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works for inquiry and report?

(3.) When is it likely the suggested reference will be made?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—This matter has been brought under my notice several times. I have in my hand a letter sent by the Honorable Member for West Maitland, the Honorable Member for Gloucester, and the Honorable Member for Durham, asking me on the 12th February to proceed with this scheme. The Honorable Member for East Maitland has also been several times inquiring about it, and I now desire to say that I intend to submit this Session a complete and satisfactory scheme for mitigating the floods in the Hunter River.

- (9.) Amendment of the Mining on Private Lands Act :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he during the present Session introduce a Bill to amend the law relating to mining on private property, so as to admit of other minerals than those specified in the Principal Act being mined for?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Yes.

8. YASS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL :—

- (1.) Mr. Affleck presented a Petition from the Very Reverend Patrick O'Keefe, representing that the Yass Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill, which was introduced into this House on the 20th December, 1899, 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 To-morrow.

13th June, 1900.

9. **BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL:**—Mr. Cann presented a Petition from the Municipal Council of the Municipal District of Broken Hill, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the acquisition of lands, and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards by the Municipality of Broken Hill, within or in the vicinity of the Municipality of Broken Hill.
And Mr. Cann, having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Daily Telegraph* and *Barrier Truth* newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.
10. **SAYWELL'S TRAMWAY AND ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL:**—
(1.) Mr. Cohen presented a Petition from Thomas Saywell, of Sydney, representing that Saywell's Tramway and Electric Lighting Bill, which was introduced into this House on the 6th September, 1898, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session; that the said Bill was reintroduced last Session, and again interrupted by the close of that 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 June.
11. **LIQUOR ACT:**—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—
(1.) By Mr. Morgan—From certain residents of Morgan Hills, Blaxland Ridge, Freeman's Reach, and Wilberforce.
(2.) By Mr. Jessep—From certain members of the Mill Hill Presbyterian Church, Waverley.
(3.) By Mr. Brunker—From certain residents of East Maitland and members of Snowdrop Lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars, meeting at East Maitland.
(4.) By Mr. Nobbs—From members of the Baptist Church and Congregation of Granville.
(5.) By Mr. T. H. Griffith—From certain residents of Albury.
(6.) By Mr. T. H. Griffith—From William Jackson, Chairman of Rudyard Kipling Lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars, meeting at Albury.
Petitions received.
12. **STANFORD COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL:**—
(1.) Mr. Gillies presented a Petition from Samuel Clift, of East Maitland, in the Colony of New South Wales, Henry John Adams, of Oxford Downs, in the Colony of Queensland, and Henry Trenchard, of Sydney, in the Colony of New South Wales aforesaid, representing that the Stanford Coal-mine Railway Bill, which was introduced into this House on the 24th October, 1899, 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 June.
13. **BUSINESS DAYS (Sessional Order—Formal Motion):**—Sir William Lync 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.
14. **INDECENT PUBLICATIONS BILL (Formal Motion):**—
(1.) Dr. Graham moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to suppress indecent advertisements and obscene publications.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Dr. Graham then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to suppress indecent advertisements and obscene publications*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 26th June.
15. **MINES ENGINEERS HOURS REGULATION BILL (Formal Motion):**—
(1.) Mr. Edden moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the hours of labour for hoisting engineers in the Colony of New South Wales.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Edden then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate the hours of labour for hoisting engineers in the Colony of New South Wales*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 24th July.
16. **RACING ASSOCIATION BILL (Formal Motion):**—Mr. Gillies moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to define the rights of the people in and to the use and occupation of all lands granted, dedicated, or leased to, or otherwise occupied by, companies, clubs, or associations for horse-racing purposes; to provide for the establishment of a representative tribunal to conduct all matters affecting horse-racing; to repeal in part the Australian Jockey Club Act; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
17. **INTEREST ON JUDGMENTS AMENDMENT BILL (Formal Motion):**—Mr. Garland moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Interest on Judgments 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, 10th July.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th June, 1900.

18. 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 To-morrow.
19. SEAMEN ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Samuel 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 amend the Seamen Act of 1898.
Question put and passed.
20. MEDICAL BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Price moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill for the registration of medical practitioners, the restriction of unqualified persons from practising, and to amend such other statutes as may be inconsistent therewith.
Question put and passed.
21. TIED HOUSES BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Watson 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 that certain covenants, agreements, conditions, provisos, and stipulations in restraint of liberty to purchase wines, spirits, or other fermented or spirituous liquors shall be void; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on that object.
Question put and passed.
22. MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF 1897 AMENDING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Municipalities Act of 1897 Amending 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 further considered in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.
23. DENTISTS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Graham moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Dentists 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 further considered in Committee of the Whole To-morrow.
24. COAL-LUMPERS BASKETS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Samuel Smith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Coal-lumpers Baskets 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.
25. MUNICIPALITIES (ELECTION) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Thomas moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Municipalities (Election) 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.
26. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE ELECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Watson moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to make better provision for the election and appointment of Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to that object.
Question put and passed.
27. ADDRESS OF SYMPATHY WITH HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES (*Formal Motion*):—
Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the following Address be now adopted by this House, namely:—
 “To His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.
 “ May it please Your Royal Highness,—
 “ We, the Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, take the
 “ earliest opportunity to express our great indignation at the attempt which has been
 “ made on the life of Your Royal Highness, and to assure you of the feelings of profound
 “ sympathy which pervade the minds of all classes of the community.
 “ We renew the expression of our devoted attachment to our Gracious Queen and
 “ the Royal Family, and we humbly supplicate Almighty God to watch over the life of
 “ Your Royal Highness.”
(2.) That His Excellency the Governor be requested to forward the above Address to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.
Question put and passed.
28. PAPERS:—
(1.) Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—
(1.) By-laws of the National Art Gallery.
(2.) Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for Public School purposes, at Battle Abbey, Box Vale, Cow Flat, Dumaresq, Gillenbah, Methul, New Vale, Salt Ash, Tilba Tilba, and Trevothin.
(3.) Report of the Trustees of the National Art Gallery for the year 1899.
(4.) Report of the Trustees of the Public Library for the year 1899. (5.)

13th June, 1900.

- (5.) Amended By-laws of the University of Sydney.
 (6.) By-laws of the Rookwood Free Public Library.
 (7.) By-laws of the Annandale Free Public Library.
 (8.) Report of the University of Sydney for the year 1899.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

(2.) Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Copy of a Minute of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor and the Executive Council,— Authorising the transfer of amounts from the Vote "Auditor-General, Item No. 12," to supplement the Vote "Treasury, Item No. 127."
 (2.) Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council,—
 (a) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Imported and introduced Stock," to supplement the Vote "Vine Diseases Act, &c."
 (b) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Mines, Contingencies," to supplement the Vote "School of Mines and Assay Works."
 (c) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Mines, Contingencies," to supplement the Vote "Administration of the Act for the Regulation of Coal Mines and Collieries."
 (d) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the estimated savings on Votes 1899-1900, to supplement the Vote "Permanent and Volunteer Military Forces," and cancelling the Minute of His Excellency the Governor-in-Council authorising the transfer of a similar amount to supplement the Vote "Advance to Treasurer."
 (e) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Imported and Introduced Stock" to supplement the Vote "Vine Diseases Act, &c."
 (f) Authorising the treatment of items, "No. 212, Roads and Bridges; No. 213, Harbours and Rivers and Dredge Service; No. 214, Government Architect; and No. 215, Miscellaneous, of 1899-1900 Appropriation Act," as one Vote, and to charge any excess expenditure on any one item to the balance on any other item.
 (g) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "The Medical Adviser to the Government," to supplement the Vote "Coast Hospital."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

29. LEAVE OF ABSENCE:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That leave of absence for the remainder of the present Session be granted to the Honorable Member for The Shoalhaven, Mr. David Davis, in consequence of his absence from the Colony.
 Question put and passed.

30. 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. F. Clarke, 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 WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, Knight-Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 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 various measures indicated in your Excellency's Speech shall receive our earnest consideration, and the necessary provision for the Public Service will be made in due course.

"We join your Excellency in the hope that, under Divine Providence, our endeavours may be guided to the enduring benefit of the Colony."

And the Question being again proposed,—

Mr. Reid moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraphs 3 and 4:—

"It is also a subject for regret that Ministers persisted in employing the services of Mr. Yarwood as a member of the Committee to inquire into the public accounts, when they became aware that he had previously published a strong opinion upon one of the chief issues he was asked to try.

"We respectfully agree with your Excellency in the opinion that recent events have shown the necessity for putting the Volunteer Forces of the Colony on a better footing; we, therefore, especially regret that recent appointments to positions in the Volunteer Forces of New South Wales seem to subordinate efficiency, merit, and patriotic service to other considerations, a course calling for strong disapproval."

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

Sir William Lyne 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.

31. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
 Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 3.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 14 JUNE, 1900.

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

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—

“Henry Clarke, Esquire,
“Charles Hilton Dight, Esquire,
“William John Ferguson, Esquire,
“John Garland, Esquire,
“Samuel Edward Lees, Esquire,

William Rigg, Esquire,
William Sawers, Esquire,
William Henry Wilks, Esquire, and
Francis Augustus Wright, 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 fourteenth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred.

“WILLIAM McCOURT,
“Speaker.”

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Fees for Reappraisal:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the owner of a selection of 40 acres has to pay at the rate of 1s. per acre in a deposit fee for purposes of reappraisal?

(2.) How much per acre is the charge entailed on the holder of a full section in the Central Division for reappraisal?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I have to invite the Honorable Member's attention to Regulation 108, which requires a fee of £2 for each continuous area of 1,280 acres or under, and £3 for each continuous area of over 1,280 acres and not exceeding 2,560 acres. It is hardly necessary to explain that the expense which has to be incurred by the Crown in appraising a small area does not widely differ from that in connection with a larger one.

(2.) Public Parks in Country Districts:—Mr. Brunker asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it the intention of the Government, in framing the Estimates for the ensuing financial year, to make more substantial provision for the maintenance and improvement of public parks throughout the country districts?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The Government proposes to submit a sufficiently substantial sum on the Estimates.

(3.) Hours of Labour of Van-men:—Mr. Rose asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that parcel delivery van-men have to work from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. for wages varying from 25s. to 45s. per week?

(2.) Is such class of labour to be regulated by any Bill providing for a limitation of hours?

Mr. Perry answered,—

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

(4.)

14th June, 1900.

- (4.) Applicants for Crown Lands :—Mr. Hayes asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it compulsory for applicants for homestead or conditional purchase selections to appear personally before the Local Land Board when they meet to decide which applicant shall have the land?
 - (2.) If so, will he arrange that it shall be optional on their part?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—The Crown Lands Act of 1899 provides that the priority of applicants shall be determined by the Land Board, and the matter, therefore, rests largely with the Boards. Under the former Acts the applicant had first to travel to the local Land Office and make his application, and again to the Land Board meeting when his application was being dealt with. Only one visit is now necessary in any circumstances. I will, however, make inquiry as to whether the applicant's attendance could be dispensed with.
3. LIQUOR ACT :—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named :—
- (1.) By Mr. Watkins—From certain residents of Wallsend.
 - (2.) By Mr. Law—From George Braddock, Chairman of a meeting of "We Hope to Prosper Lodge" of Independent Order of Good Templars, Rozelle.
 - (3.) By Mr. Molesworth—From certain residents of Alexandria.
 - (4.) By Mr. Law—From certain residents of Balmain South.
 - (5.) By Mr. Molesworth—From certain residents of Erskineville.
- Petitions received.
4. TOTALIZATOR BILL :—Dr. Ross presented the following Petitions in opposition to the Totalizator Bill, and praying the House to reject the measure :—
- (1.) From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, Molong.
 - (2.) From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, Garra.
 - (3.) From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, Barragan.
- Petitions received.
5. PRECEDENCE OF BUSINESS (*Sessional Order—Formal Motion*) :—Sir William Lyne 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.
6. BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—
- (1.) Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the acquisition of land and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of abattoirs, markets, and cattle sale-yards by the Municipality of Broken Hill within or in the vicinity of the Municipality of Broken Hill.
Question put and passed.
 - (2.) Mr. Cann 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 acquisition of lands and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards by the Municipality of Broken Hill within or in the vicinity of the Municipality of Broken Hill,*"—read a first time.
7. AGRICULTURAL LEASES BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Bennett moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Agricultural Leases 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 next.
8. INCLOSED LANDS PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—
- (1.) Mr. Dight moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Inclosed Lands Protection Act, 18 Vic. No. 27.
Question put and passed.
 - (2.) Mr. Dight then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Inclosed Lands Protection Act, 18 Vic. No. 27,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 10th July.
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 nine hundred and one.
Question put and passed.
10. FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Mengher moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Fire Insurance Policies 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 next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th June, 1900.

11. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) 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.
- (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 Alterations and Cancellations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (4.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (5.) 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.
- (6.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for a Public Park at Taralga.
- (7.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for a Public Cemetery at Albion Park.
- (8.) Notifications, under the Crown Lands Acts, of—
 - (a) Repeal of Regulation No. 103.
 - (b) Amended Regulations Nos. 35, 108, 131, 253, 257, 266, and 273.
 - (c) Additional Regulations Nos. 58A, 109A, 157A, 262A, 336, and 337.
 - (d) Amended Forms Nos. 28, 31, and 34.
 - (e) Additional Forms Nos. 89, 90, and 91.
- (9.) Notifications, under the Crown Lands Acts, of—
 - (a) Repeal of Regulations Nos. 16, 48, 50, 55, 147, 149, and 154.
 - (b) Amended Regulations Nos. 11, 12, 15, 49, 51, 52, 54, 74, 81, 100, 148, 150, 151, 155, 156, 161, 166, and 218.
 - (c) Additional Regulation No. 42A.
 - (d) Amended Forms Nos. 7 and 50.
- (10.) Notifications, under the Crown Lands Acts of—
 - (a) Repeal of Regulations Nos. 58A, 108, 109A, and 157A.
 - (b) Amended Regulations Nos. 58A, 108, 109A, and 157A.
- (11.) Amended Regulation No. 6, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (12.) Amended Regulation No. 397, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (13.) Amended Form No. 22, under the Crown Lands Acts.
- (14.) Notice of intention to declare that two Additional Conditional Purchases Nos. 98-15 and 98-17, in the Land District of Corowa, applied for by Samuel Lees, junr., shall cease to be voidable.
- (15.) Notice of intention to declare that Conditional Purchase No. 98-14, in the Land District of Tarce, applied for by Uriel Bloomfield, shall cease to be voidable.
- (16.) Notice of intention to declare that Homestead Selection No. 97-19, in the Land District of Hay, applied for by Eva Victoria Gough, shall cease to be voidable.
- (17.) Notice of intention to declare that Additional Conditional Purchase No. 97-16, in the Land District of Corowa, applied for by John Patterson, shall cease to be voidable.
- (18.) Amended Rules Nos. 18 and 39 of the Land Appeal Court.
- (19.) Statement showing reasons for granting sick leave on full pay to Mr. Arthur Ashton, Messenger, Local Land Board Office, Armidale.
- (20.) Return to an Order, made on 7th November, 1899,—“Reserves for Parks and Public Recreation, County of Cumberland.”
- (21.) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Hay Irrigation Trust for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Annual Returns under the 103rd section of the District Courts Act of 1858.
- (2.) Rules of the Supreme Court (In Equity).
- (3.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 17th March, 1892,—“Convictions under the Licensing Act.”
- (4.) Rules of the Supreme Court (In Lunacy).
- (5.) Return to an Order, made on 12th December, 1899,—“Trial of Seamen at Sydney and Newcastle for Offences on Board Ships.”
- (6.) Particulars respecting the granting of sick leave to Mr. Henry John Noble, Deputy Registrar-General and Chief Clerk, Registrar General's Department.
- (7.) Minutes respecting the granting of sick leave to Mr. Paul Becker, Second-class Sheriff's Officer.
- (8.) Rule prescribing form of Security under the “Justices (Fines) Act, 1899.”
- (9.) Regulations, under “The Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899.”
- (10.) Returns, under the several Acts of Parliament administered by the Registrar-General, for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wise laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Fourth Annual Report of the Public Service Board.
- (2.) Regulations, under the Public Service Act of 1895, respecting—
 - (a) Payment for Public Holidays to temporary employees in the Government Printing Office.
 - (b) Travelling expenses to Relieving Officers in all Departments—Public Holidays, Fitzroy Dock Works.
 - (c) Amended Regulations Nos. 272 and 273—Postal Department.
 - (d) Amended Regulation No. 273—Postal Department.
 - (e) Wages and Allowances of Surveyors' chainmen and labourers (Repeal of Regulation No. 331).

(f)

14th June, 1900.

- (f) Classification and increments to salaries of certain Officers in Post and Telegraph Department.
 (g) General Conditions of Contract—Public Service Tender Board.
 (h) Living Allowances to Officers stationed in remote parts of the Colony.
 (i) Leave of Absence for recreation to Officers in the Special, Professional, and Clerical Divisions.
 (j) Travelling Expenses of Conditional Purchase Inspectors and Public Watering-place Inspectors.
 (k) Competitive Examinations.
 (l) Leave of Absence to Teachers, Department of Public Instruction.
 (m) Examinations and Promotions in the Postal and Telegraph Department.
 (n) Periodical Grading under Section 9, &c.
 (o) Equipment and Travelling Allowances to Officers, Department of Lands.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report on the working of the Factories and Shops Act, and Conciliation and Arbitration Act, for the year 1899.

(2.) Regulations under the Early Closing Act of 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

- (1.) Companies Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading ;—until Tuesday, 10th July.
 (2.) Yass Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
 (3.) Capital Punishment Abolition Bill ; second reading ;—until Tuesday, 24th July.
 (4.) Seamen Act Amendment Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Seamen Act of 1898 ;—until Tuesday next.

13. 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. F. Clarke, 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 WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, *Knight Commander of the " Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 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 various measures indicated in your Excellency's Speech shall receive our earnest consideration, and the necessary provision for the Public Service will be made in due course.

" We join your Excellency in the hope that, under Divine Providence, our endeavours may be guided to the enduring benefit of the Colony."

Upon which Mr. Reid had moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraphs 3 and 4 :—

" It is also a subject of regret that Ministers persisted in employing the services of Mr. Yarwood as a member of the Committee to inquire into the Public Accounts when they became aware that he had previously published a strong opinion upon one of the chief issues he was asked to try.

" We respectfully agree with your Excellency in the opinion that recent events have shown the necessity for putting the Volunteer Forces of the Colony on a better footing; we therefore specially regret that recent appointments to positions in the Volunteer Forces of New South Wales seem to subordinate efficiency, merit, and patriotic service to other considerations, a course calling for strong disapproval."

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

Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Question put and passed.

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

14. AGREEMENTS VALIDATING ACT REPEAL BILL :—Mr. Willis, pursuant to leave granted this day, presented a Bill, intituled "*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 nine hundred and one,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 10th July.

15. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at eight minutes after Eleven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 4.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 19 JUNE, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Cases of Typhoid Fever, Diphtheria, and Bubonic Plague:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) What is the known number of typhoid fever cases, and the number of deaths from the same, from the 1st February last to the 30th of April last, in the City of Sydney?
 (2.) The same question with regard to diphtheria?
 (3.) The same question with regard to bubonic plague?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Cases, 114; deaths, 8.
 (2.) Cases, 8; deaths, 0.
 (3.) Cases, 79; deaths, 25.

- (2.) Hours of Labour of Porters on Suburban Railways:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that two shifts of porters on suburban railways have to work from 5 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.?
 (2.) Is it a fact that no regular meal-hour is granted to porters, and that they have to get a meal as opportunity presents itself?
 (3.) Is it a fact that booking porters are compelled to eat their meals in the office where they issue tickets and whilst engaged on duty?
 (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to take any steps in the direction of regulating the hours of labour worked on the railways?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) It is assumed that the hour mentioned refers to 12:30 a.m. I am informed that two shifts of porters work within the hours of 5 a.m. and 12:30 a.m.
 (2.) Time for meals is allowed at such times as can be arranged most conveniently for the staff, and with a due regard to the public requirements.
 (3.) Booking porters in some cases take their meals at the stations, as it would be obviously inconvenient to arrange for the appointment of responsible officers temporarily, and the checking of cash, tickets, &c., each time an officer would leave the premises for meals.

- (3.) Winderadeen Estate, adjoining Lake George:—Mr. Carroll asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it true that the owner or occupier of Winderadeen Estate, adjoining Lake George, is using several thousand acres of good grazing land joining the lake, and not paying one penny rent for it?
 (2.) Has the person referred to been using this land free of any charge by the Crown for some years?
 (3.) Is it true that this person is also fencing in the land for his sole use and benefit?
 (4.) Is it the intention of the Government to allow this state of things to continue indefinitely; if not, when will some action be taken to compel whoever occupies this land to pay a fair rent for it, or remove his fences, and give the public access to the land?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I am not aware, but will cause inquiry to be made.

- (4.) Gifts to the Troops of the Second Contingent:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the report which has been printed and circulated throughout Sydney, in which Trooper E. W. Marks, of the Second Contingent, on board the steamer "Maplemore," complains bitterly that gifts which were given to the troops as additional comforts

by

19th June, 1900.

by philanthropic citizens were withheld from them, and after the ship had been at sea some time these gifts could only be obtained by payment; the tea which was given for them was sold by the pint; also that in many cases the various fruits were kept from them so long that they had to be quietly thrown overboard, being utterly unfit for use, even if paid for; and, further, that the tyrannical conduct on the part of some of the officers caused some of the men to desert at the first opportunity?

(2.) In view of the above, will he cause inquiry to be made in the proper quarter as to the truth or otherwise of these statements?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces that according to returns furnished no one of the name of "F. W. Marks" went in the "Maplemore."

(5.) Readjustment of the Electoral Boundaries:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the recommendations made by the Electoral Commissioners, dealing with the readjustment of the electoral boundaries in connection with the New South Wales Parliament, have not been carried out?

(2.) Will he take steps to give effect to the proposed modifications of electoral boundaries?

Mr. See answered,—As soon as an opportunity is afforded me the matter will be submitted to Parliament.

(6.) Regulations under the Friendly Societies Act, 1899:—*Mr. Lee*, for Mr. Bruncker, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that in consequence of the non-existence of the regulations necessary to ensure the satisfactory administration of the Friendly Societies Act of 1899 considerable inconvenience is experienced in carrying out its provisions?

(2.) Will he authorise the preparation of the required regulations, and submit them for the approval of the Attorney-General as early as practicable?

Mr. See answered,—The regulations are already under reference to the Attorney General.

(7.) System of Collecting Fares on the Trams:—*Mr. Quinn* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The amount of surplus money collected by tram-conductors as fares, or by sale of tickets, from the travelling public over and above what is just in the year 1899?

(2.) The purpose to which this surplus is applied?

(3.) Are books of tickets issued to tram-conductors, and for which they are accountable, properly checked as to numbers before issue, and by whom?

(4.) Has any shortage of tickets in such books before issue been discovered?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that it would take some time to make out a complete return, but, approximately, the amount of surplus cash paid in was £50; at the same time the larger part of this amount was used for recouping conductors who have been small amounts deficient in their collections.

(3.) Yes, issued by the Tramway Traffic Superintendent.

(4.) No.

(8.) Mr. James Bonwick, London:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has he received the information asked for by Mr. Affleck on the 26th of October last respecting Mr. James Bonwick, of London?

(2.) If so, will he lay the promised return upon the Table of this House without delay in connection with the Questions asked on the 26th October last?

Mr. See answered,—The return will be laid upon the Table as soon as practicable.

(9.) Accidents in connection with the Electric Trams:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for Mr. Jessep, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many fatal accidents have occurred in connection with the main Electric Tram Service since the date of opening?

(2.) What were the findings of juries in relation thereto?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Ten.

(2.) "Accidental death" in each case, a rider being added by some of the jurors in one that it was desirable that the time of starting the tram should be recorded by the driver before he started. This, however, the men were expected to do. In another case a rider was added that trams should travel at a lower speed in Lower George-street.

(10.) The Quarantine Station:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The number of medical officers in charge of the hospital at the Quarantine Station, and the amount of salary or fees that each receives?

(2.) The number of plague patients that have been received at the hospital at the Quarantine Station; the number that have recovered, and the number that have died from plague?

(3.) The number of persons or contacts that have been removed and admitted into the Quarantine Station, and if any of those after admission contracted plague; if so, what number?

(4.) The number of nurses employed at the hospital at the Quarantine Station, and the special wages or salary each receives, or how are they paid?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) There is no hospice at the Quarantine Station.

(2.) Plague patients received at the hospital at the Quarantine Station, 240; discharged recovered, 104; died of plague, 61.

(3.) 1,559; none, but the first sign of illness occurred after removal from the place of infection in seven cases.

(4.)

19th June, 1900.

(4.) Twenty. Twelve nurses of different grades were transferred from the Coast Hospital staff, on which they are paid according to grade at the following annual rates, in addition to board, lodging, washing, and uniform:—£60 (1), £50 (3), £35 (1), £30 (3), £25 (1); and during their temporary service at Quarantine they are paid at the following increased annual rates respectively:—£112 (1), £89 (3), £67 10s. (1), £53 (3), and £51 (1). In addition, eight private nurses were engaged; they are paid £3 3s. a week, this being the usual rate paid to nurses who depend on casual employment when nursing cases of infectious illness.

(11.) Persons Inoculated with Prophylactic Serum:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The number of persons who have been inoculated with alleged prophylactic serum by the Board of Health since the outbreak of plague; by whom were these special inoculations performed, and did the persons performing the operation receive any fees or salary for the same?

(2.) Did any of those contract plague after having undergone inoculation; if so, how many?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The prophylactic used is that discovered by Professor Haffkine, C.I.E., D. Sc., which has been very widely used and very thoroughly tested during the past few years; it has just been formally approved by the English Commission on Plague in India after a searching and even hostile inquiry, in a lengthy document, which was deemed of such urgent importance by the Government of India that it was ordered to be printed and distributed separately, and in advance of the General Report of the Commission, of which it forms a part. The number of persons who have been gratuitously inoculated with this prophylactic is 10,549. They were inoculated by members of the permanent Medical Staff, of the temporary Medical Plague Staff, and by Private practitioners occasionally engaged. They received salaries, temporary salaries, or fees, according to their status.

(2.) No member of the permanent, temporary, or occasional medical staff has contracted plague. Of the 10,549 members of the public twelve or eleven subsequently had plague, there being a doubt whether one of them ever had been inoculated.

(12.) Expenditure in connection with the Bubonic Plague:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he state the amount, or approximate amount, of public expenditure that has been incurred since the outbreak of plague in Sydney?

(2.) Also, the number of men that have been employed in the quarantined plague area, and rate of wages paid to each weekly?

(3.) Can he furnish any estimate, or approximate estimate, of the quantity of garbage or rubbish that has been removed from the quarantined area since the outbreak of plague—and under the supervision of the Government—and the cost of the removal of same?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The total payments passed through the Treasury on account of plague to date has been £70,427 19s. 4d. There are other accounts outstanding, but these cannot be given correctly at present. I may say that that refers to all expenditure in connection with the Board of Health as well as other matters.

(2.) The average number of men employed in the quarantine plague areas during the operations was 2,039. All men were paid by the day. The wages paid during the early part of the operations were as follows:—

	During the panic, per day.	After the panic, per day.
Chief Superintendent...	40/-	30/-
District Superintendents	25/-	20/-
Inspectors	20/-	15/-
Clerks and book-keepers	17/6 and 15/-	17/6, 15/-, and 12/6
Carpenters	12/-	10/-
Blacksmiths	12/- and 10/-	10/-
Area men	8/-	7/-
Other laborers...	7/- and keep.	7/- without keep.
Carters, with horse and dray...	14/-	10/-
Plumbers	12/-	10/-

(3.) The approximate quantity of garbage removed from the areas is 56,935 tons; the approximate cost to date being £56,056.

(13.) State Allowances to Ministers of Religion:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many ministers of religion are there in receipt of a stipend from the State in conformity with the Grants for Public Worship Prohibition Act of 1862?

(2.) Are they all still officiating in the capacity of ministers?

(3.) What are the names and allowances of each?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Twenty-five.

(2.) A certificate is signed each month, by the head of the respective denominations, to the effect that the ministers are officiating within the Colony.

(3.) Church of England—Very Reverend W. M. Cowper, stipend, £460; Reverend J. A. Burke, stipend, £200; Reverend W. Lumsdaine, stipend, £150; Reverend J. Carter, stipend, £80 17s. 6d.; Reverend C. B. Proctor, stipend, £200; Reverend S. Hungerford, stipend, £100; Reverend A. D. Soares, stipend, £200; Reverend H. D. Bode, stipend, £100; Reverend L. Tyrrell, stipend, £200; Reverend W. C. Hawkins, stipend, £100; Reverend W. E. White, stipend, £200; Reverend P. G. Smith, stipend, £150; total, £2,140 17s. 6d. Presbyterian Church—Reverend S. Stirton, stipend, £150; Reverend J. S. White, stipend, £150; Reverend D. Moore, stipend, £150; Reverend D. Ross, stipend, £102; total, £552. Roman Catholic Church—Reverend D. V. O'Connell, £200; Very Reverend S. J. A. Sheehy, £300; Reverend P. Halliman, £200; Reverend J. Rigney, £150; Reverend D. J. D'Arcy, £150; Reverend P. Birch, £150; total, £1,150. Wesleyan Church—Reverend W. Clarke, £150; Reverend J. W. Dawson, £150; Reverend G. Martin, £150; total, £450. Total, £4,292 17s. 6d.

(14.)

- (14.) Church and School Lands in the Carcoar District:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What is the total area of surrendered Church and School Lands in the Carcoar district, now Crown lands?
 - (2.) When is it proposed to offer these lands for settlement; and what is causing the delay in so doing?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—
- (1.) 7,418 acres.
 - (2.) This area has been inspected by a surveyor, and upon the receipt of the District Surveyor's recommendation the matter will receive early attention.
- (15.) Passenger Traffic to the National Park:—*Mr. Young*, for Mr. Cook, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What was the total value of railway passenger traffic between Sydney and suburban stations and the National Park during the year 1899?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed the value of the traffic referred to for 1899 was £2,311.
2. TOTALIZATOR BILL:—Dr. Ross presented the following Petitions in opposition to the Totalizator Bill, and praying the House to reject the measure,—
- (1.) From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, Dilga.
 - (2.) From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, Lockwood.
 - (3.) From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, Reedy Creek and Red Hill.
 - (4.) From certain members of the Wesleyan Church, Meranburn.
- Petitions received.
3. EARLY CLOSING ACT:—Mr. Archer presented a Petition from certain residents of the Colony, praying that the provisions of the Early Closing Act may be made to apply to carters and carriers, so that their hours of labour may be reduced.
- Petition received.
4. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Statement of Accounts of the Government Savings Bank for the year 1899.
 - (2.) Amended Rates and Regulations under the Electric Telegraph Act.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Amended Regulation No. 351, under the Public Service Act of 1895.
 - (2.) Rules of the Supreme Court (in Divorce).
 - (3.) Regulations under the Public Watering Places Act of 1884, respecting the Cootamundra Dam.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Accounts of the South Head Roads Trust for the half-year ending 31st December, 1899.
 - (2.) Return to an Order, made on 29th August, 1899,—“Government Architect's Department.”
 - (3.) Return to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”
 - (4.) By-laws in connection with Wellington Water Supply.
 - (5.) By-laws in connection with Mudgee Water Supply.
 - (6.) Report of completion of portion of the Western Suburbs Sewerage.
 - (7.) Report of completion of portion of the Johnstone's Creek Stormwater Drainage.
 - (8.) Report of completion of portion of the Randwick Sewerage.
 - (9.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Condong, county of Rous, for a Bridge over the Tweed River at Murwillumbah.
 - (10.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Prospect, county of Cumberland, for the Improvement of the Road from Toongabbie Post Office to Wentworthville Railway Station.
 - (11.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Peter-sham, county of Cumberland, for certain Drainage Works for the Western Suburbs of Sydney.
 - (12.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Sutherland, county of Cumberland, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Sutherland.
 - (13.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Stockton, county of Gloucester, for the Improvement of Stockton Harbour.
 - (14.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Narellan, county of Cumberland, for an Approach to the Bridge over the Nepean River at Camden.
 - (15.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Willoughby, county of Cumberland, for certain Drainage Works in North Sydney.
 - (16.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of St. Andrew, county of Cumberland, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Ultimo.
 - (17.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Newcastle, county of Northumberland, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Merewether.
 - (18.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bowra, county of Raleigh, for an Approach to Bowra Wharf.
 - (19.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Magdala, county of Cook, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Springwood.
 - (20.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bingal, county of Rous, for Wharfage Purposes, on the north bank of Bingal Creek, at Wardell.
 - (21.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of St. Andrew, county of Cumberland, for the construction of the Darling Harbour Low-level Sewerage.
 - (22.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Jerilderie South, county of Urana, for a Bridge over Billabong Creek, at Jerilderie.
- (23.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th June, 1900.

(23.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of St. Andrew, county of Cumberland, for the construction of the Pymont Low-level Drainage.

(24.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Narellan, county of Cumberland, for a Bridge over the Nepean River, at Camden.

(25.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, in connection with the Marrickville Stormwater Channel.

(26.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of South Bellingen, county of Raleigh, for a Wharf at Cahill's, on the Bellingen River.

(27.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for a Pumping Station in connection with the Balmain Low-level Sewerage.

(28.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Narrabeen, county of Cumberland, for a Wharf at Clareville, Pittwater.

(29.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Gordon, county of Cumberland, for the Supply of Water to the Districts north of the Parramatta River.

(30.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Kaloogleguy, county of Robinson, for the Supply of Water to Cobar.

(31.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of St. John, county of Cumberland, for the erection of a Magazine at Newington for the storage of gunpowder and other explosives.

(32.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Willoughby, county of Cumberland, for the Supply of Water to the Districts north of the Parramatta River.

(33.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parishes of St. Andrew and St. Philip, county of Cumberland, for a system of Public Wharfs and Approaches thereto, at Darling Harbour and the waters of Port Jackson, adjacent thereto.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Papers in connection with the case of perjury against Police Constables McDonald and McGovern.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. COMPANIES EMPLOYEES WAGES PROTECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. McLean moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to protect the wages and salaries of persons employed by companies.
Question put and passed.
6. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Juvenile Smoking Suppression 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 August.
7. THE TROFFS PASTORAL HOLDING IN THE CENTRAL DIVISION (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Thomas Brown moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House, all papers, reports, and correspondence relating to,—
(1.) The approved applications by the lessees of The Troffs pastoral holding in the Central Division to convert part of The Troffs leasehold area into scrub lease areas.
(2.) The refused application of Mr. D. Crowley to make up the area of his conditional purchase holding over part of the land embraced in said scrub lease applications.
Question put and passed.
8. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Meagher moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery, and other matters connected therewith.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Meagher then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery, and other matters connected therewith,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 10th July.
9. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD APPOINTMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Quinn moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Public Service Act of 1895, in respect to the tenure of office of Members of the Public Service Board.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Quinn then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Public Service Act of 1895, in respect to the tenure of office of Members of the Public Service Board,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 7th August.
10. BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the Broken Hill Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carroll, Mr. Cook, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Spence, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Hassall, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.

19th June, 1900.

11. **TRADE UNION (SUBSCRIPTION RECOVERY) BILL (*Formal Motion*)**:—Mr. McGowen moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Trade Union (Subscription Recovery) 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, 10th July.
12. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Tied Houses Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide that certain covenants, agreements, conditions, provisos, and stipulations in restraint of liberty to purchase wines, spirits, or other fermented or spirituous liquors shall be void; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on that object;—until Tuesday, 7th August.
(2.) Agricultural Leases Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 17th July.
(3.) Fire Insurance Policies Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 10th July.
(4.) Yass Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 21st August.
(5.) Seamen Act Amendment Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Seamen Act of 1898;—until Tuesday, 24th July.
(6.) Municipalities Act of 1897 Amending Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 24th July.
(7.) Dentists Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 21st August.
(8.) Coal-lumpers Baskets Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 7th August.
(9.) Municipalities (Election) Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 26th June.
13. **VOTE OF THANKS TO THE LATE SPEAKER, SIR JOSEPH PALMER ABBOTT, K.C.M.G.**:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the thanks of this House be accorded to Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G., late Speaker, for his distinguished services in the Chair during a period of nearly ten years; and that he be assured that this House fully recognises and appreciates the zeal and ability with which he has discharged the duties of his high office through many laborious Sessions, and the study, care, and firmness with which he has maintained its privileges and dignity. Which motion was seconded by Mr. Reid.
Debate ensued.
Question put and carried unanimously.
14. **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. F. Clarke, 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 WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 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 various measures indicated in your Excellency's Speech shall receive our earnest consideration, and the necessary provision for the Public Service will be made in due course.
"We join your Excellency in the hope that, under Divine Providence, our endeavours may be guided to the enduring benefit of the Colony."
Upon which Mr. Reid had moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraphs 3 and 4:—
"It is also a subject for regret that Ministers persisted in employing the services of Mr. Yarwood as a member of the Committee to inquire into the public accounts, when they became aware that he had previously published a strong opinion upon one of the chief issues he was asked to try.
"We respectfully agree with your Excellency in the opinion that recent events have shown the necessity for putting the Volunteer Forces of the Colony on a better footing; we, therefore, especially regret that recent appointments to positions in the Volunteer Forces of New South Wales seem to subordinate efficiency, merit, and patriotic service to other considerations, a course calling for strong disapproval."
And the Question being again proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted,—The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
Mr. Wilks 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, at fourteen minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 5.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 20 JUNE, 1900.

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

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF SYDNEY:—Mr. Wilson presented a Petition from J. M. Creed, Chairman of a Public Meeting held in the city of Sydney, on the 15th May, 1900, at which it was resolved that it was urgently necessary that such action should be taken by the Government and Parliament as will ensure the prompt cessation of the existing mismanagement of Municipal affairs in Sydney; that the Municipal franchise should be similar to that for Parliamentary elections; that the Mayor should be elected directly by the people; and that the Council should have extended powers in the direction of demolishing and building dwellings; and praying the House to give consideration to such resolutions.

Petition received.

2. **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE ELECTION BILL:**—Mr. Watson, pursuant to leave granted on 13th June, 1900, presented a Bill, intitled "*A Bill to make better provision for the election and appointment of Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to that object,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 10th July.
3. **PUBLIC HOSPITALS (VOTING) BILL (Formal Motion):**—Mr. FitzGerald moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Public Hospitals (Voting) 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, 21st August.
4. **JUSTICES OF THE PEACE REMOVAL BILL (Formal Motion):**—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the removal of persons from the Commission of the Peace under certain circumstances.
Question put and passed.
5. **ATTACHMENT OF WAGES ABOLITION BILL (Formal Motion):**—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during a previous 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, intitled, "*An Act to abolish Attachment of Wages,*" forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence during a previous Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Assembly requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Council's Standing Orders in that behalf.
Question put and passed.
Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.
6. **CENTRAL PASTORAL LEASE HOLDINGS (Formal Motion):**—Mr. Thomas Brown moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return furnishing the following particulars with respect to the Central pastoral lease holdings:—
 - (1.) Names and areas of such leasehold holdings and their registered lessees.
 - (2.) Names of such holdings over which an extension of leases has been granted under section 3 of 1895 Land Act, and terms of such extended leases.
 - (3.) Names of holdings on which conversions of pastoral leased lands into scrub lease areas have been made, in terms of section 35 of 1889 Land Act, and subsection vi of section 26 of 1895 Land Act; also the areas and terms of such scrub leases.
 - (4.) Names of holdings on which applications for conversion into scrub lease areas have been refused, the areas embraced in such applications, and reasons of refusal.

(5.)

20th June, 1900.

- (5.) Names of holdings and areas embraced in scrub lease applications not yet finally dealt with.
 (6.) Names of holdings and area of resumed areas held under occupation license; also area of such lands under reservation, and thereby debarred to settlement.
 (7.) Names of holdings and area of land which originally formed part of same, but which are now held by the lessees as improvement leases; also terms of such improvement leases.
 (8.) Names of holdings, and area of alienated lands which originally formed part of same, and are now held and worked in conjunction with such pastoral holdings.
 Question put and passed.
7. RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS APPOINTMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Quinn moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888, in respect to the tenure of office of the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Quinn then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888, in respect to the tenure of office of the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 7th August.
8. LABOUR UNIONS EMPLOYEES PROTECTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Edden moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Labour Unions Employees Protection 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, 21st August.
9. 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. F. Clarke, 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 WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 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 various measures indicated in your Excellency's Speech shall receive our earnest consideration, and the necessary provision for the Public Service will be made in due course.
 "We join your Excellency in the hope that, under Divine Providence, our endeavours may be guided to the enduring benefit of the Colony."
 Upon which Mr. Reid had moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraphs 3 and 4:—
 "It is also a subject of regret that Ministers persisted in employing the services of Mr. Yarwood as a member of the Committee to inquire into the Public Accounts when they became aware that he had previously published a strong opinion upon one of the chief issues he was asked to try.
 "We respectfully agree with your Excellency in the opinion that recent events have shown the necessity for putting the Volunteer Forces of the Colony on a better footing; we therefore especially regret that recent appointments to positions in the Volunteer Forces of New South Wales seem to subordinate efficiency, merit, and patriotic service to other considerations, a course calling for strong disapproval."
 And the Question being again proposed,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted,—The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
-
- And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—
- THURSDAY, 21 JUNE, 1900, A.M.
- Question put,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted—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.
 Sir William Lyne 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 Four o'clock.
10. COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into the Committee of Supply.
 Question put and passed.
11. COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
 Question put and passed.
12. CASES AGAINST CONSTABLES McDONALD AND MCGOVERN:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved without Notice, That the papers in connection with the case of perjury against Police Constables McDonald and McGovern, laid upon the Table on 19th June, 1900, be printed.
 Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th June, 1900.

13. REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE (*Sessional Order*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Refreshment Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Lee, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Leven, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Piddington, Mr. Cann, Mr. Meagher, 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.
14. STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE (*Sessional Order*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That the Standing Orders Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Sir Joseph Abbott, Mr. See, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Crick, Mr. Morgan, Mr. Reid, Mr. Cann, 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, and that Mr. Speaker be empowered to convene meetings of the Committee.
Question put and passed.
15. LIBRARY COMMITTEE (*Sessional Order*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Library Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Reid, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Miller, Mr. Waddell, 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. PRINTING COMMITTEE (*Sessional Order*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the Printing Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Gormly, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Dight, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Kidd, Mr. Millard, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Donaldson, and the Mover, to whom are hereby referred all papers (except such as the Standing Orders direct shall be printed, Reports from Select Committees on Private Bills, Estimates of Expenditure, and Estimates of Ways and Means) which may be 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, and such papers or abstracts shall be printed unless the House otherwise order.
(2.) That the Clerk of the House shall cause to be printed, as a matter of course, all reports from the Printing Committee.
Question put and passed.
17. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-two minutes after Five o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 6.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 21 JUNE, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Country and Suburban Parks:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) How much of the £10,000 voted on the last Estimates for country and suburban parks was expended on the purchase of parks?
 (2.) For what places were these parks purchased, what did each cost, and what was the area of each?
 (3.) How was the balance divided amongst the other suburbs and electorates, and what did each receive?
 (4.) How many parks are there in each electorate, and the approximate area of each?
 (5.) How many parks had special sums voted for the purchase of same, where were they situated, and what was the approximate area of each?

Mr. Hassall answered,—A return is being prepared, giving the information applied for by the Honorable Member, which will be laid upon the Table of the House next week.

- (2.) Office of the District Surveyor at Forbes:—Mr. Holman asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Has he any objection to having a return prepared showing (a) how many matters remitted to the District Surveyor at Forbes on or before 31st March of this year are still unreported upon;
 (b) the date at which such questions were so remitted to the District Surveyor?
 (2.) If from such a return it should appear that the District Survey Officer at Forbes is overburdened with work, will he take steps to increase the staff there, with a view to avoiding accumulation of arrears?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I have no objection; but I think it will be sufficient if I make full inquiry, with a view of ascertaining whether the staff of the District Survey Office, Forbes, requires strengthening.

- (3.) Moneys voted for Schedule Roads:—Mr. Donaldson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that all moneys voted for Schedule Roads and not expended early in June lapse back into the Treasury?
 (2.) Considering the bad state of the roads, owing to heavy rains, will he promise that all the unexpended money will stand to the credit of the respective roads until it is spent?
 (3.) Will he instruct Road Superintendents to get out their road contracts earlier in the financial year than is their custom at present?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) All votes not expended by the 30th June of any year lapse according to law; but instructions have been issued to local officers to do all the work possible before 30th June.
 (2.) This cannot be done; but if I obtain a substantial increase in the Road Vote any of the Schedule Votes which may be unexpended at the end of the financial year will be made up by special grants when the ensuing Estimates shall have been passed.
 (3.) Road Superintendents are advised of the amounts available immediately after Supply is granted or the Appropriation Act is passed, and instructions are given for the expenditure to be proceeded with at once.

- (4.) Practice of Medicine and Surgery:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will the Government take into consideration, with the view to the protecting of public health, the expediency of introducing a Bill during the present Session dealing with the important question of regulating the practice of medicine and surgery, and other matters connected therewith?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter will receive consideration.

(5.)

21st June, 1900.

- (5.) Ringbarking Timber, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is he aware that a contract has been let to ringbark the whole of the valuable timber on water reserve No. 1,380, parish of Nanami, Molong District, county of Ashburnham, the most valuable timber reserve in that locality?
 - (2.) Will he see that immediate steps are taken to prevent the destruction of useful and valuable timber on this reserve, or until the opinion of the Progress Committee of Goolagong and Eugowra is obtained on the matter?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—Nothing is known of ringbarking being effected on water reserve 1,380, in the parish of Nanami, Wellington District, but inquiry will be made.
- (6.) Appointment of Medical Officer, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he received any complaints from Dr. Lamb, the Government Medical Officer for Molong, respecting the conduct of the Hospital Committee in repeatedly declining to appoint him as an additional medical officer for the Molong Hospital, in accordance with the wish of a large majority of the public; if so, what action (if any) does he intend to take in the matter?
 - (2.) Is he aware that a lot of ill-feeling and public dissatisfaction exists in Molong District at the conduct of the Hospital Committee in continually refusing to entertain Dr. Lamb's application to be appointed one of the medical officers to this institution, and will he have a searching inquiry made into the matter?
 - (3.) Will he cause, for the information of the public, a full list of the names of subscribers to the Molong Hospital to be laid upon the Table of this House?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1 and 2.) Inquiry has been made into the matters referred to, and a copy of the report was sent to the Committee of Management of the Hospital for any remarks they might wish to make, but no reply has as yet been received from them.
 - (3.) I will endeavour to obtain a list of the subscribers, and lay it upon the Table.
- (7.) Bridge at Goolagong, on the Lachlan River:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) When are steps likely to be taken to erect a bridge at Goolagong, on the Lachlan River?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the want of this bridge causes a serious loss and inconvenience to residents in that locality?
 - (3.) Is it not a fact that on the Lachlan River at Forbes two bridges are erected within a distance of 5 miles, and yet the residents of Goolagong are 50 miles without a bridge, and unable to get their produce to market, owing to their inability to cross the river?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I find that the papers relating to this bridge are with the local officer, who will be instructed to report at once, and so soon as the information is received I will communicate with the Honorable Member.
- (8.) Land Leased at White Bay and Johnstone's Bay:—Mr. Law asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Will he give the names of the lessees and the terms and conditions upon which the Government have leased land at the head of White Bay?
 - (2.) What area does each lessee hold?
 - (3.) Will he give similar information regarding the land at the head of Johnstone's Bay, Annandale?
- Sir William Lync* answered,—
- (1 and 2.) Land, about 250 feet by 200 feet, at White Bay, has been leased to Messrs. Cowlshaw Brothers for three years, from 22nd November, 1897, at an annual rental of £250; and another piece, 200 feet by 200 feet, to Mr. J. J. Maxwell, lease dating from 1st March, 1898, at an annual rental of £10—the Government collecting all wharfage and tonnage rates.
 - (3.) Land at Rozelle Bay (head of Johnstone's Bay), 300 feet by 300 feet, is leased to Messrs. Langdon, Hopkins, and Langdon, lease dating from 10th July, 1899, at a rental of £200 for the first year, £250 for the second year, and £300 for the third year.
- (9.) Public Servants entitled to Pensions:—Mr. Law asked the Attorney-General,—How many persons are there in the Public Service now who will on retirement be entitled to a pension?
- Mr. Wood* answered,—According to the last return 2,445 officers are now contributing to the Superannuation Account. If the Honorable Member will be so good as to refer to the Report of the Public Service Board, which was laid upon the Table of the House last week, he will find on pages 25, 26, and 27 a full statement of the present position of the Superannuation Fund.
- (10.) Scrub Lease of A. Hope, near Condobolin:—Mr. Holman asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has he any objection to laying upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the granting of A. Hope's scrub lease near Condobolin?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—I have no objection; but the papers should be moved for in the usual manner.
- (11.) Koorawatha-Grenfell Railway:—Mr. Holman asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has his Department fixed any approximate date for the opening of the Koorawatha-Grenfell line?
 - (2.) Would it not be possible, by increasing the labour employed there, to have the line available for this season's wool traffic?
 - (3.) Can it be made available for this season's harvest?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) About April, 1901.
 - (2.) It would be somewhat difficult; but I will make inquiries, and see if the work can be expedited.
 - (3.) A portion will probably be available.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st June, 1900.

- (12.) Subscribers to the Telephone System :—Mr. Holman asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware of the fact that dissatisfied subscribers to the telephone system have been recently informed that "if not pleased with the service they can be disconnected"?
 - (2.) Are such replies issued with his approval?
 - (3.) Does he regard this as "specific performance" of the contract entered into with subscribers by his Department?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—No; only in one very special case, where a subscriber, in arrear with his rent, made a complaint, and on investigation his line was found to be working satisfactorily.
- (13.) Officers of the Land and Income Tax Department :—Mr. Holman asked the Attorney-General,—Is it the intention of the Government, in their Bill dealing with the Civil Service, to place the officers of the Land and Income Tax Departments on the permanent staff?
- Mr. Wood answered,—Yes.
- (14.) Police Superannuation Fund and Police Reward Fund :—Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Police Superannuation Fund and the Police Reward Fund are in a hopelessly insolvent condition?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that for the past thirty years, the Police have had 3 per cent. deducted from their salaries, being 2 per cent. legally deducted under the Police Regulation Act of 1862 (25 Vic. No. 16), and 1 per cent. under a promise from the Government that the Government would make the funds self-supporting?
 - (3.) Have the Government ever assisted these funds financially, and to what extent?
 - (4.) Has the promise (if made) of the Government referred to in No. 2 been kept?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that there are now many men of all ranks awaiting superannuation, of whom many have well and faithfully served their full period, who have been taxed all that time?
 - (6.) If so, does he intend to take steps to keep faith with these men by putting the fund upon a solvent basis?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) The funds are at the present time exhausted, and the revenue is unequal to meet the charges.
 - (2 and 4.) Three per cent. has been deducted since the 1st July, 1868. There was no such promise.
 - (3.) Yes. Sums have been voted annually for the past three years to meet claims.
 - (5.) Yes.
 - (6.) The matter is being considered.
- (15.) Hours of Work and Holidays to Railway Employees :—Mr. W. W. Davis asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he take into early consideration the advisability and the justice of treating with the Railway Commissioners, with a view to legislate as to the hours of work and the holidays to all railway employees, as at present carried out in the County of Cumberland?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that regulations already exist in regard to holidays in the Railway Service. All employees are allowed a holiday for all days generally proclaimed, and, in addition, many grades receive six additional good-conduct holidays. The concessions to employees on the New South Wales lines are most liberal. The employees in the Metropolitan Division have had extra holiday privileges recently in connection principally with the departure of contingents to South Africa, but the occurrences were exceptional, and no reason existed for their extension to all districts.
- (16.) Police Superannuation and Reward Funds :—Mr. W. W. Davis asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he give early consideration to the Police Superannuation Fund and the Police Reward Fund?
- Mr. See answered,—Yes.
- (17.) Mandurama-Gallymont Road :—Mr. Willis, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—How much money was granted for the year commencing on 1st July, 1899, for the Mandurama-Gallymont Road, and how much has been spent?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The information required can only be obtained from the local officer. I have given instructions for him to furnish same, and upon its receipt I will send a reply to the Honorable Member.
- (18.) Reduction of Fares and Goods Rates on the Railways :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Seeing the extensive patronage on the railways during holiday seasons—a period of reduced rates, will he ascertain whether it is not expedient as an experiment in permanent wholly reduced rates to try for a period of three months a reduction of one-third, or of one-half, in the passenger and goods rates on all railway lines in New South Wales?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—As the Honorable Member is no doubt aware, the fixing of rates is a matter largely determined by the Railway Commissioners. I have ascertained their views in regard to the Honorable Member's proposal, but they are unwilling to make such a radical experiment as suggested, and consider that, if tried, it would be most prejudicial to the Railway revenue.
- (19.) Pastoral Leases in the Central Division :—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House, if possible within the next week, a list of the various pastoral leases in the Central Division whose term expires within the next nine months, counting from the present date?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—A return, giving the information sought by the Honorable Member, is being prepared, and will be laid upon the Table of the House with the least possible delay.

21st June, 1900.

- (20.) Appointment of a Second Master in Equity:—Mr. Haynes asked the Attorney-General,—
 (1.) Is he aware that great loss and inconvenience are occasioned the public by reason of continuous delays in Equity appeals?
 (2.) Is he aware that the services of a second Master in Equity are urgently needed, owing to the excessive amount of duty now imposed on the present Master, and will he give immediate attention to the matter?
 Mr. Wise answered,—I am making inquiries. Will the Honorable Member kindly repeat his Question next week.
- (21.) Employees of the Telegraph Construction Branch:—Mr. Spence asked the Postmaster-General,—
 (1.) Is he aware that men are employed in the Telegraph Construction Branch at less than the minimum wage-rate paid in the Public Works Department?
 (2.) Will he give instructions that the minimum rate be raised to that fixed by the Works Department?
 Mr. Fegan answered,—Less than the minimum rate of wage is only paid to inexperienced men when taken on trial, and, if found suitable, they are advanced to the minimum rate.
- (22.) Chinese working on Sundays:—Mr. Samuel Smith asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Is he aware that Chinese factory operatives work in factories on Sundays within the metropolitan district?
 (2.) Will he instruct the Police to enforce the provisions of the Sunday Observance Act?
 Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) The law is practically inoperative.
- (23.) Pallal Pastoral Holding:—Mr. Moore asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Was an area withdrawn from Pallal Pastoral Holding, under section 3 of the Crown Lands Act, 1895, for settlement?
 (2.) If so, on what date?
 (3.) What was the number of acres?
 (4.) Was an extension of lease, in virtue of such withdrawal, granted to the pastoral lessee; if so, what extension?
 (5.) Has the withdrawn area been made available for settlement; if not, why not?
 Mr. Hassall answered,—
 (1.) Yes.
 (2.) By *Gazette* notice of 16th July, 1898.
 (3.) 19,000 acres.
 (4.) Yes, for sixteen months.
 (5.) Not yet, as an exchange involved in it has not yet been completed, but steps are being taken to have the matter completed with as little delay as possible.
- (24.) Flogging of Prisoners for Breaches of Discipline:—Mr. Holman asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Has he any objection to laying upon the Table of this House a return showing in how many cases during 1899 prisoners undergoing sentence have been sentenced to floggings by Visiting Justices for breaches of discipline?
 (2.) In how many cases have floggings been so inflicted for other offences?
 Mr. Wood answered,—I will presently lay a return upon the Table of the House giving the desired information.
- (25.) Case of William Creswell:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Has the Cabinet considered the recommendations made by the members of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the case of William Creswell?
 (2.) If not, will its members do so at an early date, with the view of adopting such recommendations?
 Sir William Lyne answered,—The report has not been considered by the Cabinet, as it was deemed advisable to lay it upon the Table first, which will be done presently.
- (26.) Registration of Persons trading as Companies and under Partnerships:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer.—Does he intend this Session to introduce a Bill to secure the registration of the names in full of all persons trading as companies and under partnerships in all lines of business carried on throughout the Colony of New South Wales?
 Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes. The Bill is now in the hands of the draftsman.
- (27.) Registration of Wholesale Produce and Fruit Agents:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he at an early date introduce a Bill to render compulsory the registration of wholesale produce and fruit agents; also to compel such agents to establish trust accounts into which to pay the returns of sales on behalf of constituents?
 Mr. Fegan answered,—The matter has not yet been under the attention of the Department; but I shall have the question looked into.
- (28.) Payment to Mr. J. C. Neild, M.L.A., for Report on Old Age Pensions:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Has any payment whatever been made to Mr. J. C. Neild, M.L.A., for his work in compiling and collecting facts and general information for his report on Old Age Pensions?
 (2.) Has any portion of the sum of nearly £200, which the translation of many foreign documents included in the abovenamed report, been paid?

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st June, 1900.

(3.) Has Mr. Neild been reimbursed as much as the price of the ink and postage used and employed in the execution of this work?

(4.) Is it a fact that this work has been acknowledged on all sides as one of great value and service?

Mr. See answered,—

(1 and 3.) Only the amount which was repaid by him on the 30th August, 1899, viz., £350.

(2.) Yes; £39 to F. Falconer. £142 will be provided on the coming Estimates.

(4.) I am led to believe that the report contains a large amount of valuable information.

(29.) Amendment of the Libel Law:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Will he this Session introduce and carry into law the Bill some time since passed by the Legislative Council amending the libel law of New South Wales?

(2.) If not, will he himself frame and introduce a Bill having this object in view?

Mr. Wise answered,—Yes; if time will permit.

(30.) Proposed Exchange of Cremorne Foreshores:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has any decision yet been arrived at with reference to the proposed exchange of Cremorne foreshores for adjacent land, the property of the Milson family?

(2.) If not, when may such decision be looked for?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I have given no decision in this case, as action on my part has been delayed through the matter having become the subject of public meetings and deputations, and I have no desire to prevent either of the respective parties from stating their views in connection with the proposal.

(31.) Cost of Dispatch of Troops to South Africa:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What has been the total cost to date of the dispatch of troops to South Africa, including (a) charges incurred in equipping, maintaining, transporting, and paying allowances to officers and men of the several Contingents; and (b) all other charges incidental thereto?

(2.) How many officers and how many men were so dispatched?

(3.) What amount did the Government pay in connection with the dispatch of the Bushmen's Contingent?

(4.) From what source does the Government propose to realise the funds to pay the cost of dispatch, maintenance, &c., of these troops?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(32.) Importation of Horses from Queensland:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, while horses conveyed by ships from Queensland are allowed to enter New South Wales ports, owners of other horses are debarred from bringing their animals across the Queensland Border into this Colony?

(2.) Is he aware that this restriction is prejudicially affecting those settlements whose mainstay is the Border traffic?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) The only Queensland horses which are allowed to enter New South Wales by sea from the Queensland quarantined area are horses which are in actual work—such as race-horses, saddle-horses, &c. Before shipment they must have been inspected and smeared in Queensland, and are again examined and smeared on arrival at Sydney or Newcastle, the only ports at which they can land. Horses of this class can enter the Colony at any crossing on our Border, even out of the quarantined area, after inspection and smearing.

(2.) The restriction referred to may affect to some slight extent the settlers on a small portion of the Border, but the regulation is necessary if this Colony is to be protected from the inroad of the tick. Dr. Tidswell having reported that the ticks practically develop on horses the same as upon cattle, the Department considers that the continuance of the regulation is necessary for the preservation of the stock of the Colony.

(33.) Debates of the Imperial Parliament on the Federal Commonwealth of Australia Bill:—

Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he have placed in the hands of Honorable Members full reports of the debates in both Houses of the Imperial Parliament on the Federal Commonwealth of Australia Bill, together with a copy of that Bill as finally enacted?

Sir William Lyne answered,—There is no objection to the adoption of the course suggested.

(34.) Flogging of Prisoner in Goulburn Gaol:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he call for, and lay same upon the Table of this House, a report on the circumstances attending the flogging of prisoner No. 302 in Goulburn Gaol?

Mr. Wood answered,—Yes. The papers will be laid upon the Table presently.

(35.) Land Exchange at Nyang:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) How often was the Nyang exchange refused by the Deniliquin Land Board before being granted by the late Minister for Lands, Mr. Carruthers, Member for St. George?

(2.) Was the said exchange sanctioned by the late Minister for Lands, notwithstanding adverse reports of the Local Land Board and the Departmental officials?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The papers in this case are somewhat voluminous, and I have not had time to read them through and master all the details. It appears, however, that on two occasions certain proposals for exchange were referred to the Land Board for report, and that on the last occasion

21st June, 1900.

occasion the Board pointed out that the proposal did not sufficiently tend to consolidate the freehold lands of the applicant, and that he was seeking an undue proportion of frontage to the Edward River. Subsequently a modification of the proposals came under discussion, and after a special report had been obtained from the surveyors of the district Mr. Carruthers approved of a modified exchange, which was considered to have sufficiently met the Board's objections.

- (36.) Compensation to ex-prisoner Gibson:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—Has he considered the advisability of acting upon the suggestion of His Honor the Chief Justice that some compensation should be given to ex-prisoner Gibson for the loss of his eye through no default or negligence of his own while serving a sentence at Trial Bay?

Mr. Wood answered,—I do not read the remarks of the Honorable the Chief Justice as suggesting that Gibson should be given compensation. It appears that the accident did not occur through any negligence whatever on the part of any of the Government officials.

- (37.) Vote for Public Parks and Recreation Reserves:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The amount granted to each electorate from the Public Parks and Recreation Reserves Vote for the year 1898–9?

(2.) Also the amount granted to each electorate from the Public Parks and Recreation Reserves Vote for the year 1899–1900?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Yes; I will presently lay upon the Table of this House a return giving the information sought by the Honorable Member.

- (38.) Working of the Telephone Exchange:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a Board of Inquiry was lately appointed to inquire into the working of the Telephone Exchange?

(2.) Is it a fact that such Board only inquired into and reported upon the mechanical branch of the Department?

(3.) Is it a fact that considerable dissatisfaction exists as to the working of this exchange by switch assistants and others; and will he also cause an inquiry to be made into the clerical and administrative work of same?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No; the following were the instructions to the Board: "to report upon the present troubles in connection with our telephone system, ascertaining the cause, and whether the delays and other irregularities are unavoidable"; and their report—a summary of which has already appeared in the Press—conformed with the above instructions.

(3.) I regret that troubles still exist in connection with our telephone system, caused mainly by the new switchboard not yet being in satisfactory working order. It has not yet been formally taken over from the contractor, and the Government is holding £5,250 out of a contract sum of £12,500, pending the board being handed over to the Department in a satisfactory condition. I am, however, glad to find that the service is gradually improving, and am in great hopes that in the course of a short time the whole telephone service will be in an efficient condition.

- (39.) Medical Officers under the Board of Health:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the number of medical officers at present employed by the Board of Health, exclusive of Dr. Ashburton Thompson?

(2.) How many additional medical men have been employed during the bubonic plague trouble?

(3.) Will he be good enough to state the name and the salary attached to each medical officer other than the chief?

(4.) Were any additional expenses or fees granted to any of the medical officers; if so, how much per day was paid to each of the medical gentlemen?

(5.) Is Dr. Kesteven employed in connection with the Health Department; if so, where, and what remuneration is he receiving; if he is not now employed, when were his services dispensed with?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Eleven.

(2.) Eighteen.

(3.) Principal Assistant Medical Officer of the Government (Dr. Frank Tidswell), £300; Port Health Officer, Sydney (Dr. W. Peirce), £515, allowance for quarters, £60; Port Health Officer, Newcastle (Dr. R. U. Russell), £226; Dr. Shells, Dr. Barker, Dr. Grieves, £3 3s. a day each; Dr. Salter, £4 4s. a day; Mr. Harvey, £3 3s. a day; Mr. Charles P. B. Clubbe, £26 5s. for each visit paid in consultation to the Quarantine Hospital; Dr. Pardy and Dr. Corlis, £1 1s. for each vessel examined and reported upon.

(4.) Three temporary medical officers received a lodging allowance of 11s. 3d. a day; the Medical Officer of Health for the Metropolitan District was allowed £1 11s. 6d. a day, and a lodging allowance of 11s. 3d. a day, in consideration of his undertaking certain plague duties additional to his ordinary municipal duties.

(5.) No. 12th November, 1899.

- (40.) Accidents with Electric Trams:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The number of accidents since the introduction of the electric trams?

(2.) The number of fatal cases during that period?

(3.) Were these accidents attributable in any way to the want of proper regulation of the street traffic on the routes through which these trams passed?

(4.) When is it his intention to introduce the Bill dealing with the question of vehicular traffic generally?

Sir

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st June, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Seventy-six.
- (2.) Eleven.
- (3 and 4.) The control of the vehicular traffic in the streets is generally admitted to be in an unsatisfactory state, and a Bill has been prepared with a view of dealing with the matter.

(41.) Presentation to Mr. C. Delohery:—Mr. Byrne asked the Attorney-General,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to a Press report of a presentation made to Mr. C. Delohery by officials recently subordinates of his in the Metropolitan Police Courts?
- (2.) In view of Mr. Delohery's present position as a member of the Public Service Board, does the Premier approve of that gentleman's action; if not, will he, in the interest of pure administration, intimate to the Board the advisableness of Mr. Delohery abstaining from all participation in matters affecting the subscribing officials in question?

Mr. Wise answered,—Neither Sir William Lyne nor myself have had our attention called to this matter; but we are quite sure that in making this presentation there was no intention to interfere with the purity of administration, and we feel assured that such a presentation could not have that effect.

(42.) Fee for Reappraising Holdings:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it his intention to maintain the fixed charge of £2 for reappraising holdings of 40 acres and other smaller areas?
- (2.) What is the objection to a graduated scale of charges?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I have not been supplied with good reasons for reducing the fees, which are already regarded as small. There is no desire to ask for heavy fees, or fees out of proportion to the cost which the Crown will have to incur; but, as already explained, the actual expense of an appraisal does not rise or fall in exact proportion to the area, and this is the objection to a reduction of fee, and to a specially graduated scale of fees according to acreage.

(43.) Case of the Dismissal of J. W. Bailey:—Mr. Edden asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Has J. W. Bailey, of Merewether, requested the Honorable the Minister for Mines to "appoint a competent Court composed of practical experienced men," to inquire into and report upon the following questions:—

- (1.) Whether J. W. Bailey was dismissed for finding and reporting gas in the Newcastle Coal Company's A Pit?
- (2.) Whether the chief and senior inspectors did their duty in urging J. W. Bailey to see Mr. Keightley, general manager of the Newcastle Coal Company?
- (3.) Whether it is legal to boycott J. W. Bailey for complying with the Coal Mines Regulation Act in reporting the existence of gas?
- (4.) Whether the Mines Department is under any responsibility with regard to the enforced idleness of the above for a period of twelve months?

- (2.) Is it his intention to appoint such Court; if not, why not?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) Yes. I may point out in regard to the four questions put by Mr. Bailey—
 - (1.) This was dealt with by the court of investigation.
 - (2.) The officers did not urge Mr. Bailey; they merely suggested the advisableness of the course. Mr. Keightley wished the matters complained of thoroughly investigated in their presence, and assured them that any official found guilty of violating the Act or deceiving the inspectors would be dismissed or reduced. As proof of the desire for a full inquiry, the company at the court of investigation consented to the admission of evidence clearly outside the scope of the inquiry. It was not intended that such an inquiry should close the matter; further action would have most certainly been taken if the circumstances had called for it. At the inception of the matter when Mr. Bailey was seeking to be reinstated on the day-shift, he expressed to my predecessor in office a wish to see Mr. Keightley, and said that if that gentleman knew all the facts he thought he would put him back to his old position.
 - (3.) The Mines Department has no power to deal with such a question. Mr. Bailey's own evidence concerning his conduct is not likely to have induced employers to offer him a position of responsibility or trust.
 - (4.) None whatever, and Mr. Bailey has already been treated with more than ordinary consideration by the Department.
- (2.) In answer to Question No. 2, I can only reply that the Minister for Mines, under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, has no power to appoint such a Court.

(44.) Public Road leading from Molong River Settlement, Ti-tree Creek, Borenore Creek, &c.:—

Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is he aware that the public road leading from the Molong River Settlement, Ti-tree Creek, Borenore Creek, &c., &c., by the Catholic Church School and Convent, to the railway station at Borenore, is closed by the railway line leading from Orange to Molong; and, if it is closed, will he see that it is opened to the public?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I am not aware; but if the railway blocks the road, and interferes with traffic, the Railway Commissioners would probably satisfactorily deal with the matter if it were brought under their notice.

(45.) Legal Proceedings against Farmers for Unpaid Assessments, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Molong Pasture and Stock Protection Board has decided to take legal proceedings against defaulters for the recovery from small farmers and settlers of the balance of unpaid assessment for last year, and that the assessment for the present year, fixed in May last, be called in by the 15th August?

(2.)

21st June, 1900.

- (2.) Will he see that no such harsh proceedings are allowed to be enforced, seeing that farmers and small stock-owners during last and previous years have suffered severely from protracted droughts, low price for farm produce, and the difficulty of placing farm produce on the market owing to the bad and impassable state of the roads in the district?
- (3.) Is it the intention of the Government to take any steps to have the Diseases in Sheep Act repealed; if so, when?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I am not aware; but I would point out that the Pasture and Stock Boards of the Colony are appointed to administer their own affairs, and deal with their own funds. I will, however, bring the matter referred to by the Honorable Member under the attention of the Molong Board.
- (3.) It is the intention of the Government to introduce a measure to amend this Act at the first opportunity.
- (46.) Cure for Bubonic Plague by Dr. Beech:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a Dr. Beech, of this city, in March last offered the Board of Health to supply a medicine free of charge, and to instruct nurses as to its use, asserting that it would cure the worst case of plague within two days?
- (2.) Is it a fact that after the lapse of some time, with the plague at its full height, the Board of Health declined the offer; and, if so, why?
- (3.) Will he, in view of the positive assertion of Dr. Beech that he can cure the dread plague, take steps to give him an opportunity to prove his remedy should any further cases of plague arise?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) An herbalist named Beech did make such an offer and such assertions.
- (2 and 3.) Yes. The Board had no power to hand over members of the public of whom they had charge, while they were suffering from plague, to the care of an unregistered practitioner for experimental purposes.
- (47.) Circular Quay Accident Inquiry Board:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- Has any effect been given to the recommendation of the Circular Quay Accident Inquiry Board, appointed in September last, that an officer should be immediately appointed to systematically inspect and deal with the whole of the Government wharfs, jetties, and stages in the Metropolitan District; if so, who has been appointed, what are the duties of the officer, and does he submit periodical reports as to the safety or otherwise of such wharfs, jetties, and stages?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes. Mr. Angus Moir was appointed Inspector of Wharfs, Jetties, and Stages in February last, his duties being the examination of all wharfs, &c., in the Metropolitan area. Periodical reports are furnished by Mr. Moir.
- (48.) Employment of Monitors, Telephone Exchange Office:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) What number of monitors are employed in the Telephone Exchange head office?
- (2.) What is the maximum and minimum salary paid; and is same fixed by regulation?
- (3.) Were increases recommended some three years ago; and is it a fact that no effect has been given to such recommendation?
- (4.) What are the duties of monitors; and will he consider the advisability of changing the name to that of overseer?
- Mr. Crick answered,—
- (1.) Seven.
- (2.) Maximum, £145; minimum, £96; not fixed by regulation, but determined by the Public Service Board on Departmental reports.
- (3.) The salaries of all have been increased during the last two years and a half, and further increases have been sanctioned from 1st July next, subject to the necessary funds being voted.
- (4.) Checking switch attendants and generally assisting in the supervision and work of the Exchange. The matter of changing the designation will be considered.
- (49.) Special Grant to the Pierce Memorial Nurses Home, West Maitland:—Mr. Gillies asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the late Colonial Secretary, prior to vacating office, placed the sum of £300 upon the Estimates as a special grant in aid of the Pierce Memorial Nurses Home in West Maitland?
- (2.) If so, why was the recommendation of the Honorable J. N. Brunker, late Colonial Secretary, not carried out by the present occupant of the office?
- Mr. See answered,—An amount was placed upon a list with other applications for grants out of the Vote for Special Grants for Country and Suburban Hospitals, £9,000, to be distributed when the Vote was passed by the House; but after the Estimates had been passed a point was raised by the Auditor-General in several cases, of which this was one, with regard to the legality of paying an amount from the Hospital Vote to a home of this kind, as it could not be classed as a hospital, and any grant in aid of such institutions would require a specific Vote by Parliament.
- (50.) Grading of Officials of the Telephone Staff:—Mr. Rose, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Postmaster-General,—Have the officials in the Telephone Staff been graded by the Public Service Board; if so, is it a fact that officials with long services are still receiving very low salaries, while others, with much shorter service and less responsible positions, are receiving larger amounts?
- Mr. Crick answered,—This is a matter for the Public Service Board; but in any case a searching investigation into the length of service of the telephone staff would have to be made before the question could be replied to.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st June, 1900.

(51.) Telephone Tunnels:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for *Mr. Spruson*, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) What length of telephone tunnels it was originally proposed to construct?
- (2.) How much of this length has been completed to date?
- (3.) Is the portion which has been completed and brought into use the success it was expected to be when the work was first undertaken?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1.) To the Exchange and railway station.
- (2.) The whole.
- (3.) Yes.

(52.) Adulteration of Beer in Melbourne:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a paragraph appearing in the issue of the *Daily Telegraph* of the 20th June, to the effect that “an analytical examination disclosed that 40 per cent. of the “draught beer and 34 per cent. of bottled beer manufactured in Melbourne is adulterated with “salicylic acid”?

(2.) Will he see that beer manufactured in Sydney is subjected to a similar analytical examination for the protection of public health?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) New South Wales beers have been taken for analysis from time to time, and so far no salicylic acid has been found in them.

(53.) Deaths of valuable Horses from eating Chaff composed of Twine and Wire:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that of late years a large number of valuable horses have died through eating chaff containing bits of twine, knots of twine, and small pieces of wire (with which hay and straw is usually bound) being left in the chaff in the act of cutting with steam chaff-cutting machines?

(2.) Will he see that this dangerous practice (and wholesale sacrifice of valuable horses) is put a stop to, and that before hay or straw is cut into chaff with steam chaff-cutting machines the twine and wire is first removed, and that dealers in chaff give a guarantee to the buyer that the chaff contains none of those foreign and dangerous substances?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) I am given to understand that deaths have occurred from the cause stated.
- (2.) I do not well see how the Government could control such a practice. It appears to be more a matter for the buyer to see that he obtains produce which do not contain these substances.

(54.) Cablegram to the late Premier respecting Clause 74 of the Constitution Bill:—*Mr. O'Conor*, for *Mr. Piddington*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it true that the Right Honorable G. H. Reid, when Premier of this Colony, withheld from public notice a communication, by way of cablegram or letter, from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in reference to the Imperial objection to clause 74 of the Constitution Bill?

(2.) Is it also true that the contents of the communication referred to were not forwarded to the Governments of the other Australian Colonies?

(3.) Will the Premier lay this paper upon the Table of the House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) It is presumed that the Honorable Member refers to a document referred to in the following extract from a recent speech of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

“In 1897, when the Premiers came here, I had the honor of discussing it with them. Some public reference to it was made in the papers laid before this House, but the conversations on the subject were, as a rule, of the nature of private communication. At the request of *Mr. Reid*, who was, as it were, the dean of the representatives from Australia, being Prime Minister of the mother Colony of New South Wales, I handed to him a memorandum, on the part of Her Majesty's Government, of the amendments to the draft proposal we had seen, which we thought were desirable, and I especially called his attention to the probability that the Imperial Parliament would think it its duty to interfere if there were any limitation of the right of appeal. (Hear, hear). In this memorandum I quoted a passage from memoranda of the Privy Council, which gave in succinct terms the main objection to any proposal of the kind.” *Mr. R. E. O'Connor*, a member of the Drafting Committee of the Federal Convention, has been referred to, and states that he has some recollection of *Mr. Reid* submitting a confidential document to the Committee, in which certain objections to parts of the Commonwealth Bill by the Imperial Government were set out. An officer of the Treasury informs me that, by *Mr. Reid's* instruction, he obtained a confidential paper at Parliament House, addressed to *Mr. Reid*, and handed same to *Mr. Barton*. This was about the end of the sitting of the Convention in Sydney in September, 1897.

(2.) No official record exists of such communication having been made.

(3.) I have not been able to trace the whereabouts of the paper, and cannot make any promise as to tabling it until I have had an opportunity of perusing the contents. I have ascertained that it is a paper which analysed nearly all the clauses of the Commonwealth Bill as it was passed in Adelaide, and referred also to the Canadian Constitution. I cannot find the document, but perhaps my Right Honorable friend the Leader of the Opposition may know something of it. I did try to-day to find the document, but I could not.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By *Mr. Newman*—From certain residents of Spring Terrace.

(2.) By *Mr. Jessop*—From *Wm. Sidaway*, Chairman, and *Ernest Percy*, Secretary of “Hearts of Oak” Lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars, meeting at Waverley.

(3.) By *Mr. Jessop*—From certain residents of Waverley.

Petitions received.

21st June, 1900.

3. PAPERS:—

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for November, 1899.
- (2.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for December, 1899.
- (3.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for January, 1900.
- (4.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for February, 1900.
- (5.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for March, 1900.
- (6.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for April, 1900.
- (7.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for construction of a Loop in connection with duplication of the Dulwich Hill Tramway.
- (8.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for Water Supply for the South-western Railway at Marrar.
- (9.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for grade improvements on the Great Southern Railway at Demondrille.
- (10.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for improvements in the station arrangements at Pennant Hills.
- (11.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for grade improvements on the Great Southern Railway at Nubba.
- (12.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for grade improvements on the Great Western Railway, between Gresham and Newbridge.
- (13.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for improving station arrangements on the Great Northern Railway at Llangothlin.
- (14.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for improvements on the Great Western Railway, between Newbridge and Blayney.
- (15.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for improving station arrangements at Bendick Morrell, between Harden and Blayney.
- (16.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for extending the station arrangements at Quipolly.
- (17.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for improving station arrangements at Camden.
- (18.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for road approach to Warne station-yard, on the Great Western Railway.
- (19.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for a residence for the officer in charge at Toowong.
- (20.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act of 1888, for improving station arrangements at Homebush.
- (21.) Statement showing the average Liabilities and Assets of Banks within the Colony for quarter ended 31st December, 1899.
- (22.) Statement showing the average Liabilities and Assets of Banks within the Colony for quarter ended 31st March, 1900.
- (23.) Statement showing the average Liabilities and Assets of Public Companies within the Colony for quarter ended 31st December, 1899.
- (24.) Statement showing the average Liabilities and Assets of Public Companies within the Colony for quarter ended 31st March, 1900.
- (25.) Report of Pharmacy Board for the year 1899.
- (26.) Report of Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended 31st December, 1899.
- (27.) Report of Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended 31st March 1900.
- (28.) Statement of Trust Moneys Deposit Account for the year ended 31st March, 1900.
- (29.) Report of the Conference of Statisticians respecting the Collection and Compilation of the Census of Australasia of 1901.
- (30.) Rules under the Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899.
- (31.) Amended Regulations and Forms under the Stamp Duties Act, 1898, and the Probate Duties (Amendment) Act, 1899.
- (32.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Bourke under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.
- (33.) By-laws of the Borough of West Maitland under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.
- (34.) By-laws of the Borough of Armidale under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.
- (35.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Carcoar under the Public Health Act, 1896.
- (36.) Report of Royal Commission appointed to inquire into the case of William Creswell.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report respecting the flogging of prisoner No. 302 in Goulburn Gaol.
- (2.) Return showing number of prisoners sentenced to floggings for breaches of prison discipline during the year 1899, under sentences of Visiting Justices.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Returns showing the amounts granted to each Electorate from the Public Parks and Recreation Reserves Vote for the years 1898-9 and 1899-1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st June, 1900.

4. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House, at its rising this day, do adjourn until half-past Three o'clock on Tuesday next.
Question put and passed.
5. SYDNEY GRAMMAR SCHOOL ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir J. P. Abbott moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend an Act, intituled "An Act to incorporate and partially endow the Sydney Grammar School, and for other purposes."
Question put and passed.
6. EMPLOYERS LIABILITY ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Employers Liability Act in its relation to waterside labourers.
Question put and passed.
7. LICENSED TIED HOUSES BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Meagher 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 dealing with principles of freedom of trade and contract in respect of bonds taken by brewers over the licensees of public-houses.
Question put and passed.
8. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Redfern, Mr. McGowen, 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 request of the Honorable Edmund Barton, Q.C., for an additional grant towards his expenses in "England."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. McGowen moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
9. METROPOLITAN STREET TRAFFIC REGULATION BILL:—Mr. See (*by consent*) moved, without 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 better provision for the regulation of traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on these objects.
Question put and passed.
10. PAPERS:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council,—
(a) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "State Children's Relief Branch," to supplement the Vote "Maintenance of deserted children, paupers taken charge of for protection, expenses of transmission, charitable relief, &c."
(b) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Imported and Introduced Stock," to supplement the Vote "Vine Diseases Act, &c."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
11. COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA BILL:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this "House," while it would have preferred that the Commonwealth Bill should pass through the Imperial Parliament in the form which was agreed to by the people of Australia, nevertheless is of opinion that the amendments to clause 74 which have been proposed by the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for the Colonies are not a sufficiently important departure from the intention of the original Bill to justify any action which would further delay the consummation of Australian Union.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Meagher moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "House," and inserting the words "is of opinion that a simple amendment to clause 74 of the Commonwealth Bill retaining the right of appeal to the Privy Council, as it now exists in this Colony, is preferable to any of the proposed compromises,"—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, 22 JUNE, 1900, A.M.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st June, 1907.

The House divided.

Ayes, 53.

Mr. Wood,
Mr. Wise,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Dight,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Sec,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Richards,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,

Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. W. W. Davis,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Piddington,
Mr. Sawers,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Miller,

Mr. Newman,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Quinn,
Mr. Samuel Smith,
Mr. Archer,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Watkins.

Tellers,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Cohen.

Noes, 7.

Mr. Garland,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Ashton.

Tellers.

Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Holman.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question then put and passed.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-five minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at *half-past Three o'clock*.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 7.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 26 JUNE, 1900.

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:—

To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the
Legislative Assembly,—

Gentlemen,

I receive with gratification your Address-in-Reply to the Speech, and note with pleasure your assurances of continued attachment to the Throne and Person of Her Most Gracious Majesty.

I feel assured that I can rely with safety upon the loyalty and wisdom of the Members of the Legislative Assembly in the due consideration of the Measures to be submitted for your consideration during the ensuing Session of Parliament; and I again join with you in the hope that the result of your deliberations will be found both beneficial and acceptable to all classes of the community.

Government House,
Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

2. VOTE OF THANKS TO THE LATE SPEAKER, SIR JOSEPH PALMER ABBOTT, K.C.M.G.:—The Speaker reported that, in pursuance of the Vote of this House on the 19th instant, he had addressed the following letter to the late Speaker, Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G.:—

" Sir, " Legislative Assembly Chamber, Sydney, 21st June, 1900.
" In accordance with a resolution passed unanimously by this House on Tuesday, the 19th instant, and entered on the Votes and Proceedings of that day (of which I do myself the honor to transmit a copy herewith), it is my pleasing duty to convey to you the thanks of this House for your distinguished services in the Chair during a period of nearly ten years; and to assure you that the House fully recognises and appreciates the zeal and ability with which you have discharged the duties of your high office through many laborious Sessions, and the study, care, and firmness with which you have maintained its privileges and dignity.

" I have the honor to be,

" Sir,

" Your obedient Servant,

" WILLIAM McCOURT,

" Speaker.

" Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott, K.C.M.G.,
" late Speaker of the Legislative Assembly."

And that in reply he had received a letter from Sir Joseph Abbott, which he read to the House as follows:—

" Dear Mr. Speaker, " 14 Castlereagh-street, Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

" I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st instant, conveying to me a resolution passed unanimously by the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales on the 19th instant, and entered on the Votes and Proceedings of that day, whereby the Legislative Assembly was good enough to direct you to convey to me its thanks for my services during the time I was privileged to act as its Speaker.

" After

26th June, 1900.

" After such long services, and amidst the ever changing circumstances of the House, it is to me most gratifying to find that my efforts to make myself acquainted with the duties of the office, and to maintain its privileges and dignities, have met with the approval of the Legislative Assembly. I shall ever value the resolution as a record of what I have endeavoured to do to the best of my ability.

" Believe me,

" Yours sincerely,

" J. P. ABBOTT.

" The Honorable the Speaker, Legislative Assembly, Sydney."

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

John Moore Chanter, Esquire,
Samuel Edward Lees, Esquire,
Thomas Waddell, Esquire,
John Christian Watson, Esquire, and
William Henry Wilks, Esquire,

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

4. 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 Thursday, 14th June, 1900, 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* :—Henry Clarke, Esquire, Samuel Edward Lees, Esquire, and Charles Hilton Dight, Esquire, came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR :—

(1.) The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. See, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

(1.) Industrial Arbitration Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 26.

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 registration and incorporation of industrial unions, and the making and enforcing of industrial agreements; to constitute a court of arbitration for the hearing and determination of industrial disputes and matters referred to it by conciliators, or a court of conciliation; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of such court; to provide for the enforcement of its awards and orders; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

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

(2.) Metropolitan Street Traffic Regulation Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

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 make better provision for the regulation of traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on these objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

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

(2.) The following Messages were delivered by Mr. Fogan, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

(1.) Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 28.

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 Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

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

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th June, 1900.

(2.) Mines (Eight Hours) Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

*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 limit the hours of employment and working below ground in mines; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

*Government House,**Sydney, 26th June, 1900.*

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

(3.) Stock Diseases Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

*Message No. 30.**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 prevention and cure of diseases in stock.

*Government House,**Sydney, 23rd June, 1900.*

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

(4.) Miners Accident Relief Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

*Message No. 31.**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 provide a fund for the benefit of persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; to provide for the management and application of such fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects.

*Government House,**Sydney, 23rd June, 1900.*

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

(3.) The following Messages were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

(1.) Statutory Rules Publication Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

*Message No. 32.**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 publication of Statutory Rules.

*Government House,**Sydney, 26th June, 1900.*

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

(2.) Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

*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 validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for other appropriations and resumptions and purchases for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made or to be made for those purposes, and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888, and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations.

*Government House,**Sydney, 26th June, 1900.*

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

(3.) Sydney Corporation (Amendment) Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

*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 make further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the city of Sydney; and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879, and the Acts amending the same.

*Government House,**Sydney, 26th June, 1900.*

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

(4.)

26th June, 1900.

(4.) Sydney Harbour Trust Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 35.

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 and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney ; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners ; to confer on such Commissioners certain power in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands ; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners ; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

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

(5.) Vote of Credit :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 36.

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 sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1899-1900, and for the advance to the Colonial Treasurer.

Government House,
Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

(6.) Explosives Bill.

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 37.

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 consolidate and amend the law relating to explosives.

Government House,
Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

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

6. QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Wages of Workmen on Railway Deviation Works :—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the low rates of wages paid to able-bodied labourers employed on railway deviation works ?

(2.) Will he use his influence to see that the minimum wage of 7s. per day, as fixed by the Minister for Works, is extended to apply to all able-bodied labourers in the Government Service, or who are paid with Government money ?

Sir William Lyne answered,—My attention has been called to this matter. I am of opinion that the railway labourers should be paid wages equal to those paid in the Government Departments.

(2.) Appointment of a Second Master in Equity :—Mr. Haynes asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that great loss and inconvenience are occasioned the public by reason of continuous delays in Equity appeals ?

(2.) Is he aware that the services of a second Master in Equity are urgently needed, owing to the excessive amount of duty now imposed on the present Master, and will he give immediate attention to the matter ?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) After inquiry I find that there has been no delay in the hearing of Equity appeals.

(2.) The work would not justify the appointment of a second Master in Equity.

(3.) Dredging Leases :—Mr. Richards asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has due consideration been given to the livelihood of gold-field workers, in the terms of lease to dredging parties or companies, by providing that the holder of a miner's right shall be permitted to enter all such leased Crown lands to dig or fossick or mine for gold or other minerals ?

(2.) If such provision has been made, will he cause notice to the effect to be posted at the nearest Court House or Post Office to where the mine is situated, and cause similar instructions to be issued to every Mining Registrar throughout the Colony ?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) No lease for dredging purposes will be granted which will interfere with the rights of holders of miners' rights or mineral licenses. A clause will be inserted in each lease, under which holders of miners' rights may enter on a leasehold and fossick for gold, &c., provided that the operations of the dredge or lessee's machinery will not be hampered thereby.

(2.) Yes.

(4.)

26th June, 1900.

- (4.) Damage caused by Dredging Operations:—Mr. Richards asked the Secretary for Mines,—Where land, or river beds, or creeks are worked under dredging or sluicing operations, has it been held that the Government is responsible to owners of land which might be damaged as the result of mullock, gravel, or other accumulations after working being washed over such lands, or any portion of such land, after the lessee or lessees have ceased working?

Mr. Fegan answered,—The Government cannot accept any responsibility after the lessees have ceased working; but it is for the owners of private lands to see that compensation is paid on account of damage done to their lands while operations are proceeding. The Act provides that at any time during the working of the dredge, if more damage is done than was anticipated when the lease was granted, further compensation is to be paid by the lessees.

- (5.) Remuneration to the Military Staff:—Mr. Phillips asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) What extra remuneration (if any) has been granted to officers and others of the Military Staff for the very heavy work devolving on them in connection with the dispatch of the various Contingents of Troops to South Africa?

(2.) Will he see that those deserving of it receive remuneration without delay?

Mr. See answered,—The matter is under consideration.

- (6.) Old Lock-up Site, George and Pitt Streets:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has he decided to withdraw permanently from auction the old lock-up site at the corner of George and Pitt streets; and, if so, will he submit it to lease for an extended period?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The land was advertised for auction sale on the 30th May last, but was withdrawn in deference to a request from the Department of Public Works. In view of the representations from that Department, I am not prepared, without further consideration, to offer the land to lease for an extended period.

- (7.) Removal of Postage Stamps from South African Correspondence:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Postmaster-General,—Has his attention been directed to the fact that systematic thefts of postage stamps from South African correspondence, addressed to residents of New South Wales, has been engaged in, presumably by officials, during the past few months; and will he cause such instructions to be given to the heads of the Postal Department as will result in the discontinuance of this pernicious practice?

Mr. Hassall answered,—No; on the contrary, only two complaints have been made. In one of these, the result of inquiry showed conclusively that the abstraction did not take place in the Post Office, whilst in the other there was not the slightest proof against the Department.

- (8.) Competitive Designs for the North Shore Bridge:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) If, having regard to the magnitude of the technical, scientific, and detailed work involved in the preparation of competitive designs and tenders for the North Shore bridge, and to the many requests that have been made for an extension of the time within which designs and tenders are to be sent in, is there any objection to the time for receiving designs and tenders for this bridge being extended to 1st January next?

(2.) Will he cause such inquiries to be made as will enable him to inform the House whether or not the cost of this bridge, if tendered for while the iron trade of Great Britain is in its present unsettled state, will not in all probability be considerably in excess of what it will cost six or twelve months hence?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) The plans and conditions having been forwarded to Europe, America, and elsewhere, stating definitely that the time for the receipt of designs and tenders would close on 1st August next, it would be unfair to now extend the time to 1st January, 1901, as suggested by the Honorable Member, because the Department has not the names and addresses of the numerous persons who have inspected the plans and conditions to acquaint them with any such alterations. The tenders close in London on 1st of August as well as in Sydney.

(2.) The necessary inquiries will be made.

- (9.) Money Borrowed from the Savings Bank of N.S.W.:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the total amount of money at present on loan by the Savings Bank of New South Wales to other banks doing business in Sydney?

(2.) What is the average rate of interest being received thereon?

(3.) Are any of the trustees of the Savings Bank directors of banks owing money to that institution?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have applied to the Managing Trustee of the Savings Bank of New South Wales, but have not yet obtained the particulars. I would, however, refer the Honorable Member to the Balance Sheet of the Savings Bank on 31st December, 1899, published in *Government Gazette*, No. 99, of 2nd February, 1900.

- (10.) Nurses Employed at the Quarantine Station:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did he on Tuesday, 19th June, in his reply to Question No. 10 by Dr. Ross, state that "During the temporary service at Quarantine the twelve nurses who volunteered from the Coast Hospital Staff are being paid the following increased annual rates respectively:—£112 (1), £89 (3), £67 10s. (1), £56 (6), £51 (1)"?

(2.) Is he aware that this statement is incorrect?

(3.) Is it not a fact that the majority of the nurses referred to have received during the whole time they have been nursing plague patients salary at the rate of less than 2s. per day?

(4.)

26th June, 1900.

(4.) Is it not also a fact that, until after Mr. Griffith had referred to the matter in Parliament, these nurses had received no intimation of any intention of the Government to grant them any increase?

(5.) Will he see that for the period these nurses were engaged in nursing plague patients they will receive the remuneration which he last week informed the House that he believed they were receiving, viz., a minimum of £2 2s. per week, instead of the 2s. per day increase now proposed?

(6.) Who is responsible for the payment to these nurses of the inadequate salaries they are now receiving, and for the statement that they are receiving double those amounts?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The following reply has been handed to me by the President of the Board of Health:—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No.

(3.) They have been paid at the rates first mentioned in the answer referred to.

(4.) No.

(5 and 6.) Authority was given for payment at the rates mentioned in the Question on May 15th. These are increases of more than 75 per cent. on the ordinary pay of nurses of the same grades when occupied at their routine work at the Coast Hospital; they are given in consideration of the special circumstances under which they work at the temporary hospital at Quarantine, and are considered liberal and sufficient.

(11.) Workmen Employed on the Water-race in Hoxton Park:—Mr. Lees asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he any latent power that will enable him to cause workers on the water-race in Hoxton Park in connection with the Water and Sewerage Board to be allowed holidays, and a minimum wage equal to that enjoyed in the Harbours and Rivers Department?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Act does not confer any such power upon the Minister. I wish it did. The wages would then be increased to the rates paid by the Public Works Department.

7. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Ashton presented the following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—

(1.) From certain residents of Goulburn.

(2.) From C. A. B. Muscoll, General Deputy Grand Chief Templar, Chairman of a meeting of the Perseverance Lodge of the Independent Order of Good Templars, held at Goulburn. Petitions received.

8. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the First Report from the Printing Committee.

9. PAPERS:—

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Borough of Lithgow, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.

(2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Inverell, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—List of Pastoral Leases in the Central Division that will expire between the 20th June, 1900, and 20th March, 1901.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the completion of the Mosman Sewerage, 1st Division.

(2.) Report of the completion of portion of the Western Suburbs Sewerage (Bay-street Overflow Sewer, &c.)

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Registrar of Friendly Societies and Trade Unions for the year 1898.

(2.) Report of the Royal Commission appointed to make further investigation into the causes of the dangers to which vessels carrying coal are liable; together with Appendix.

(3.) Report of the Police Department for the year 1899.

(4.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of ‘Accidents.’”

(5.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of ‘Accidents.’”

(6.) By-laws of the Metropolitan Transit Commissioners, under the Public Vehicles Act, 1899.

(7.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Casino.

(8.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Forbes.

(9.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Ballina.

(10.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Parkes.

(11.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Wyalong.

(12.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Yass.

(13.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Castlereagh.

(14.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Carcoar.

(15.) By-law of the Municipal District of Port Macquarie.

(16.) By-law of the Municipal District of Casino.

(17.) By-law of the Municipal District of Moss Vale.

(18.) By-laws of the Borough of Randwick.

(19.) By-laws of the Borough of West Maitland.

(20.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th June, 1900.

- (20.) By-laws of the Borough of Shellharbour.
 (21.) By-laws of the Borough of Orange.
 (22.) By-law of the Borough of Rookwood.
 (23.) By-laws of the Borough of Petersham.
 (24.) By-laws of the Borough of Burwood.
 (25.) By-laws of the Borough of Ashfield.
 (26.) By-laws of the Borough of Central Illawarra.
 (27.) By-laws of the Borough of Armidale.
 (28.) By-laws of the Borough of West Maitland.
 (29.) By-law of the Borough of North Sydney.
 (30.) Police reports respecting the congestion of traffic in George-street and other thoroughfares, Sydney.
 (31.) Police reports respecting disturbances between the Military and a certain section of the public known as "Pushes."
 (32.) Report of the Commissioners of Fisheries for the year 1899.
 (33.) Report on Botanic Gardens and Domains, &c., for the year 1899.
 (34.) Seventeenth General Report, together with a return, giving a record of the Committee's inquiries, and Minutes of Proceedings of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.
 (35.) Correspondence respecting the dismissal of Captain Barrett, Australian Rifles, Goulburn.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Report of Department of Agriculture for the year 1899.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

10. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to protect the wages and salaries of persons employed by companies;—postponed until Tuesday, 4th September.
11. **COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS**:—John Garland, Esquire, William Rigg, Esquire, and Francis Augustus Wright, Esquire, came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.
12. **SAYWELL'S TRAMWAY AND ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Carruthers moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Cohen moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 41.

Mr. Piddington,	Mr. Lees,
Mr. Garland,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. See,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Thomas,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Wise,	Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Price,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Dight,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Chanter,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Newman.
Mr. Storey,	
Mr. Reid,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cohen,	Mr. Waddell,
Sir Matthew Harris,	Mr. Cotton.

Noes, 25.

Dr. Ross,	Mr. Terry.
Mr. Neild,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Cann,	
Mr. Samuel Smith,	
Mr. Ferguson,	
Mr. Ross,	
Mr. Spence,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. Donaldson,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Nielsen,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Norton,	
Mr. Richards,	
Mr. Austin Chapman,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 24th July.

13. **STANFORD COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gillies moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 Mr. Gillies moved, That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
 Question put and passed.

Point of Order:—Mr. Affleck, referring to Standing Order No. 28, submitted that, as no Chairman of Committees had been appointed for this Session, the House could not go into Committee of the Whole, nor could a Temporary Chairman occupy the position of a Chairman of Committees in the House when the Permanent Chairman had not been appointed.
 Debate ensued.

Mr.

26th June, 1900.

Mr. Speaker ruled that, according to the Standing Order No. 28 (c), he was directed to nominate at the commencement of every Session five Temporary Chairmen to act "when requested by, or in the absence of, the Chairman of Committees," and he held, though with considerable doubt, that there was an absence of the Chairman of Committees, from whatever cause, and therefore it was competent for him to call one of the Temporary Chairmen to take the Chair for this evening.

Whereupon Mr. Speaker left the Chair.

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

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

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

14. INDECENT PUBLICATIONS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Dr. Graham moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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 Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill with amendments.

On motion of Dr. Graham, the report was adopted.

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

15. MUNICIPALITIES (ELECTION) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Thomas moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 27 JUNE, 1900, A.M.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Thomas, 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. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill with amendments.

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

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

16. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill dealing with principles of freedom of trade and contract in respect of bonds taken by brewers over the licensees of public houses;—postponed until Tuesday, 10th July.

17. CLAIMS OF MRS. GUILFOYLE, WIDOW OF THE LATE FORESTER AT MOAMA:—Mr. Chanter moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Claims of Mrs. Guilfoyle, widow of the late Forester at Moama," brought up on 23rd November, 1899, be now adopted.

Question put and passed.

18. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at thirteen minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 8.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 27 JUNE, 1900.

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

ELECTORATE OF BATHURST:—Mr. Speaker informed the House that the Writ issued by the late Speaker, during the recess, for the election of a Member to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the Electoral District of Bathurst, had been duly returned, with a certificate endorsed thereon by the Returning Officer, of the election of William White Young, Esquire, to serve as such Member.

2. **QUESTIONS:**—

(1.) Exchange of Land on Pericoota Holding, No. 343, C.D.:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that unwarrantable delay in connection with the exchange of land on Pericoota Holding, No. 343, C.D., is being caused by the owners thereof not lodging their titles to the surrender portions?

(2.) Is he aware that the leasehold of this pastoral holding expired several years since, and that the land has been withheld from settlement pending the completion of these exchanges?

(3.) Will he notify the owners of Pericoota that if they do not immediately lodge the required titles and complete the surrender the exchange will be at once abandoned?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Action in this case was suspended for about two years, viz., from March, 1897, to February, 1899, pending the result of the proceedings in the Supreme Court and subsequent appeal to the Privy Council in the case "*Colless v. Gordon*." After that case was settled, action in connection with the exchange was proceeded with, and the applicants were asked on 7th February last to forward their deed so that the surrender documents might be prepared. They have not come to hand yet, although several reminders have been sent.

(2.) The extension of the pastoral lease expired on 10th July, 1896. Arcas aggregating 2,776½ acres on the late leasehold area were notified for homestead selection, and will be available on the 5th July next. Action in connection with the disposal of the balance of the lands has been held in abeyance pending completion of the exchange.

(3.) I will take all possible steps to bring the matter to completion.

(2.) **Omnibus Drivers:**—Mr. Rose asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that omnibus drivers are constantly driving omnibuses twelve hours daily, without time allowance for meals, for seven days per week?

(2.) Is the regulation and the betterment of this class of labour to be provided for in the proposed amending Act?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The matter will be dealt with by legislation.

(3.) **Examination for Promotion in the Public Service:**—Mr. Cohen asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that an officer in the Civil Service seeking promotion is compelled to pass an examination prescribed by the Public Service Board, although he may possess a certificate of having passed a University examination, the standard of which is at least equal to that required by the Public Service Board?

(2.) If so, will he take steps to have the anomaly rectified?

Mr. Wood answered,—I assume that the Honorable Member is referring to the tests prescribed by what are known as the Increment Regulations. The whole matter is dealt with very fully in the Report of the Public Service Board, which was laid upon the Table on the 14th instant, to which I would refer him for the information he requires.

(4.)

27th June, 1900.

- (4.) Report of the Federal Capital Commissioner:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) When will the report of the Federal Capital Commission be laid upon the Table of the House?
 - (2.) Do the terms of such Commission provide for the Commissioner to make a recommendation as well as the compiling of data?
 - (3.) Is it the intention of the Government, immediately on the receipt of such report, to nominate some particular locality as the site the people of New South Wales are prepared to offer to the Federal Government for the purposes of the Federal Capital?
 - (4.) If yes, will he, when Parliament expresses its approval, embody the same in a resolution for communication to the Federal Parliament immediately upon its opening in Melbourne?
 - (5.) Is it not a fact that, though the Federal Parliament has the right of choice, the Parliament of New South Wales is a contracting party as regards the transfer of the area selected?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) The report is due on the 14th July next, but the Commissioner has applied for a further extension of time.
 - (2.) The Commissioner is requested to report the conclusions at which he arrives as the results of his inquiries and inspections.
 - (3 and 4.) The matter referred to is one which will be submitted to Parliament.
 - (5.) As far as I can judge, it is the Federal Parliament which has the right of choice, although that question has been raised on a legal point.
- (5.) Salaries of Medical Officers at the Quarantine Station:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- What salary the medical officers in charge of the Quarantine Station receive, and how are they paid?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—Dr. Salter, £4 4s. per diem; Dr. Harvey, £3 8s. per diem.
- (6.) Early Closing Act:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) The number of shops and factories that have been closed since the Early Closing Act came into operation?
 - (2.) Will he ascertain if it is a fact that rents of shops and dwellings in Sydney and suburbs have fallen 50 per cent. since the Early Closing Act came into operation?
 - (3.) Is he aware of the number of persons that have been thrown out of work and of earning wages and an honest living for themselves and their families since the advent of the Early Closing Act, or an approximate number of the same?
 - (4.) The number of convictions that have taken place since the Act came into existence, and total amount of fines derived therefrom?
 - (5.) The number of inspectors (male and female) employed under this Early Closing Act, and amount of salary received by each respectively in Sydney and suburbs?
- Mr. Perry answered,—The information sought will be furnished if moved for in the usual way.
- (7.) Distribution of Blankets:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) The number of pairs of blankets distributed to the poor and for charitable purposes in each of the Sydney and suburban electorates respectively?
 - (2.) The same information with regard to the number of pairs of blankets distributed in country electorates respectively?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared for the years 1899 and 1900, and laid upon the Table of the House, as early as possible.
- (8.) Special Grant for Repair of Roads, Orange District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a special grant of £500 was granted to the Orange Municipal Council and £50 for East Orange to repair the roads that were damaged in these localities owing to recent floods and heavy rains?
 - (2.) Is it not a fact that Dr. Ross asked for a special grant for the Municipal District of Molong for a similar purpose, and was refused?
 - (3.) Can he assign any valid reasons why the town of Orange should be favoured with liberal and special grants for such purposes, and the town and municipality of Molong ignored?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) Yes; but the work was urgent and imperative owing to the damage done by a phenomenal fall of rain.
 - (2.) The grant applied for has not been refused; the papers are now with local officer for report. When they are returned I will consider the request of the Honorable Member.
 - (3.) The question of issuing a grant for Molong has not yet been submitted for my decision for the reason stated in Answer No. 2.
- (9.) Roads in the Molong Electorate:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) The number of miles of scheduled country roads that are in existence in the Molong electorate?
 - (2.) The amount of money expended annually on the same?
 - (3.) The number of maintenance men that are employed in keeping these roads in a state of repair?
 - (4.) The number whose services have been dispensed with during the year on the score of economy or retrenchment?
 - (5.) Is he aware that a large number of the roads in the Molong electorate, owing to recent floods and heavy rains, are simply in an impassable, dangerous, and disgraceful condition; and what steps (if any) does he intend to take to have them placed in a proper state of repair?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The necessary steps to obtain this information are being taken. As the Molong electorate embraces portions of several road districts, the information asked for cannot be supplied without reference to local officers. This will be done, and the replies communicated to the Honorable Member as soon as possible.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th June, 1900.

(10.) Case of the Goid Bicycle Company v. J. Crowley, of Wyalong:—Mr. Holman asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the recent case of the Goid Bicycle Company v. J. Crowley, of Wyalong?
- (2.) Is it a fact that, being summoned to appear at the Small Debts Court in Sydney, Crowley objected to the jurisdiction, the alleged debt being contracted at Wyalong?
- (3.) Is it a fact that that objection was overruled by the Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Isaacs, and Crowley compelled to attend?
- (4.) Is it a fact that the Stipendiary Magistrate, Mr. Mair, on hearing the case, dismissed it on the ground that there was no such jurisdiction?
- (5.) If these facts are discovered to be as alleged, will he compensate Crowley for loss of time and expenses incurred through the mistake of the magistrate?

Mr. Wood answered,—My attention has not been called to this matter, but I will cause inquiries to be made regarding it.

(11.) Sports Ground, Albury:—*Mr. Chanter*, for Mr. T. H. Griffith, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he lay the papers in connection with the dedication of the sports ground to the Albury Borough Council on the Table of the House?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I have no objection, but copies of the papers should be moved for in the usual manner.

(12.) Coal Delivery Acts:—Mr. Cohen asked the Minister of Justice,—Is it his intention to introduce a Bill to repeal or substantially amend the Coal Delivery Acts, 9 Vic. No. 8 and 10 Vic. No. 2?

Mr. Wood answered,—This matter will receive attention as soon as the state of business will admit.

(13.) Removal of Goods from Wharfs:—*Mr. Hurley*, for Mr. Nelson, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that there is a clause in the Wharfage Regulation which compels merchants and others to remove all goods off the wharfs forty-eight hours after being landed?
- (2.) If they are not so removed as above, is he aware that they are stored at the expense of the consignee?
- (3.) Is he aware that one firm in this city had on the wharfs, on Monday, the 18th of June, 4,000 bags of rice from Japan, 4,000 sacks of oats from New Zealand, 400 sacks of chicory from Melbourne, 220 bags of barley from Melbourne, 20 casks of lemon peel from Italy, and 40 sacks of ginger from London?
- (4.) Will he consider whether it is possible for any firm in the Colony to remove the quantity of goods as above stated in forty-eight hours?
- (5.) Will he also consider whether it would not be better to fix a limit of time according to the quantity of goods to be removed?
- (6.) Is he aware that, prior to the wharfs being handed over to the Government, private companies allowed at least a week to clear up large consignments?
- (7.) Will he make such alterations as will remove the difficulties now existing, and which are causing great annoyance and serious loss to business people of this city?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes; occasionally this occurs at Government wharfs.
- (3.) No. I am not aware that any one firm had this large quantity of goods on the wharfs, but, if so, it shows that the goods were not removed as landed, as it is requisite to do at wharfs which are largely used, and which it is the custom to do at Government wharfs.
- (4.) It is no doubt impossible to remove such a quantity of goods in forty-eight hours.
- (5.) This cannot be done, as it would lead to endless confusion.
- (6.) I am aware of this, and the result was that the wharfs were left in a deplorable condition.
- (7.) As regards the old Government wharfs, there have been no difficulties; and the discretionary power possessed by the Government official dealing with these matters is sufficient to prevent any friction or hardship arising in connection with the resumed wharfs.

(14.) Removal of Rubbish from Erskineville to Moore Park:—*Mr. Hurley*, for Mr. Nelson, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Erskineville Council have entered into a contract with the City Council to be allowed to cart all rubbish to the tip at Moore Park at a cost of 6d. per load?
- (2.) Is it a fact that other contracts are pending of a similar nature?
- (3.) If so, will he take such steps as will prevent them being completed?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I am informed by the Town Clerk that it is a fact that an arrangement as indicated has been entered into. The heavy cost of covering the garbage with sand has necessitated this charge being levied. All persons using the tip pay it, and other contracts are impending.
- (3.) The matter appears to be entirely one between the City Council and the other Councils concerned, and Government intervention is, therefore, hardly possible.

(15.) Reduction of Members in the Legislative Assembly and Legislative Council:—Mr. Cohen asked the Colonial Treasurer.—In view of the approaching accomplishment of Federation, is it his intention to introduce a Bill having for its objects the reduction of the number of Members in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council, and the limitation of the tenure of office of Members of the Legislative Council?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter has not yet received consideration.

27th June, 1900.

- (16.) Increments to Officers in the Public Service:—Mr. Ashton asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) Has the work of determining what increments are due to officers in the Public Service been completed for the current financial year?
 - (2.) Have all such increments been paid?
 - (3.) If not, what is the cause of delay?
 - (4.) If increments already determined to be due are not paid during the financial year, will provision be made on the next Estimates for their payment?
- Mr. Wise answered,—
- (1.) Yes, with the exception of appeal cases which are now being dealt with by the Public Service Board.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) If not actually paid they are in the course of being paid. Funds will be provided for all increments determined on appeal.
- (17.) Suburban Letter-boxes:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware that many of the letter-boxes in the suburbs are without any indication of when the boxes are cleared?
 - (2.) Will he be good enough to have the hours of clearance indicated on these boxes, and consider the advisability of having more legible letters painted on, instead of the small notices at present in use on some of the boxes?
- Mr. Crick answered,—In some of the boxes the hour of clearance is not given—merely the next hour of clearance is shown on an indicator, reference being made to the Postal Guide as to details of when boxes are cleared. It is considered that it is quite sufficient for the public when they go to a receiver to know when it will be cleared. It is, however, intended when future receivers are being constructed, to make the indicators larger, so as to enable the lettering to be more easily read at night-time.
- (18.) Travelling Stock Routes and Reserves:—Mr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it his intention to introduce a Bill dealing with travelling stock routes and reserves during the present Session?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—The necessity for fresh legislation in connection with the stock routes of the Colony is recognised by the Government, and I can assure the Honorable Member that his numerous representations on the subject have not been overlooked, and that it is my intention to introduce a measure at the earliest opportunity.
- (19.) Amendment of the Liquor Act:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What action is the Government taking to fulfil the promise made by him to the New South Wales Alliance, viz., to make more effective the Sunday closing clause of the Liquor Act?
 - (2.) Will it be necessary to introduce an Amending Act for this purpose; if so, when will it be introduced?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) I am in communication with the Inspector-General of Police in reference to Sunday closing.
 - (2.) The law, as it stands, can only be enforced. If it be necessary to go further there will have to be an amending Act.
- (20.) Maintenance of Country Parks:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Secretary for Lands,—In view of the small amount granted to country parks this year, will he make substantial provision on next Estimates for the maintenance of country parks?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—The Government proposes to submit a sufficiently substantial sum on the Estimates.
- (21.) Royalty for Cutting Timber on Crown Lands:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is he aware that, owing to the late increase in royalty charged for cutting timber upon Crown lands, timber contractors are suffering serious loss in carrying out contracts previously entered into?
 - (2.) Will he make provision to exempt contracts that were entered into before the new regulations were enforced?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware, and I would like to point out that the Regulations, although published on the 16th May, will not come into operation until the 1st proximo. Ample notice has therefore been given of the alterations which they effect.
 - (2.) This matter will be fully considered.
- (22.) Extension of the Electric Tram to Fort Macquarie:—Mr. Samuel Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—If, in view of the removal of the harbour excursion steamers from Circular Quay to Fort Macquarie, he will, for the comfort and convenience of the thousands who patronise the harbour steamers, recommend to the Railway Commissioners the extension of the George-street electric tram track to Fort Macquarie?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter has had attention, the Railway Commissioners having already recommended the extension, and the question is under the consideration of my Honorable colleague, the Minister for Public Works, but it is doubtful if this can be dealt with now in consequence of further resumptions.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th June, 1900.

- (23.) Training Ship in Australian Waters :—Mr. Samuel Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has he had any communication from the Admiralty concerning the proposal to establish a training ship in Australian waters?
 - (2.) If he has not received any such communication, will he ascertain as early as possible the nature of the negotiations which is reported to have taken place between the Admiralty and the Victoria Naval Defence Force relative to the establishment of a training ship in Australian waters, so that the claims of New South Wales ports, and particularly those of Sydney, may not be ignored?
 - (3.) Is he aware it is reported that it is probable that the second-class cruiser "Raleigh," lately Commadore's ship of the Training Squadron, will be chosen as the vessel to serve?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—In reply to these Questions, I may say that a request is being made by this Government for a suitable vessel to be used by the local Naval Forces.
- (24.) Classes at the Technical College, Ultimo :—Mr. Nobbs asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is he aware that a large number of young men and mechanics have been waiting (some for years) for an opportunity to join certain classes at the Technical College, Ultimo?
 - (2.) If so, is it because there is not sufficient accommodation and appliances for any more students in those classes?
 - (3.) Will he, in view of the above, take into consideration the advisableness of placing a sum of money on the next Loan Estimates for the purpose of purchasing a site and erecting buildings, in order to meet the demand for accommodation for persons wishing to join such classes?
- Mr. Perry answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) Yes, a sum will be placed on the Estimates.
- (25.) Money Available for Resuming Lands near Darling Harbour :—Mr. Reid asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What appropriation of Parliament is referred to in the proclamation resuming certain lands near Darling Harbour as moneys lawfully available for that purpose?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I do not know of any Appropriation of Parliament referred to in the proclamation; but I presume the Right Honorable Member refers to a notice in the Press to the effect that the resumption was technically legal, because there were unexpended balances of votes for resumptions. One of the votes referred to is under the Act No. 42 of 1899—£1,900 (odd).
- (26.) Furniture at the Quarantine Hospital Buildings :—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that any of the furniture recently purchased for the Quarantine Hospital buildings, North Head, has been manufactured by Chinese?
 - (2.) Will he give instructions that for the future European furniture must be purchased?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Public Service Tender Board that, so far as can be ascertained, all the furniture supplied by them is of European manufacture.
- (27.) Mr. Phillips, Auditor of Government Savings Bank :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is the Mr. Phillips, appointed Auditor of Government Savings Bank, Barrack-street, identical with Mr. Phillips, Auditor of City Bank?
 - (2.) Does the latter institution still owe the Government Savings Bank a large sum of money borrowed?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) The Managing Trustee of the Savings Bank is not aware.
 - (2.) The Managing Trustee of the Savings Bank was applied to for this information, but points out that he is unable to disclose the transactions of the Bank with its customers.
- (28.) Treasury Bills :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have two issues of Treasury bills been effected during the tenure of office of the present Government, viz., one of £1,000,000 in London, at 4 per cent., and one in Sydney of £500,000, at 3½ per cent.?
 - (2.) For what reason was 4 per cent. offered the British investor and only 3½ per cent. the Australian?
 - (3.) Was any attempt made to dispose of the £1,000,000 worth of Treasury Bills above alluded to in Australia; and, if not, why not?
 - (4.) What will the annual loss on this particular transaction amount to?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) For the reason that the money was required in London, and at the time the Bills were sold the money market was tighter in consequence of the Boer war. The market was easier when the second lot of Bills were disposed of.
 - (3.) No; it was not considered advisable to disturb the market here by placing such a large sum upon it.
 - (4.) The amount of interest payable per annum in excess of rate paid in Sydney being ½ per cent., would make an annual sum of £5,000 for a period of two years, but against this must be taken into account the cost of remittance to London necessary had the Bills been floated here, and which would have cost more than ½ per cent.

27th June, 1900.

- (29.) **Jury Laws**:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the Sheriff is inundated with complaints regarding working of jury laws in the case of special jurors?
 - (2.) Is he aware that there is a Bill drafted to consolidate and amend jury laws, which has been reported on by responsible officers?
 - (3.) Will he introduce such measure, should it exist, at an early date?
- Mr. Wood answered,—The necessity for an amendment of the law with regard to jurors is admitted. A Bill which was prepared for the purpose is now under revision, and it is hoped that it may be possible to introduce it during the present Session.
3. **MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF INVERELL REDUCED AREA BILL**:—Mr. Cruickshank presented a Petition from the Municipal District of Inverell, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to reduce the area of the Municipal District of Inverell.
And Mr. Cruickshank having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Sydney Morning Herald* and *Inverell Times* newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—Petition received.
4. **TOTALIZATOR BILL**:—Mr. Holman presented a Petition from certain residents of Barmedman in opposition to the Totalizator Bill, and praying the House to reject the measure.
Petition received.
5. **PAPERS**:—
Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Return respecting Public Parks and Recreation Reserves.
 - (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, and the 7th section of the Public Trusts Act, 1897.
 - (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 and 109th sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Report on Prisons for the year 1899.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. **SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Sir William Lyne 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 better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.
Question put and passed.
7. **DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Sir William Lyne 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 validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for purchases, appropriations, and resumptions for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made, or to be made, for those purposes; and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations.
Question put and passed.
8. **MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Fegan 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 a fund for the benefit of persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; to provide for the management and application of such fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects.
Question put and passed.
9. **MINES (EIGHT HOURS) BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Fegan 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 limit the hours of employment and working below ground in mines; and for other purposes connected therewith.
Question put and passed.
10. **STOCK DISEASES BILL (Formal Motion)**:—Mr. Fegan 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 for the prevention and cure of diseases in stock.
Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th June, 1900.

11. STANFORD COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Gillies, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Gillies then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable Samuel Clift, of East Maitland, in the Colony of New South Wales, Henry John Adams, of Oxford Downs, in the Colony of Queensland, and Henry Trenchard, of Sydney, in the said Colony of New South Wales, to construct a railway from the Heddon and Stanford Greta Coal-mines to a line constructed by the East Greta Coal-mining Company (Limited), under the provisions of the Silkstone Coal-mine Railway Act of 1889 and the Silkstone Coal-mine Railway Act Amending 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 enable Samuel Clift, of East Maitland, in the Colony of New South Wales, Henry John Adams, of Oxford Downs, in the Colony of Queensland, and Henry Trenchard, of Sydney, in the said Colony of New South Wales, to construct a railway from the Heddon and Stanford Greta Coal-mines to a line constructed by the East Greta Coal-mining Company (Limited), under the provisions of the Silkstone Coal-mine Railway Act of 1889 and the Silkstone Coal-mine Railway Act Amending Act of 1892.*"—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 June, 1900.*
12. MUNICIPALITIES (ELECTION) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Thomas, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Thomas then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the Election of Aldermen and Auditors for any Municipality.*"
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 for the Election of Aldermen and Auditors for any Municipality.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th June, 1900.*
13. HOTELS DIMINISHING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
(1.) Mr. Austin Chapman moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to lessen the number of hotels in proportion to the population.
Question put and passed.
(2.) Mr. Chapman then presented a Bill, intituled, "*A Bill to lessen the number of Hotels in proportion to the population.*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 4th September.
14. A. HOPE'S SCRUB LEASE NEAR CONDOLIN (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Holman moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, correspondence, &c., in connection with A. Hope's scrub lease near Condolin.
Question put and passed.
15. AMENDED LIFE INSURANCE ENCOURAGEMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Garland moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Amended Life Insurance Encouragement 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, 4th September.
16. EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Perry, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
BEAUCHAMP, *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 a Bill to amend the Early Closing Act, 1899.
*Government House,
Sydney, 26th June, 1900.*
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
17. ART UNIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—
MR. SPEAKER,—
A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Art Unions Act of 1850,*" forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence during a previous 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, JOHN LACKEY,
Sydney, 27th June, 1900. 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 a previous Session,—
Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.

27th June, 1900.

18. **RACING ASSOCIATION BILL**:—Mr. Gillies, pursuant to leave granted on 13th June, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to define the rights of the people in, and to the use and occupation of, all lands granted, dedicated, or leased to or otherwise occupied by companies, clubs, or associations for horse-racing purposes; to provide for the establishment of a representative tribunal; to control all matters affecting horse-racing; to repeal, in part, the Australian Jockey Club Act; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time:
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
19. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Marrickville, Mr. McLean, 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 inconvenience and danger arising from the overcrowding on the electric trams."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. McLean moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
20. **COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS**:—William Henry Wilks, Esquire, and William Sawers, Esquire, came to the Table and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.
21. **INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL**:—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. Wise, 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 for the registration and incorporation of industrial unions, and the making and enforcing of industrial agreements; to constitute a court of arbitration for the hearing and determination of industrial disputes and matters referred to it by conciliators, or a court of conciliation; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of such court; to provide for the enforcement of its awards and orders; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
Question put and passed.
22. **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**:—Sir William Lyne 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 1899–1900*," 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.
23. **MINES INSPECTION BILL**:—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. Fegan, 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 better provision for the regulation and inspection of mines other than coal and shale mines; to regulate the treatment of the products of such mines; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.
Question put and passed.
24. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—Sir William Lyne 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 further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879, and the Acts amending the same.
Question put and passed.
25. **COAL MINES REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. Fegan, 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 Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896.
Question put and passed.
26. **SUPPLY**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, 28 JUNE, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Watson, Temporary 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:—Mr. Watson stated that the resolution on which it was proposed to base the Supply Bill being under discussion, and objection being taken to an Honorable Member discussing in detail the administration of Departments other than those dealing with the Votes specified in the resolution, he, the Temporary Chairman, ruled that the Honorable Member was in order. Exception being taken to his decision, the matter was referred to the House.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the resolution, not being one upon which an ordinary Supply Bill would be founded, but for specific services, other than Departmental or Ministerial salaries, the Debate should be confined to the items submitted.

Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Committee resumed.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th June, 1900.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Wilks, Temporary Chairman, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Mr. Wilks also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

Mr. Wilks 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 Two hundred and eighty thousand five hundred pounds for Additional Services of the year 1899–1900: being £1,500—amount required for expenses of Delegate to London in connection with Federation; £60,000—to supplement the Vote taken for the service of the Railway and Tramway Department, which will be insufficient for requirements to 30th June, 1900; and £219,000 to supplement the Vote “Advance to Treasurer,” which is insufficient to meet the expenditure of an unforeseen character arising during the current year in connection with the dispatch of Military Contingents to South Africa, and the extirpation of the Bubonic Disease—to be afterwards adjusted and provided for not later than 30th June, 1901.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

27. **WAYS AND MEANS.**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Ways and Means. Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Wilks, Temporary Chairman, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

Mr. Wilks also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

Mr. Wilks 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 Services of the financial year 1899–1900, the sum of £280,500 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

28. **CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL:**—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lyne, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 1), to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1899–1900.

(2.) Sir William Lyne 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 1899–1900,*” 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 Sir William Lyne, 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. Wilks, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

Sir William Lyne moved, “That” this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Edden 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 Schedule,”—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,—and Division called for,—but there not being Tellers on the part of the *Noes*, no Division could be had, and Mr. Speaker declared the Question to have passed in the *affirmative*.

Question,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.

(4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne 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 1899–1900.*” 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 1899–1900,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 28th June, 1900, a.m.

29. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at half-past Six o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 9.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 28 JUNE, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Provision against Members of the Federal Parliament sitting and voting in the State Parliament:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government, when introducing the Bill for defining the boundaries of Federal electorates, to make provision against any Member of the Federal Parliament from sitting and voting in the State Parliament?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This question has not yet been considered.

- (2.) Manufacture and Sale of Margarine:—Mr. Bennett asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Bill this Session to regulate the manufacture, branding, and sale of margarine?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I hope to deal with this question shortly.

- (3.) Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the condition of the Superannuation Fund?
(2.) Does he propose taking any steps this Session to place it on an actuarially sound basis?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
(2.) It will take four years to exhaust the Superannuation Fund. Before that time some action will be taken if it is to be placed on a sound actuarial basis.

- (4.) Steam Launch "Ena":—Mr. Cook asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have the Government purchased the steam launch "Ena" from Mr. T. A. Dibbs?
(2.) How much was paid therefor?
(3.) How much has been spent in making repairs since the purchase was made?

Sir William Lyne answered,

(1.) Yes. It was necessary to build or purchase another launch for the Public Works Department, and as a boat of the same class as the "Ena" (called the "Premier") cost over £5,000, it was decided to purchase the launch of Mr. T. A. Dibbs, the money for the same being voted on the last Estimates.

(2.) The sum of £3,000 was first asked by Mr. Dibbs, but ultimately the launch was purchased for £2,000, conditionally that she passed a survey and overhaul. The Marine Board Surveyors made the examination, and reported that the "Ena" was in good order and condition. As the launch is also a very fast boat the purchase is regarded by experts as a good one.

(3.) Expenditure is now being incurred to make the boat more suitable for the requirements of the Department, including electric light, &c., but as these have not been completed the amount cannot yet be stated.

- (5.) Bridge at Copper Hill, near Molong:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware since the bridge at Copper Hill, near Molong, on the main road to Wellington and the Bogan, was swept away by floods in March last, that it is utterly impossible for farmers to get their produce to market owing to the impassable and dangerous state of the crossing at the creek?

(2.) Is he aware since the bridge was swept away that the travelling public, teamsters, &c., have to use the land belonging to one M. C. M. Dalziell before they can cross the Molong Creek?

(3.) Is it the intention of the Government to compensate Mr. Dalziell for the damage done to his land; if so, when?

(4.) When is the erection of the new bridge likely to be proceeded with?

Mr.

28th June, 1900.

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) I am informed that farmers can get to market, as a good temporary crossing has been made, and is being used by the farmers and traffic generally, and it is only untrafficable when the creek is in flood—periods of short duration and infrequent occurrence.

(2 and 3.) An arrangement for a road through his land to the crossing has been made with Mr. Dalziell, and rent is being paid to him for the privilege.

(4.) Drawings, &c., for new bridge are being prepared, and an amount has been noted on the Estimates for the work, so that the erection thereof can be proceeded with as soon as Parliament votes the necessary funds.

(6.) Forecast of the weather for June, by Signor Presa :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that one Signor Presa (Oronza Presa, from Italy) has recently placed in the hands of the Department of Agriculture what purports to be a meteorological forecast of the weather for the month of June for New South Wales?

(2.) Was it by the authority of his Department that the contents of the document were distributed throughout the interior for the information of farmers and gardeners, &c.?

(3.) Was such information, before being circulated by the Department, first submitted for the approval (or otherwise) of Mr. Russell, M.A., the Government Meteorologist, or of Mr. Wragge, the Queensland Government Meteorologist; if not, what object has his Department in view in ignoring the services of these two Government officials for the opinion of strangers and unknown individuals?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes; several forecasts have been sent in by the gentleman named.

(2.) Certainly not; nor did the Department in any way arrange to do so.

(3.) One of the forecasts was referred to the Government Astronomer for his information, but no further action was taken by the Department.

(7.) Sanitary Inspectors :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—With the view of preventing the operation of both political and municipal influence, will he consider the advisableness of placing the appointment of sanitary inspectors with the Public Service Board, such appointment to be contingent upon the applicants passing a satisfactory hygienic examination?

Sir William Lyne answered,—An arrangement which would have the requisite effect is under consideration. The interests of existing sanitary inspectors must, however, be safeguarded as much as is consistent with due execution of the work they should perform; and the requirement that they should possess some systematic instruction as a qualification for appointment being new, it can only be gradually brought into effect.

(8.) District Surveyor, and Additional Staff Surveyor, Land District, Armidale :—Mr. Lee asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) The cause of the great delay in appointing a District Surveyor for the Land Board District of Armidale?

(2.) Is he aware that the many land matters referred to that office are seriously delayed in consequence?

(3.) Is it correct that there are only two Staff Surveyors for the large area comprised in that Land Board District, one of whom is acting as District Surveyor?

(4.) Will he take early action to have appointed an additional Staff Surveyor?

Mr. Hassall answered,—This matter is at present under the consideration of the Public Service Board, and it is understood that a decision will be arrived at very shortly.

(9.) Destruction of Vineyards affected with Phylloxera :—Mr. Cann, for Mr. Gillies, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Are persons whose vineyards are destroyed in this Colony, in consequence of their being affected with phylloxera, awarded compensation by the Government?

(2.) If so, what is the average amount of compensation claimed per acre in respect of vineyards recently destroyed?

(3.) What is the average rate of compensation offered per acre by the Government for such vineyards?

(4.) What are the respective amounts per acre allowed by the Queensland, South Australian, and Victorian Governments for vineyards destroyed when found affected with phylloxera?

(5.) Does the Government intend to take any fresh steps to deal with the phylloxera question in this Colony?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) During the past two years the average amount of compensation claimed per acre in respect of vineyards destroyed is £136.

(3.) The average rate offered was £32.

(4.) In Queensland and South Australia phylloxera has not been discovered, but in the latter Colony a Bill has been prepared which limits compensation to £6 per acre. In Victoria the law provides that no compensation be granted in respect of vineyards destroyed.

(5.) The Government Viticultural Expert has recommended that the present system of destroying diseased vineyards be abandoned in so far as the districts in Cumberland and Camden, which are badly affected, are concerned. He further recommends that these districts be absolutely quarantined so far as rooted vines, leaves, and cuttings are concerned, and that growers be encouraged to plant resistant stocks. It is not intended, however, to prevent the sale of grapes from these districts. In places at present free from phylloxera he recommends that a system of inspection be maintained with a view to stamping out the disease in its early stages, if it should break out. The whole question is one of difficulty, so many conflicting interests being involved, but the Department is giving the whole matter the closest attention, so that the best course can be taken in the interests of the vine-growers and the viticultural industry.

(10.)

28th June, 1900.

(10.) Inspection of Land Boilers:—Mr. Spence asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he take steps at an early date to provide for proper and effective inspection of land boilers?

Mr. Perry answered,—The matter will receive consideration at an early date.

(11.) Wages of Men Employed in the Sewerage Works:—Mr. Spence asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that young men are employed in the Sewerage Works at 18s. per week, whilst 30s. per week has been paid for the same class of work on the telephone tunnels?

(2.) Will he take steps to see justice done?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) I am informed there are several boys, about 14 years of age, employed on the Sewerage Works, who are receiving 18s. per week, which the officer in charge considers is a very fair wage for the work they are doing. Youths are, however, paid 5s. a day.

(2.) I will take care that no man is employed at less than 7s. per day.

(12.) Homestead Selection of Mr. C. J. Cousins:—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the reason for the prolonged delay in regard to the issue of certificate for a homestead selection to one C. J. Cousins, the case having twelve months since been decided in his favour by the Land Appeal Court?

(2.) Will he urge immediate justice in the matter?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Upon inquiry at the Land Appeal Court, it has been ascertained that, under the peculiar circumstances of the case "Cousins v. Peters," the Court decided, of its own motion, to submit a case for the opinion of the Supreme Court, that the case is now being prepared, and that the questions of law arising in it will be submitted for decision of the Supreme Court, pending which decision any further action is stayed.

(13.) Public Service Board Regulations:—Mr. Law asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Public Service Board have issued 355 regulations, and that there are only 230 in the book supplied to Members?

(2.) Is he prepared, as the Attorney-General of the Colony, to state that one or more of the regulations formulated during the last two years do not go beyond the powers given to the Board by the Public Service Act of 1895?

(3.) Will he see that a book containing the regulations to date is issued to Members of this House?

Mr. Sec answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) If the Honorable Member will let me know to which regulations he refers I will consider the matter, but it is impossible for me in such a short space of time to go through so many regulations.

(3.) A fresh compilation is being prepared.

(14.) Wages of Railway Employees:—Mr. Watkins asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that some railway employees are working on the main lines twelve hours per day for a very small rate of wages; if so, will he cause, if possible, such a state of things to be altered?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have consulted the Railway Commissioners on the matter, who point out that as the question is put generally it is not possible to give a detail reply. There are cases where the duties of employees are spread over twelve hours, such as the staff at country railway stations, but their duties are not laborious nor arduous, and it is not possible, with due regard to economical working, to alter this arrangement. The Railway Commissioners add that the wages of the employees are regulated, as far as possible, by those prevailing in private establishments, or by the relative importance of the work performed, and the wages paid on the New South Wales Railways compare most favourably with those paid on any railway in Australasia.

(15.) Redistribution of Electoral Seats:—Mr. McLean, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Electoral Commissioners submitted a report to the late Government providing for the redistribution of seats, as provided for by law?

(2.) Has effect been given to such report, or have the provisions of the law been evaded by the last Government?

(3.) Is it the intention of the Government to submit a resolution in compliance with the Electoral Act, so as to provide for proportionate representation?

Mr. Sec answered,—This is a matter which can only be dealt with by Parliament, and, as I have already stated, I will submit it as soon as an opportunity is afforded me.

2. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Second Report from the Printing Committee.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulations Nos. 5 and 10, under the Timber and Quarry Regulations.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Papers respecting an inquiry into a statement that the day of a certain inspection of the Wallsend Colliery was known at the mine beforehand.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. WOLLONGONG WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactments amending the same, to the said works.

Question put and passed.

5.

28th June, 1900.

5. **ISSUE OF TREASURY BILLS TO MEET DEFICIENCY** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reymond moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The separate items that made up the deficiency of £1,174,000, to meet which Treasury Bills were issued to that amount.
 - (2.) When each item was appropriated.
 - (3.) When each item was expended.
- Question put and passed.
6. **EARLY CLOSING ACT** (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The number of shops and factories that have been closed since the Early Closing Act came into operation.
 - (2.) Whether the rents of shops and dwellings in Sydney and suburbs have fallen 50 per cent. since the Early Closing Act came into operation.
 - (3.) The number of persons that have been thrown out of work and of earning wages and an honest living for themselves and their families since the advent of the Early Closing Act, or an approximate number of the same.
 - (4.) The number of convictions that have taken place since the Act came into existence, and total amount of fines derived therefrom.
 - (5.) The number of inspectors (male and female) employed under this Early Closing Act, and amount of salary received by each respectively in Sydney and suburbs.
- Question put and passed.
7. **GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—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.
- Question put and passed.
- Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 4th September.
8. **MINISTERIAL ELECTION BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hogue moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Ministerial Election 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 August.
9. **JUSTICES OF THE PEACE REMOVAL BILL**:—Mr. Arthur Griffith, pursuant to leave granted on 20th June, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the removal of persons from the Commission of the Peace under certain circumstances*,"—which was read a first time.
- Ordered to be printed and read a second time on Tuesday, 18th September.
10. **CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES**:—
- (1.) Mr. Hayes moved, pursuant to Notice, That John Henry Cann, Esquire, be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House for the present Session.
 - (2.) Mr. Ashton moved, pursuant to Notice, That Samuel Wilkinson Moore, Esquire, be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House during the present Session.
- Question put,—That James Henry Cann, Esquire, be Chairman of Committees of the Whole House for the present Session.
- The House divided.

Ayes, 50.

Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Quinn,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Donaldson,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. See,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Wise,	Mr. Kidd,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Nicholson,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Samuel Smith,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Reymond,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Ross,	Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Law,	Mr. O'Conor,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Hayes,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. Hughes,	
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Thomas Brown.

Noes, 44.

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Sawers,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. J. H. Young,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Garland,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Sir Matthew Harris,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Sir Joseph Abbott,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Nobbs,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Sydney Smith,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Miller,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Gormly.
Mr. Lees,	<i>Tellers.</i>
Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Phillips,	Mr. McLean.
Mr. Neild,	
Mr. Henry Chapman,	
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. Dight,	
Mr. Norton,	
Mr. Cruickshank,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon Mr. Cann, and Mr. Moore, respectively, made their acknowledgments to the House.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th June, 1900.

11. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND 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 apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1899-1900,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th June, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

12. COBAR TO WILCANNIA RAILWAY BILL:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Cobar to Wilcannia, provided that before commencing the said work certain land required is contracted to be conveyed free of cost to the Crown; to authorise the transfer of certain Crown land revenue of the district benefited by the line to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

13. EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Perry 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 Early Closing Act, 1899.
Question put and passed.

14. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Wise, 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 for the registration and incorporation of industrial unions, and the making and enforcing of industrial agreements; to constitute a court of arbitration for the hearing and determination of industrial disputes and matters referred to it by conciliators, or a court of conciliation; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of such court; to provide for the enforcement of its awards and orders; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 provide for the registration and incorporation of industrial unions, and the making and enforcing of industrial agreements; to constitute a court of arbitration for the hearing and determination of industrial disputes and matters referred to it by conciliators; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of such court; to provide for the enforcement of its awards and orders; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

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

(2.) Mr. Wise then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the registration and incorporation of industrial unions, and the making and enforcing of industrial agreements; to constitute a court of arbitration for the hearing and determination of industrial disputes and matters referred to it by conciliators; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of such court; to provide for the enforcement of its awards and orders; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—which was read a first time.

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

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

16. DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for purchases, appropriations, and resumptions for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made, or to be made, for those purposes; and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations.

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 validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for purchases, appropriations, and resumptions for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made, or to be made, for those purposes; and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain

28th June, 1900.

certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for other appropriations, and resumptions and purchases, for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made, or to be made, for those purposes; and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

17. **POSTPONEMENT:**—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects;—postponed until Wednesday next.

18. **MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL:**—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 a fund for the benefit of persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; to provide for the management and application of such fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those 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 provide a fund for the benefit of persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; to provide for the management and application of such fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide a fund for the benefit of persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; to provide for the management and application of such fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects,*"—which was read a first time.

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

19. **MINES (EIGHT HOURS) BILL:**—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 hours of employment and working below ground in mines; and for other purposes connected 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 limit the hours of employment and working below ground in mines; and for other purposes connected therewith.

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

- (2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to limit the hours of employment and working below ground in mines; and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—which was read a first time.

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

20. **METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC BILL:**—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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 traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on these 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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th June, 1900.

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 traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; to repeal certain Acts; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on these objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make better provision for the regulation of traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; to repeal certain Acts; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on these objects*,"—which was read a first time.

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

21. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 Coal Mines Regulation Act, 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 amend the Coal-mines Regulation Act, 1896.

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

- (2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Coal-mines Regulation Act, 1896*,"—which was read a first time.

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

22. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of Day of Government Business postponed until Wednesday next.

23. INDECENT PUBLICATIONS 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 suppress indecent and obscene publications*."

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 suppress indecent and obscene publications*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 28th June 1900.*

24. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at six minutes before Eleven o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 10.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 3 JULY, 1900.

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

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 39.

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 1899-1900*,"—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, 29th June, 1900.

2. 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 twenty-ninth June, 1900, and signed by His Excellency the Governor, empowering John Henry Cann, 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 WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, 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, WILLIAM, EARL BEAUCHAMP, as Governor of the Colony of New South Wales, do hereby authorise JOHN HENRY CANN, 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 twenty-ninth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred, and in the sixty-fourth year of the Reign of Her Majesty Queen Victoria.

"BEAUCHAMP.

"By His Excellency's Command,

"JOHN SEE."

3rd July, 1900.

3. LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 40.

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 provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment books, and the collection of land tax; to provide for better defining the persons liable to such tax, and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 3rd July, 1900.

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

4. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Travelling Allowances to Ministers of the Crown:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Do Ministers receive special allowances for their expenses when travelling in country districts?
 - (2.) If so, what is the amount usually allowed per day?
 - (3.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return showing the total amount drawn by each member of the Ministry, in addition to his regular salary, since the 1st January, 1900?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) £2 2s. per diem. The Premier is, however, usually allowed £3 3s. per diem.
 - (3.) The amounts paid to Members of the Ministry since 1st January, 1900, in addition to regular salaries, are as follows:—Honorable T. H. Hassall, Secretary for Lands, £54 12s.; Honorable W. H. Wood, Minister of Justice, £17 17s. Both these amounts represent fees at the rate of £2 2s. per diem while travelling. Honorable W. P. Crick, Postmaster-General, £4 4s. This sum represents travelling expenses in connection with a Conference held in Melbourne. Honorable E. W. O'Sullivan, Secretary for Public Works, £25. This amount represents expenses out of pocket claimed in lieu of fees. It may be added that up to the 4th April Mr. O'Sullivan had travelled thirty-nine days, and would have been entitled to £81 18s. Instead of charging by fees, however, he asked only for repayment of expenses out of pocket. Honorable J. L. Fegan, Secretary for Mines and Agriculture, £67 4s. This amount represents the usual out-of-pocket expenses for travelling, and is at the same rate as was allowed to Mr. Fegan's predecessor.
- (2.) Unemployed or Labour Commission:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) How often does the Unemployed or Labour Commission hold its meetings?
 - (2.) What is the remuneration for each sitting?
 - (3.) Who is the President; and does he receive any additional remuneration for holding that office?
 - (4.) Is it intended to make this Commission a permanent body?
 - (5.) Has this Board or Commission control of the Labour Bureau, or is it the intention of the Government to give such control to this Board?
 - (6.) Is it intended that this Board shall be permanent?
 - (7.) Has it been found that the officers of the Lands or Works Departments, assisted by the Labour Bureau, under the control of the Minister for Labour, are not sufficient for what this Board is supposed to be established for?
 - (8.) Will he have any objection to state what it is intended the particular scope or function of this Board is to be?
 - (9.) What was the particular qualification that caused the Government to appoint the Rev. Carr-Smith as a member of this Board?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Sittings are limited to two per week.
 - (2.) Chairman, £3 3s.; other Commissioners, excepting Mr. Hanson, £2 2s.
 - (3.) Mr. Schey. Answered by No. 2.
 - (4.) Eventually, if it be found that the purposes for which the Board was brought into existence are fulfilled.
 - (5.) Not at present.
 - (6.) Answered by No. 4.
 - (7.) It is anticipated that all matters relating to the unemployed will be more satisfactorily dealt with than heretofore.
 - (8.) The functions of the Board are to inquire into all matters in connection with labour not absorbed by private enterprise, and to advise the Minister for Labour and Industry thereon.
 - (9.) The experience gained by him during twenty years' work, mostly amongst the poor, during which period he was, more or less, a student of social questions, and also during eight years' membership of the Stoke-on-Trent Board of Guardians, a union which has been held up as a model of what such an institution should be, and which periodically had to deal with the unemployed.
- (3.) Increases of Salaries to Public Servants:—Mr. Cohen asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) What proportion of the £14,000 voted on the last Estimates for increases to salaries of clerical and professional officers in the lower grades has been devoted to members of the Professional Division graded as draftsmen?
 - (2.) Why has the Professional Division not been brought under an annual increment system similar to that enjoyed by the Clerical Division for the last two years?

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd July, 1900.

(3.) Does the Public Service Board propose issuing regulations providing for annual increments to the Professional Division; and, if so, will a sum of money be placed on the Estimates, so that such increments may take effect from the same date as those to the Clerical Division?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) A sum of £1,586 out of the Vote of £14,000 taken on the last Estimates has been devoted to increasing the salaries of officers, draftsmen, and others of the lower grades of the Professional Division, viz., those in receipt of salaries under £300 per annum.

(2 and 3.) The Public Service Board have had under consideration the question of making increment regulations for officers of the Professional Division, but in connection therewith they point out that the matter is one of much difficulty, which they have not yet been able to satisfactorily overcome, although they have given the subject the most anxious thought. It is certain, however, that in the event of it being determined not to extend the increment system the salaries of the officers of the Professional Division will have to be revised every year. The Board further point out that the salaries of the officers of the Professional Division were regraded so recently as May last year, when a number of increases were given, and that they have only lately completed the work of hearing the appeals against that grading, as a result of which a number of further increases were allowed.

(4.) Land Titles Office:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that the building known as the Land Titles Office is unsuitable in position, incommodious, and not by any means well lighted or ventilated?

(2.) In view of the constantly-increasing work of this branch of the Public Service, will he seriously consider the question of providing a more commodious and up-to-date building in the vicinity of the Lands Office, with which it is closely associated in its administrative work?

Mr. Wood answered,—I am aware that the building used as the Land Titles Office is not at all suitable for the purpose. The matter will receive full consideration.

(5.) Federal and State Legislators:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. F. Clarke*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he seriously considered the desirability of amending our Constitution Act by making it illegal (a) for Members whilst retaining their seats in either House of the State Legislature to seek election to the Federal Parliament, and (b) to prevent Members from holding the dual positions of Federal and State Legislators?

(2.) If not, will he consider during the present Session the desirability of introducing such legislation?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This question has not yet been seriously considered, but will occupy the attention of the Government during the next month.

(6.) Sale of Frontage to Martin-place:—*Sir Matthew Harris* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was an offer made recently to the Government for the whole frontage to Martin-place prior to the recent auction sale at which the Bank of Australasia purchased a portion?

(2.) If so, what was the amount offered?

(3.) Would the Government now receive that amount, including what has been or is to be paid by the Bank of Australasia?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am not aware of any such offer as the Honorable Member refers to having been made.

(7.) Delays in the Equity Court:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Respecting the repeated delays in the Equity Court, is he aware that some important cases get as little as two or three hours hearing one day per week, and that such cases threaten to last for years?

(2.) Would it not be expedient to relieve the present Master in Equity of the Lunacy portion of his duties?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) I am informed by the Master in Equity that he is not aware of such delays, as far as the Master's Office is concerned; and he can state that the same do not exist, and that no important cases get as little as two or three hours' hearing one day a week. It is his practice, as far as possible, to take such cases *de die in diem* until inquiry is completed.

(2.) It would not be expedient to relieve the present Master in Equity of the Lunacy portion of his duties.

(8.) Children Parading the Streets of Sydney:—*Mr. Haynes* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Respecting the generally known fact that the streets of Sydney are crowded by day and night with young children of both sexes, will he communicate with the Inspector-General of Police with a view to more vigorous enforcement of the law respecting such children?

Mr. See answered,—The Industrial Schools Act is enforced by the Police as far as practicable, but it does not reach children who are neglected and are employed in the streets selling matches and other small articles. An amendment of the law to reach such children would be of great public advantage, and the matter is now under the consideration of the Government.

(9.) Substitution of Electric Power for Steam throughout the Tramway System:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, in order to carry out the scheme for substituting electric power for steam throughout the metropolitan and suburban tramway system, the plant at present in use has been reported as being absolutely inadequate to meet the increased demands thereby made upon it?

(2.) If this is so, will he consider the advisability of securing a Departmental report on the question of utilizing, for the purposes indicated, the water power now going to waste in the Grose and Colo rivers, and of putting it to use in the generation of electricity for motive, lighting, and other purposes?

Mr.

3rd July, 1900.

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) The unexpected and enormous development of traffic on the tramways already existing shows that the power supplied is quite inadequate for the completion of the system, and for other tramways to be constructed.

(2.) As I stated last Tuesday, I am in hopes of carrying out such a scheme as that suggested by the Honorable Member. I have already instructed an officer to report upon the proposal, and if the recommendation is favorable I will bring the matter before the Cabinet, and endeavour to obtain their consent to a scheme for the utilization of the Grose and Colo Rivers as a means of giving adequate power for tramway purposes, as well as for lighting Sydney and suburbs and country towns *en route*, by electricity.

(10.) Steam Launches Employed on the Harbours and Rivers :—*Mr. McLean*, for Mr. Molesworth, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that a large number of steam launches employed on the harbours and rivers of the Colony are not subject to periodical survey of either hull or machinery, and that the law is ineffective in this direction?

(2.) Will he, in the interest of the lives of those employed therein, take the necessary steps to have the law so amended that all steamers shall be examined periodically as to the condition of their hulls, boilers, and machinery, and certificates issued in accordance therewith?

Sir William Lyne answered.—An opinion has been given by the Crown Law authorities that the Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899, does not extend the provisions of survey to steam vessels carrying cargo in the harbours and rivers, of which there are a good number in Sydney Harbour and in the Northern Rivers, and the Superintendent of the Department of Navigation has therefore no power to compel such vessels to submit to a periodical survey of their hulls and machinery. The question of amending the law will receive consideration.

(11.) Revaluation of Land under the Land and Income Tax Act :—*Mr. Watson*, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that, under the provisions of the Land and Income Tax Act, the whole of the lands of the Colony must be revalued before the end of the present year?

(2.) Does he intend to adhere to his formerly expressed intention of having the work done by a small body of competent, responsible valuers, permanently in the service of the Government, so as to avoid a recurrence of the abuses connected with the former valuation, resulting from the employment of a number of irresponsible persons?

(3.) If his intention is as above, will he see that the appointments are made at once, so that the valuers may have time to do their work effectively and satisfactorily, and so as to avoid a recurrence of the errors resulting from the manner in which the work was rushed on the former occasion?

Sir William Lyne answered.—The question of the revaluation of the whole of the lands of the Colony under the provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 has received the earnest consideration of the Commissioners. A Bill has already been drafted, and is now in the hands of the Crown Law authorities, which will have the effect of suspending the valuation referred to during the present year, and substituting an arrangement by which the lands of the Colony may be valued in divisions by expert assessors, with the result that the work may be thoroughly and efficiently carried out. On the first occasion 200 assessors were appointed, many of whom, it was afterwards ascertained, were very incompetent. The time within which the work had to be done was unduly limited, and the result was, in every way, unsatisfactory. This was partly due to the fact that, in the absence of any movement in land speculation, there was little or no reliable guide to values. The condition of matters in that respect has not since altered, and, if a general valuation were attempted this year, there is no doubt that it would be followed, as in the first instance, by universal dissatisfaction and protest. At the present moment Departmental work is proceeding smoothly; the taxpayers are acquiescing in the present system of direct taxation, and the Commissioners consider that it would not be politic or expedient to disturb the minds of the taxpayers, which a general assessment would undoubtedly bring about. During the next few weeks, the Commissioners hope that the heavy expenses which have been incurred in the preparation of the Assessment Books, and the comprehensive index of the 180,000 names of persons interested in taxable land, will be materially reduced, and that they will be in a position to submit, for the approval of the Honorable the Premier, the names of several highly-qualified persons for appointment as permanent assessors.

(12.) Roads in the Coastal Districts :—*Mr. McFarlane* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In view of the largely-increased traffic upon the roads in the coastal districts caused by the rapid growth of the dairying industry, will he, upon next Estimates, make more substantial provision for the improvement of roads?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered.—I have already decided to submit a largely increased vote for roads for the consideration of the Cabinet, and when I receive that all defective roads will have treatment at my hands. From reports in my possession I believe the roads in the north coastal districts are in a bad condition. In fact, that remark will apply to many other roads in the country, which, owing to the cutting down of the road vote by £250,000, have been left in a disgraceful state.

5. VINE DISEASES ACT OF 1893 :—*Mr. Sydney Smith* presented a Petition from certain vinegrowers of New South Wales, representing that the Vine Diseases Act has failed to accomplish that for which it was passed, viz.—to eradicate the insect known as phylloxera; that the insect known here as phylloxera is almost harmless, and in no case has it been proved to have destroyed a single vine; that those who have come within the Act have been deprived of their livelihood; and praying the House to repeal such Act.

Petition received.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd July, 1900.

6. LIQUOR ACT :—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named :—
- (1.) By Mr. See—From Robert Allen, President, and R. C. G. Page, Secretary of a public meeting of residents on the Clarence River.
 - (2.) By Sir William Lyne—From A. T. Watson, Chief Templar, and Chairman of a meeting of Loyal Woomargama United Lodge, No. 793, I.O.G.T.
 - (3.) By Sir William Lyne—From certain residents of Woomargama.
 - (4.) By Mr. Sydney Smith—From certain residents of Canterbury.
- Petitions received.
7. CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY TRUST, DIOCESE OF GOULBURN :—Mr. Haynes presented a Petition from Captain Comte de Rossi, representing that he had been wrongfully removed from his position as a Trustee of St. Saviour's Church, three Crown grants, and moneys thereto pertaining, to which position he had been appointed by an instrument in writing by Frederick Barker, Metropolitan Bishop of Sydney, under his hand and episcopal seal dated the 12th March, 1856; that the present Bishop of Goulburn had been appointed sole Trustee, in contravention of law; that Petitioner had, during the present year, by petition to the Equity Court, sought for a rescission of such appointment, but had been unsuccessful; and that Petitioner had been ordered by the said Court to pay up certain moneys which he asserted he did not owe; and praying the House to grant a Select Committee to inquire into all the circumstances of the case, or that Petitioner may be afforded such other relief as will free him from further vexatious and harassing litigation.
- Petition received.
8. PAPERS :—
- Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Report of the Federal Electoral Districts Commissioners respecting the division of the Colony into Federal Electoral Divisions.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Amended By-law in connection with the Jerilderie Water Supply.
 - (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Bingal, county of Rouss, for the erection of a Wharf on the north bank of Bingal Creek, at Wardell.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Householder's Schedule to the Report of the Conference of Statisticians respecting the collection and compilation of the Census of Australasia of 1901.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Report of the Sydney Grammar School for the year 1899.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
9. SYDNEY COAL DELIVERY ACTS REPEAL BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
- (1.) Mr. Cohen moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to repeal the Act for regulating the sale and delivery of coal in the City of Sydney and its vicinity (9 Vic. No. 8), and the Act amending the same (10 Vic. No. 2).
Question put and passed.
 - (2.) Mr. Cohen then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to repeal the Act for regulating the sale and delivery of Coal in the City of Sydney and its vicinity (9 Vic. No. 8), and the Act amending the same (10 Vic. No. 2)*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 18th September.
10. POSTPONEMENT :—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Art Unions Act Amendment Bill postponed until Tuesday, 24th July.
11. WOLLONGONG WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker :—
- BEAUCHAMP, *Message No. 41.*
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 Water Supply Works for the Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactment amending the same, to the said works.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 28th June, 1900.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
12. PAPER :—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council,—
- (a) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Government Printer" to supplement the Vote "Stores and Stationery."
 - (b) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Parliamentary Reporting Staff" to supplement the Vote "Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works."
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3rd July, 1900.

13. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—King Division, Mr. Reid, 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 return of the Australian Contingents to Australia when the war in South Africa is over.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Reid, moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
14. **MEMBER SWORN**:—William White Young, 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 Bathurst.
15. **CROWN LANDS**:—Mr. Rose moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That, in the opinion of this House,—
(1.) The present policy of excluding available Crown lands from conditional purchase in favour of homestead selections and settlement leases is opposed to the best interests of the country.
(2.) Holders of homestead selections and settlement leases should have the right of converting such tenures into conditional purchases.
(2.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Cruickshank moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question put, That this Debate be now adjourned.
The House divided.

Ayes, 36.

Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. See,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Pycrs,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Newman,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Garland,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Richards,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Fegan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Chanter,	

Noes, 17.

Mr. Cook,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Samuel Smith,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Spence,
Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Holman,
Mr. Cohen.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Macdonald
Mr. Watson.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday, 14th August.

16. **MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2)**:—Mr. Price, pursuant to leave granted on 13th June, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill for the registration of medical practitioners, the restriction of unqualified persons from practising, and to amend such other statutes as may be inconsistent therewith,*”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 13th September.
17. **DISMISSAL OF MRS. ABRAHAMS, SHAFESBURY GIRLS ASYLUM**:—Mr. Holman moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the circumstances surrounding the dismissal of Mrs. Abrahams, sub-matron of the Shaftesbury Girls Asylum.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. McGowen, Mr. Ashton, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Spruson, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Storey, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.
18. **ALFRED AUSTIN SAMPSON'S SETTLEMENT LEASE, GUNNEDAH**:—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the matter of Alfred Austin Sampson's Settlement lease No. 96-21, Gunnedah, his appeals against the valuations of improvements on same, and all other proceedings in connection therewith.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Hassall, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Savers, Mr. Watson, Mr. Cruickshank, Mr. Goodwin, Mr. Whiddon, Mr. Spence, and the Mover.
(3.) That the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Select Committee of Third Session of 1899, together with all papers referred thereto, be referred to such Committee.
Question put and passed.
19. **CONDITIONAL PURCHASE OF GEORGE HUMPHRIES COWLED**:—Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of George Humphries Cowled, for loss sustained, by reason of the Supreme Court having reversed the decisions of the Land Appeal Court and the Local Land Board at Wagga Wagga, as to his right to an original conditional purchase.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Hassall, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Cann, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Affleck, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd July, 1900.

20. ACCIDENT TO ALBERT BURBANK ON RAILWAY PREMISES, TAMWORTH:—Mr. Gillies moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all the circumstances attending the accident to one Albert Burbank, on the railway premises at Tamworth, on the 2nd day of July, 1897.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Bennett, Mr. Edden, Mr. Dight, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Spence, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Nicholson, and the Mover.
 Question put and passed.
21. CLAIM OF MR. J. L. DAVIDSON, PADDINGTON:—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon a claim for damages said to be sustained by Mr. J. L. Davidson by reason of the proximity of the Police Station, Paddington, to his dwelling.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. See, Mr. Meagher, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Holman, Mr. Storey, Mr. Spence, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. O'Connor, and the Mover.
 Question put and passed.
22. TRUCK 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 regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages; to prohibit such payment being paid in goods or otherwise than in money; and to regulate the service of legal process.
 Question put and passed.
23. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 11.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 4 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Exchange of Lands:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Have applications been made by the owners of Caroonboon and Puckawidgee respectively, in the Deniliquin Land District, for an exchange of lands?
- (2.) Are the lands proposed to be surrendered by the said owners situated in the Hay and Hillston Land Districts?
- (3.) Does he approve of the policy of land in one district being exchanged for land in another district distant from each other over a hundred miles or more?
- (4.) If not, will he in the future refuse to approve such applications, or to send such to any Local Land Board for inquiry?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1 and 2.) An application has been made by Messrs. J. and J. Dickson, the holders of Caroonboon holding, to acquire land within that holding in the Deniliquin Land District in exchange for lands in the Hay and Hillston Land Districts, and an application has been made by Messrs. Currie and Mackinnon, the holders of Puckawidgee holding, to acquire land within that holding, which is situated partly within the Land Districts of Deniliquin and Hay, in exchange for lands within the Hay Land District.

(3 and 4.) There is nothing in the law opposed to an exchange of lands in different holdings or in different districts, and this fact I have felt compelled to bear in mind. I am not in favour of exchanges of lands remote from each other, but where local reports point to a certain proposal as advantageous to the Crown's interests, I have thought it not undesirable to refer the case to the Land Board for full investigation, leaving the question whether the exchange shall be completed a matter for decision afterwards.

- (2.) Early Closing Act:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Is he aware that in a block of buildings on the Pacramatta Road, Annandale, between Johnstone and Annandale streets, there are two grocers who are compelled by law to close their shops at 6 o'clock four days per week—half-holiday on Wednesdays and 10 o'clock on Saturdays?
- (2.) Is he aware that between these two grocers' shops, in the same street, is a so-called ham and beef shop, in which there is a good display of general groceries, teas, dairy produce, fresh pork, and sausages, &c., and that close by is a butcher's shop also compelled by law to close at the same time as the two grocers?
- (3.) Is he aware that the proprietor of the ham and beef shop keeps his place open daily until 8 or 9 o'clock, and 11 o'clock on Saturdays, and this ham and beef shop makes a special show of various lines, such as butter, tea, bacon, cheese, eggs, lard, condiments, when the two grocers' and butcher's shops are by law compelled to close?
- (4.) Was it ever contemplated that such an anomaly should occur or exist under the Early Closing Act?
- (5.) Will he see that some steps are taken to have these anomalies rectified or amended, so as to place all persons in business on an equal footing and equality?

Mr. Perry answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Yes; but the local police have observed that only cooked provisions are sold in the shop when the grocers are closed.
- (4 and 5.) This matter is dealt with in the amending Bill. (3.)

4th July, 1900.

- (3.) Early Closing Act:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a poor man in a small grocery business in Surry Hills was lately fined £1 for selling a loaf of bread (under the Early Closing Act) to a child after hours, the mother having sent the child for the bread as the family had no bread in the house at the time?
 - (2.) Did the Early Closing Act ever contemplate inflicting so cruel a hardship on poor families to be deprived, in a free Christian country, of the liberty of purchasing a loaf of bread and common necessaries of life?
 - (3.) Will he see that the Act in this respect is amended in the interest of poor tradesmen and suffering families?
 - (4.) If ham and beef shops are allowed to keep open after 6 o'clock, will he take steps to alter the law so that bakers and grocers, &c., will be allowed to sell bread (the staff of life) after 6 o'clock, especially to poor families that are starving or in want of the necessaries of life?
- Mr. Perry answered,—
- (1.) No. Harris Greenberg, general storekeeper, Goulburn and Nithdale streets, was summoned for not keeping his shop closed after the hour for closing on the 13th February last. He pleaded guilty, and was fined 5s., with 5s. 6d. costs. The officer who summoned him saw a girl leave the shop with bread on the date mentioned after prescribed hours.
 - (2.) The Early Closing Act does not deprive, nor does it contemplate depriving, "poor families of the liberty of purchasing a loaf of bread." The effect of the Act is to require "poor families" and others to make their purchases at such hours as will not deprive other poor families, such as shopkeepers and shop-assistants, of a reasonable amount of liberty.
 - (3 and 4.) The Act will be amended in such directions as experience has shown to be necessary.
- (4.) Cargo and Orange Road to Cudal:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) The amount of money expended annually (if any) in the way of repairs on the road leading from Cargo and Orange road to Cudal Municipality boundary?
 - (2.) The same information with regard to the road from Molong, *via* Boree and Bowan Park, to Cargo?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) There is a road known to the Department as Murphy's Hill to Cudal (Murphy's Hill being on the Orange to Cargo road), on which the average annual expenditure for the past five years has been £88 0s. 5d.
 - (2.) Average annual expenditure for past five years, £120 17s. 10d.
- (5.) Officers of the Land and Income Tax Department:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for *Mr. Ferris*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to place the officers of the Land Tax and Income Department on the permanent staff; if so, when?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—Yes. Legislative authority will be necessary, and that is at present receiving the consideration of the Government.
- (6.) Land Appraisalment Act:—*Mr. Byrne* asked the Secretary for Lands,—When does he intend to put into operation the provisions of the Land Appraisalment Act?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—The matter has been carefully kept in view from the outset, but until very recently very few applications were received, so few indeed that any special expense would not have been warranted. Recently more activity has been displayed by selectors, and where a sufficient number of applications have been received steps have been taken, with a view to have them dealt with. It may be of interest to the Honorable Member to state that the latest information to hand shows an average of between four and five applications to have been received for each Land District. The following are the figures:—Armidale Land Board District, comprising 5 Land Districts, 23; Bourke Land Board District, comprising 6 Land Districts, 15; Dubbo Land Board District, comprising 4 Land Districts, 4; Forbes Land Board District, comprising 6 Land Districts, 33; Goulburn Land Board District, comprising 13 Land Districts, 103; Grafton Land Board District, comprising 7 Land Districts, 6; Hay Land Board District, comprising 8 Land Districts, 161; Maitland Land Board District, comprising 13 Land Districts, 4; Moree Land Board District, comprising 5 Land Districts, nil; Orange Land Board District, comprising 9 Land Districts, 19; Sydney Land Board District, comprising 11 Land Districts, 7; Tamworth Land Board District, comprising 5 Land Districts, 4; Wagga Wagga Land Board District, comprising 11 Land Districts, 71.
- (7.) Reappraisalment of Lands—Western Division Leases:—*Mr. Byrne* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to appoint valuers in connection with the Reappraisalment of Lands Act; if so, when?
 - (2.) When will the Commission appointed to inquire into the Western Division leases commence their duties?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—
- (1.) Yes; and the matter is now under consideration so far as concerns districts in which a sufficient number of applications have been received.
 - (2.) The Commission having been appointed, no unnecessary delay will take place before they commence their duties.
- (8.) Dromedary Gold-field:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Austin Chapman*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Were there any gold leases taken for quartz or alluvial at Dromedary Gold-field prior to *F. R. Cowdroy's* discovery, which was in March, 1877?
 - (2.) If so, how many, and what amount of revenue did the Department derive from the Dromedary Gold-field (if such existed) during the stated period of fifteen years prior to March, 1877?
 - (3.) When was Mount Dromedary proclaimed a gold-field?
 - (4.) Was it proclaimed before or after March, 1877?

(5.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th July, 1900.

- (5.) How much revenue, including lease fees, survey fees, rents, miners' rights, business and mineral licenses, has the Mines Department derived from Mount Dromedary Gold-field since F. R. Cowdroy's discovery, from March, 1877, up to March, 1900?
- (6.) Why has the Mines Department refused to supply F. R. Cowdroy with a copy of Warden Elliott's report on his application for the discovery of Mount Dromedary reefing field?
- (7.) On whose information did Warden De Boos base his report when he stated that the alluvial flats at the foot of the mountain, together with the watercourses running down from it, had been worked fifteen years prior to March, 1877?
- (8.) Can the Department prove the above statement to be correct?
- (9.) Can he or the Department refute any one statement contained in F. R. Cowdroy's application, dated 17th April, 1900?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1 to 5.) It is not possible to supply the information at present, as it will take considerable research and time to prepare, and I would ask the Honorable Member to move for a return in the usual way.

(6.) The report of Mr. Warden Elliott was supplied for the information and guidance of the Department only, and is regarded as confidential.

(7.) Mr. De Boos was Warden of the district at the time, and no doubt based his report on his personal knowledge.

(8.) The onus of disproving the statements rests with Mr. Cowdroy.

(9.) Yes, for even were it admitted (which it is not) that Mr. Cowdroy was the discoverer, the terms of the reward were not complied with. The discovery was not less than 4 miles from the nearest gold workings, nor were 300 miners found employment within three months.

- (9.) Property left in Public Vehicles :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that all property left in public vehicles must be taken to the office of the Metropolitan Board of Transit Commissioners?

(2.) How many articles have been deposited there during the last three months?

(3.) What is the approximate cash value of the whole of such articles?

(4.) Is all unclaimed property sold by auction at the end of three months; if not, how often is it sold?

(5.) What did the last sale realise?

(6.) How long were the articles accumulating which were offered at the last sale?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Registrar of the Metropolitan Transit Commission :—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Seventy-six, thirty-four of which have been returned to owners.

(3.) Under £10.

(4.) No. Generally twice a year.

(5.) £10 8s. 3d.

(6.) Nine months.

- (10.) Gratuities to Retired Public Servants :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Have their gratuities been paid to any officers in the State employment whose services were dispensed with on the occasion when the Public Service Board came into existence, but who have since been given permanent or temporary employment in their old or other Departments?

(2.) If such gratuities have been paid to and been retained by some officers, will he inform the House why others have been refused the same right?

(3.) On what principle have these gratuities been granted and refused?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) It is difficult to answer a general question of this kind. In many cases where officers have been re-employed the gratuities had been paid to them before such re-employment; and where the re-appointment was to a permanent position, special arrangements were made with the officers that the amount of gratuity received by them should be refunded by instalments. It has, however, been determined that, on the termination of the officers' permanent service, the gratuity is payable, and in the cases where officers have been re-employed, and have not received a gratuity, the money will be payable on their finally leaving the Service.

(3.) On the principles laid down in the Public Service Act.

- (11.) Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it intended to close the Government Metallurgical Works at Clyde; and, if so, for what reason is this course to be pursued?

(2.) What expenditure would need to be incurred so that the works might be fitted with such modern machinery and appliances as would enable it to be worked to the satisfaction of the mining community?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I shall presently lay upon the Table of the House copy of a report which gives the information desired by the Honorable Member.

- (12.) Public Works :—Mr. Spence asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Referring to a speech delivered by him in which he stated that he had carried out a number of extra works, will he state what those works were?

(2.) Will he also state how much his Department spent during the year 1899-1900; the same for the following years—1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895-6, 1896-7, 1897-8, 1898-9?

(3.) How much is the excess of loan expenditure by the Public Works Department for 1899-1900 over the previous year; why was this excess expenditure incurred?

(4.) How much was the excess of revenue expenditure of the Public Works Department for 1899-1900 over that of the previous year; why was this excess incurred?

Mr.

4th July, 1900.

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—In reply to the Honorable Member, I have to state as follows:—

(1.) The extra works carried on by the Public Works Department during the past year were:—On Loan Votes—by the starting of three new railways, six new tramways, the telephone tunnels, new bridges, new harbour works, new sewerage works and new buildings.

(2.) The total expenditure in connection with the Public Works Department, irrespective of Water and Sewerage Boards, in 1891, was £3,125,616 19s. 1d.; in 1892 it was £3,223,495 2s. 2d.; in 1893 it was £2,557,907 14s. 11d.; 1894 to 30th of June, 1895 (18 months), £2,585,922 5s. 8d.; in 1895-6 it was £1,772,435 12s. 6d.; in 1896-7 it was £1,692,170 13s. 10d.; in 1897-8 it was £1,816,038 13s. 1d.; in 1898-9 it was £2,165,818 14s. 11d.; 1899-1900 (approximate) it was £2,285,682 9s. 8d. In connection with these figures it must be remembered that the Road Vote was reduced by over £300,000 in 1894 as compared with 1892, and has remained at more than £300,000 reduction ever since.

(3.) The Loan expenditure for 1899-1900 has only exceeded that of the previous year by £92,752 4s. 2d. This includes £45,000 for land resumption about Darling Island, and £30,000 for telephone tunnels—both unexpected extras that had to be met. The telephone tunnels expenditure formerly fell on the Postal Department, which has been relieved to the extent of £30,000.

(4.) The Revenue expenditure in connection with the Public Works Department for 1899-1900 only exceeded that of the previous year by £27,111 10s. 7d.

(5.) This excess of expenditure on Revenue Votes was caused by the rise in price of materials owing to the war, by work being found for the unemployed (usually paid out of Treasurer's Advance) and by double shifts and eight-hour system on dredges, and by a rise in wages to labourers and skilled workmen all over New South Wales.

(13.) Report of Government Savings Bank of N.S.W.:—Mr. Terry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he received the annual report of the Auditors of the Government Savings Bank of New South Wales?

(2.) If so, when will he be able to lay the same upon the Table of the House for the information of Honorable Members?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Annual Balance Sheet of the Saving Bank of New South Wales for 1899 was presented to the Government on the 23rd January last, signed by the Trustees and certified by the Auditors, and was published in the *Government Gazette*, No. 99, of 2nd February, 1900.

(14.) Increments to Officers in the Public Service:—Mr. Nelson asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) What are the reasons which have prevented a system of annual increments being granted to the lower grades of the Professional Division of the Public Service, regulations granting annual increments to similar grades of the Clerical Division having been gazetted so far back as July, 1898?

(2.) Considering that officers of the Clerical Division, receiving under £300 per annum, have already been granted two increments since regulations governing them were gazetted, will he cause regulations to be framed without delay granting annual increments to officers of the Professional Division of similar grades?

(3.) And if so, will he, in justice to a deserving body of public officers, and in order to place them on an equal footing with the Clerical Division, make provision on the Estimates for paying such officers increments from 1st July, 1898?

Mr. See answered,—If the Honorable Member will refer to the answer given to Question No. 3 last night, it will be found that the information now desired was then supplied.

(15.) Increases of Salaries in the Taxation Department:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. McLean, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the First Commissioner for Taxation at the end of last year made certain recommendations for increases of salaries to various officers of his Department who were under-paid?

(2.) Did these recommendations emanate from a request made by the Public Service Board, viz., that a revision of salary list be made, and if there were any officers of the Department under-paid to report on same?

(3.) Have the Commissioner's recommendations been adopted?

(4.) If so, why have the increases not been paid?

Mr. See answered,—The Public Service Board went very exhaustively into the question of the salaries of officers of the Taxation Department some time ago, and the whole of the salaries were then regraded. There are, however, a few cases still outstanding, and before finally dealing with these the Board propose to make a personal investigation, but owing to the pressure of work they have not yet been able to do this. The matter will, however, be dealt with as soon as possible.

(16.) Nanima and Wandary Holdings, Forbes District:—Mr. Holman asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) When the available area on Nanima holding, Forbes District, will be thrown open for selection?

(2.) When the available area on the Wandary holding, Forbes District, will be similarly thrown open?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) It is proposed to set apart an area of 3,940 acres for additions to conditional purchase and conditional lease holdings on Nanima holding. The reserve partly covering the land will be revoked on the 7th instant, and the proposed action will be taken at the expiration of sixty days from that date. When the claims of adjoining holders are thus satisfied, it is proposed to deal with the balance of the area (about 1,770 acres). This balance is, however, affected by an exchange which is not yet completed.

(2.) An area of 4,163 acres in ten blocks, ranging from 332 acres to 579½ acres, has been measured for homestead selection. The covering reserves have been revoked, and the revocations will take effect on the 26th instant, when the Chairman of the Land Board will be asked to suggest suitable dates for the setting apart of the land and the hearing of applications.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th July, 1900.

- (17.) Allowances to the Police:—Mr. Holman asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Whether he has come to any decision on the question of extra living allowances for police situated within the dividing line, but at distances from railways; if so, will he announce it?
 (2.) Whether it is not now the fact that other public servants similarly situated obtain such allowances?

Mr. See answered,—If the additional sum recommended on the current year's Estimates is voted, the usual allowance will be paid to the police at those places where other public servants receive it.

- (18.) Increments to Officers in the Public Service:—Mr. Cann, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Attorney-General,—

- (1.) Is it intended to grant officers in the lower series of grades, who are at the top of their respective grades, increments for the year 1899-1900?
 (2.) If not, why not; and if so, when?

Mr. See answered,—It is not intended to grant increments to the officers referred to. By reference to the regulation it will be seen that promotions from grade to grade are only contemplated as vacancies occur. The regulation reads as follows:—"Provided that in all cases promotion shall only be made from one grade to another when a vacancy has occurred in the next higher grade. Should, however, the exigencies of the Service so demand, the Board may at any time declare that the number of officers in any grade requires to be increased, whereupon the number of officers in the grade specified shall be increased accordingly, and promotion from the lower grade shall be made of the officers entitled thereto, subject to the necessary provision being made by Parliament for the purpose." It is true that the power of creating vacancies was exercised on the first year's working of the regulations, but it would be impossible, in justice to the State, to continue the practice. Special instances may, of course, arise where the power given by the regulations should be exercised, but it cannot be done as a regular thing.

- (19.) Manufacture of Jam, Confectionery, &c.:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Jessep, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that large orders for jams and preserved fruits have been placed by the War Office in Victoria, Tasmania, and South Australia, for export to South Africa, and that no orders for these goods have been received by New South Wales manufacturers?

(2.) Is it not a fact that in the Colonies named every facility is given to local manufacturers, and that a drawback of the whole amount of the duty on sugar they pay is allowed on exportation of the goods, while no such drawback is allowed in this Colony, although the duty on sugar is £3 per ton?

(3.) Is he aware that the late Premier, the Right Honorable G. H. Reid, gave notice of a Bill to so amend the Customs Act as to place manufacturers of jams and confectionery, &c., of this Colony on the same footing in the export trade as the manufacturers of the adjoining Colonies?

(4.) If such notice was not given by the late Premier, will he introduce a Bill on the lines indicated, and so give local manufacturers a chance to compete in the world's market?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I understand that certain orders for these goods were placed with the adjacent Colonies, but no official orders were supplied from here.

(2.) The conditions are not similar to those in New South Wales, where large quantities of free sugar are locally produced.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) I have not yet seen the Bill, but shall probably do as the Honorable Member desires.

- (20.) Compensation in Connection with the Plague:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any compensation been paid to anyone in connection with the quarantining of plague-stricken areas for interruption to business or damage to property?

(2.) If so, what amount has been so paid?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) This information can be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual manner.

- (21.) Old Age Pensions:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When is it intended to introduce the promised measure to establish a system of Old Age Pensions?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is intended to do so this Session if possible.

2. EARLY CLOSING ACT:—

(1.) Mr. Nelson presented a Petition from certain tobacconists of Sydney and Suburbs, representing that the Early Closing Act had been in operation for nearly six months; that the existing provisions which regulate the hours of closing of tobacconist shops are those that best meet the requirements of the trade and convenience of the general public; and praying the House not to amend the Act in respect to the hours of closing retail tobacconists shops.

(2.) Mr. Edden presented a Petition from certain shopkeepers, tradespeople, and citizens of the City of Newcastle and of the adjacent Municipalities, stating that Petitioners were in accord with the objects of the abovenamed Act in so far as the limitation of hours of employees were concerned; that they had no desire to increase the hours of labour or interfere with the weekly half-holiday; that in a spirit of justice a clause might be inserted in the Act which would allow shopkeepers in the shopping District of Newcastle to keep open their places of business until the hour of 9 p.m. on Pay Friday night, and the same hour on the night preceding the Sunday night when the Public Holiday falls on the Monday; and praying the House to make such amendments as will effect the desired relief.

Petitions received.

4th July, 1900.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—Notification of reduced rates on telegrams to the Australian Nursing Corps on service in South Africa.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—

(1.) 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, the 41st section of the Act 53 Victoria No. 21, and the 7th section of the Public Trusts Act, 1897.

(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. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Report of the Board appointed to deal with applications for the position of Government Metallurgist.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulations Nos. 254 to 271 and 274 to 277, under the Public Service Act of 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. MUNICIPALITIES ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipalities Act, to enable municipalities to raise the revenue at their option either by imposing rates on the unimproved value of land within their boundaries or upon the annual rental value.
Question put and passed.

5. MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF INVERELL REDUCED AREA BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Cruickshank moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to reduce the area of the Municipal District of Inverell.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Cruickshank 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 reduce the area of the Municipal District of Inverell*,"—read a first time.

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

(1.) Truck Bill; 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 payment being paid in goods or otherwise than in money; and to regulate the service of legal process;—until Tuesday, 21st August.

(2.) Racing Association Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 18th September.

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 unwarrantable delay on the part of the Railway Commissioners in supplying Balmain's immense population and the residents of Lilyfield with a double line of tramway and a more efficient tram service."
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. COBAR TO WILCANNIA RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 42.

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 Cobar to Wilcannia; to authorise the transfer of certain Crown lands Revenue to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes.

*Government House,
Sydney, 4th July, 1900.*

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

9. LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment books and the collection of land tax; to provide for better defining the persons liable to such tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
Question put and passed.

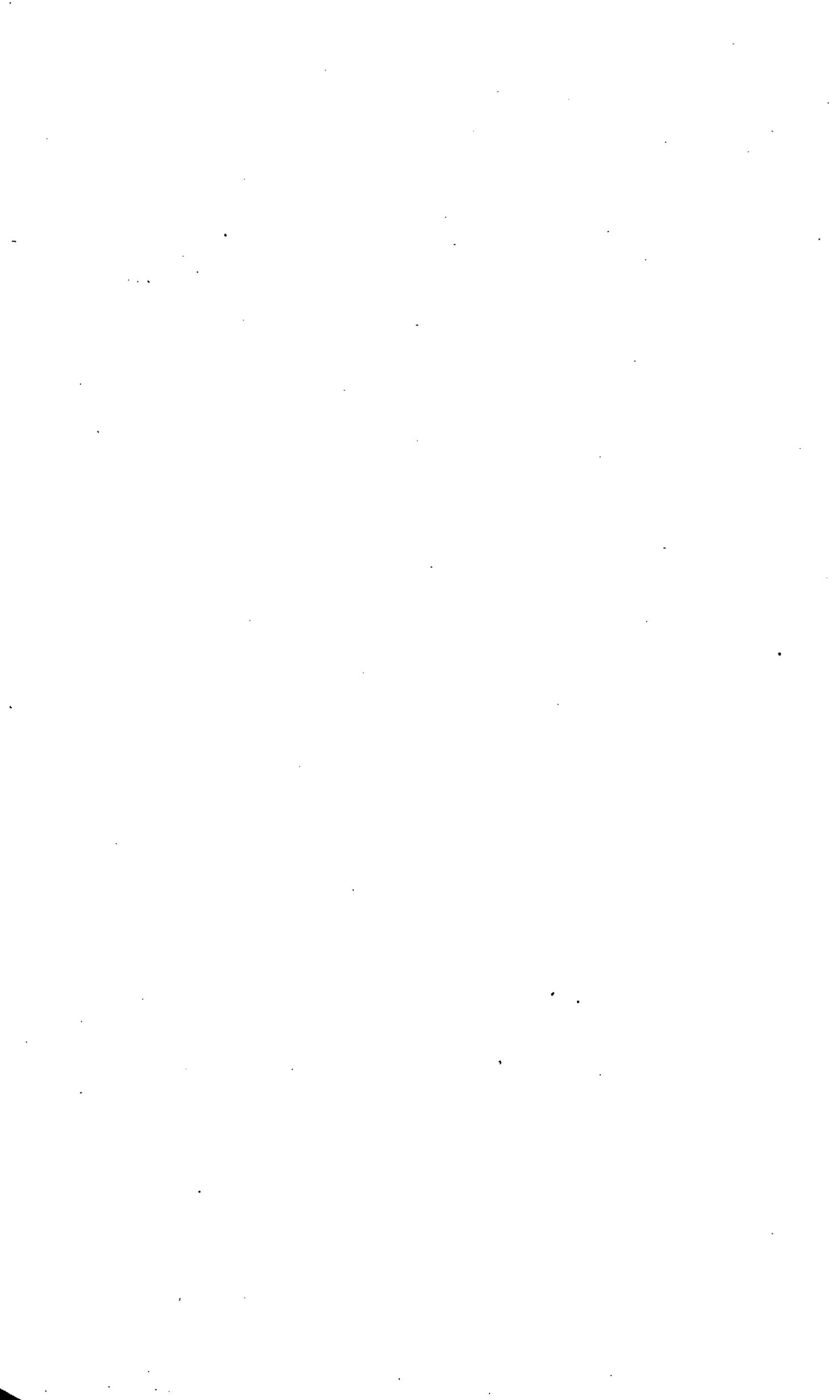
VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th July, 1900.

10. **STATUTORY RULES PUBLICATION BILL**:—Sir William Lyne 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 publication of Statutory Rules.
Question put and passed.
11. **EXPLOSIVES BILL**:—Sir William Lyne 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to explosives.
Question put and passed.
12. **INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Cook moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.
13. **DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Point of Order:—Mr. McGowen submitted that the Title and Order of Leave did not embrace an important provision in clause 4 giving power for the lease or sale of land not required, and that the Bill was therefore not properly before the House.
Mr. Speaker, referring to a similar objection raised by Mr. McLaughlin on the 17th August, 1897, with reference to the Totalizator Bill, said that, in accordance with the decision given in that case, he declared the Bill to be in order.
Mr. Hughes moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.
14. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at ten minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 12.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 5 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Income Tax Payable by Members of Parliament:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Do the Taxation Commissioners charge all Members of this House Income Tax on their £300 per annum, less the exemption?
 - (2.) Have all the Members been charged the same, and paid what they are legally due to pay?
 - (3.) Are any of the 125 Members in arrears; if so, who are they, and what amount is due by the defaulters; and is the sum due for one or more years?
 - (4.) Has the opinion of the Attorney-General been taken on the question if Members are bound to pay, seeing the Act under which they receive the amount states "It is to reimburse for expenses incurred"; if such opinion has been taken, how does the Attorney-General decide?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2 and 3.) The Questions demand information which the Commissioners are not empowered to disclose. I am informed that the provisions of the Act have been and will be enforced irrespective of the position of any taxpayer.
 - (4.) Yes; that the allowances to Members of Parliament are liable to taxation.
- (2.) Railway Bookstall Company:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What are the terms of contract with the company known as the Railway Bookstall Company?
 - (2.) What amount is paid annually to the Railway Commissioners by such company?
 - (3.) Have such company a monopoly of Redfern and suburban platforms?
 - (4.) When does present contract expire?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I am informed the contract is for a term of three years, the lessee having the right to establish bookstalls and sell newspapers, periodicals, and books at the stations contracted for.
- (2.) £1,675.
- (3.) Yes, the company secured the contract, after public tenders were called, for the rights referred to.
- (4.) 31st December next.

- (3.) Promotions in the Public Service:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Attorney-General,—
- Will he consider the advisability of causing all promotions in the Public Service to have the date of commencement of service recorded with the notice gazetted such promotion?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The notices as published in the *Government Gazette* are in accordance with the requirements of the Public Service Act. Information as to service can always be obtained by referring to the Public Service List.

- (4.) South Head Road:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) For how many years have the $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the South Head Road within the limits of Paddington, Woollahra, and Vaucluse Municipalities been getting £3,000 per annum?
 - (2.) What is the total amount granted to this $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles of road?
 - (3.) Is it the intention of the Government to continue this enormous grant?
 - (4.) What is this particular portion of road constructed of for which so much money has been granted?

Mr.

5th July, 1900.

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) The first amount issued to the Commissioners of the South Head Roads Trust was in 1881. See answer to Question No. 2.

(2.) Statement herewith showing that total amount issued to the Trust is £66,273 6s. 5d.

(3.) I can only promise the Honorable Member that I will carefully look into this matter before submitting any amount on the current year's Estimates.

(4.) The Secretary to the Trust informs me that the annual vote is not expended on the Old South Head Road only, but also covers the cost of maintenance of the New South Head Road from the City boundary to the Heads, the Point Piper Road, Glenmore Road, Lower Ocean Street, and Watson's Bay Road, or a total length of roads of considerably over 20 miles. He also states that the Commissioners consider that the sum voted is quite insufficient for the purposes for which it is intended, and not only do the Commissioners give their services gratuitously but the very greatest economy is practised, and he reports that the roads under the charge of the Trust are being properly formed and ballasted with blue metal, broken to a 2½-inch gauge, rolled, and blinded.

(5.) Grants to Hospitals:—Mr. Wilks asked the Colonial Secretary,

(1.) Have any hospitals in New South Wales under denominational auspices received monetary assistance from the State during the year 1899-1900?

(2.) If so, what hospitals are they?

(3.) What amounts have been granted to these hospitals?

(4.) Is it the intention of the Government to continue the system of granting public money to such hospitals?

Mr. Sec answered,—Monetary assistance has been granted by the State to hospitals in New South Wales under denominational auspices during the year 1899-1900, and also on previous occasions. The amount of £1,000 for St. Vincent's Hospital was granted in response to a very influential deputation that waited on the late Government, and in view of the favourable consideration given to it the amount was submitted on the Estimates by them and adopted by the present Government. The items granted were—£1,000 for the purpose of erecting a new operating theatre at the St. Vincent's Hospital, and £500 for a new wing at the Lewisham Hospital. It is understood that both hospitals admit patients of all denominations. I am not in a position to say whether these grants will be continued. The amount voted as special grants for all hospitals for the year 1899-1900 was £10,500. I will presently lay a report of the deputation upon the Table.

(6.) Railway Revenue Received from the Singleton Show:—Mr. Dight asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What was the amount of revenue received by the Railway Department in connection with the Singleton Show for the year 1899, both for passenger and other traffic?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed it would take some time to compile details of all goods and passenger business from all stations to Singleton during the Show period; but most of the persons would travel by the excursion trains run for the occasion, and by them 183 first-class and 2,931 second-class passengers travelled, the revenue derived being £628.

(7.) Appointment of Medical Officer, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In answer to Dr. Ross' Question of the 21st June (No. 6), in reference to the necessity of appointing an additional or second Medical Officer for the more satisfactory and efficient working of the Molong Hospital, has he yet decided what steps (if any) he intends to take to have this public grievance rectified, in accordance with the wish of a large majority of the subscribers?

(2.) Is it his intention to compel the Hospital Committee to send in their reply to the officer's official report, who some time back visited the locality in reference to the condition, management, and necessity for appointing a second Medical Officer to the institution?

(3.) Will he also insist on the Hospital Committee furnishing his Department with a complete list of the names and addresses of the subscribers to the Hospital Fund for the information of the public?

Mr. Sec answered,—

(1 and 2.) As soon as the reply has been received to the official report from the Hospital authorities the matter will be considered. I have sent a reminder to the Committee of Management to-day, asking them to expedite their reply.

(3.) The list of subscribers was furnished to this Department on the 19th February last in connection with application for subsidy, and is now with the Auditor-General. I will lay it upon the Table as early as possible.

(8.) Ringbarking Timber, Water Reserve No. 1,380, Molong District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) In answer to Dr. Ross' Question of the 21st June last (No. 5) respecting a contract that has been let by the lessee of the Nanami Run to ringbark the whole of the valuable timber on Water Reserve No. 1,380, parish of Nanami, Molong district, county of Ashburnham, has he yet made the necessary inquiry as promised; if so, what is the result or nature of such inquiry?

(2.) Will he see that immediate instructions are issued to the lessee of the Nanami Run not to ringbark the timber on this reserve (the most valuable timber reserve in that locality) until such time as the Forest Ranger has reported on the matter?

(3.) Upon whose authority was permission granted to ringbark the timber on this valuable timber reserve?

(4.) Is he aware of the fact that the present lessees of this run have for seven years sublet this water reserve, and are still doing so; and, if so, by whose authority?

(5.) Is he aware that this valuable timber reserve forms part of the Nanami Run that is contemplated to be surrendered in exchange for other land, and that the lessee is simply ringbarking the timber on the reserve to the detriment of the future development of settlement in this locality?

(6.) Will he see that immediate steps are taken to put a stop to this wholesale vandalism or destruction of useful and valuable timber, in the interest of settlement and future development of the Colony?

Mr.

5th July, 1900.

Mr. Hassall answered,—The Forester was, on the 26th ultimo, called on to report as to the alleged ringbarking, and his report is expected daily. In reply to a letter from this Department of the same date, addressed to the Union Bank of Australia, Limited (the holders of the preferential occupation license), a letter was received, dated the 2nd instant, from Mr. McNicol, the manager of the station, informing me that no ringbarking has been done on water reserve 1,380.

(9.) Ticket Examiners in the Tram Service:—*Mr. Brunner*, for *Mr. Whiddon*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that in many of the recent appointments of ticket-examiners in connection with the Tram Service officers have been appointed over the heads of good and efficient men who have put in a much longer service in the Department?

(2.) If this is the case, will he, as a matter of justice, take such steps as shall secure to men who are efficient, and in every way equal, the chance of securing such promotion, by reason of their longer service in the Department?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that, in selecting men for the position of ticket examiners on the Tramways, due consideration was given to the claims of all employees in regard to length of service and efficiency, and the most suitable men for the positions were selected by the responsible officers.

(10.) Indian Famine Relief Fund:—*Mr. Carruthers* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the appalling suffering and distress occasioned to many millions of our fellow subjects in the Indian Empire by the famine, will he seriously consider the expediency of inviting the various Australian Governments to unite with the Government of New South Wales in making a joint Australian contribution of (say) £50,000 towards the relief of the sufferers, in the following proportions or thereabouts, viz.:—New South Wales, £15,000; Victoria, £15,000; Queensland, £8,000; South Australia, £6,000; West Australia, £3,000; Tasmania, £3,000?

Sir William Lyne answered,—As I stated on Tuesday evening, in reply to the Honorable Member for Goulburn, the Government have no present intention of inviting the other Colonies to unite in a joint contribution from Australasia to the Indian Famine Relief Fund. Such a suggestion was made some time back by another Colony—I believe Western Australia—but I considered that the matter was one which might be left to private subscription; and, as a matter of fact, active measures are already being taken for raising funds by certain denominations. A party of Indian children will also shortly tour this and the adjoining Colonies, under the auspices of the Salvation Army, with the view of raising funds.

(11.) Australian Contingents in South Africa:—*Mr. Carruthers* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the cabled information to the effect that certain special inducements will probably be offered to members of the Australian Contingents, in order to retain them as settlers in Rhodesia, South Africa?

(2.) Will he take steps to ascertain whether there is any foundation in fact in the cable reports above referred to?

(3.) Will he, in the interests of this Colony, protest against any scheme, either by the Chartered Company in South Africa or by the Imperial Government, which will have the intention or the effect of inducing the members of the Contingents to permanently settle in South Africa?

(4.) If such a scheme be seriously proposed, will he suggest to the Imperial Government that this Colony should be consulted before such is sanctioned, so that full consideration may be given to the aspect that such a scheme presents to this Colony in respect of loss of able-bodied population, in respect of loss of trained men experienced in actual campaigning at the cost of the Colony?

Sir William Lyne answered,—My attention has not been directed to this matter, except by the Leader of the Opposition the other evening. I have communicated with the authorities at the Cape, asking if special inducements have been made to officers or men from this Colony, with a view of their settlement in Rhodesia.

(12.) Members of the Police Force:—*Mr. Nobbs* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will the Government make provision for granting one month's pay for each year's service to members of the Police Force who have served ten years or more, and wish to leave the Force?

(2.) If not, what provisions are in existence for the refund of the 3 per cent. stopped from their wages?

(3.) Is it legal to deduct 3 per cent. from the wages of the Police Force without their authority or consent?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Such a provision is under consideration in connection with a Bill to regulate the Police Superannuation Fund.

(2.) None. The Act makes no such provision.

(3.) All the members of the Force have consented to the additional contribution of 1 per cent.

(13.) Committee on Geographical Names:—*Mr. Quinn* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he take into consideration the advisability of appointing an honorary committee on geographical names to—

(1) harmonize the glaring incongruities in the nomenclature of the several official publications of New South Wales; and (2) to review and finally decide upon the names by which places in this Colony shall for the future be officially known?

Mr. See answered,—This matter is under consideration. I shall be glad to confer with the Honorable gentleman upon the subject.

5th July, 1900.

- (14.) Aliens Admitted to New South Wales:—Mr. Quinn asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the number of aliens admitted to New South Wales since the passage of the Act for the restriction of aliens and undesirable immigrants?
 - (2.) What is the nature of the test to which such immigrants are submitted?
 - (3.) Is such test varied for individual immigrants?
 - (4.) By what officer or officers are such immigrants tested?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House in the form of a return.
- (15.) Letters Insufficiently Stamped:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it true that the person an insufficiently stamped letter is addressed to, is compelled before receiving same to pay a fine as well as the deficiency?
 - (2.) Why are the rules of justice reversed in this case, and the innocent person punished?
 - (3.) Will he take steps to repeal this manifestly unjust regulation?
 - (4.) In the event of an addressee refusing to receive such a letter, what course is then taken?
- Mr. Crick answered,—
- (1.) Yes. Clause 11 of 56 Victoria No. 31 provides that insufficiently stamped letters shall be "delivered, but before such delivery there shall be paid double the amount of postage which shall have been omitted to be prepaid."
 - (2.) Answered by above; but I may add that the practice here is universal throughout the world.
 - (3.) An amendment of the law would be necessary.
 - (4.) It is returned to the sender, from whom the postage can be recovered under clause 35 of 31 Victoria No. 4.
- (16.) Metropolitan Charities Association:—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What amount was paid by the Government to the Metropolitan Charities Association during the past three years respectively?
 - (2.) Will he obtain a report from a responsible Government officer on the administration of the Metropolitan Charities Association before paying any further amounts?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) 1898, £250; 1899, £602 10s.; 1900, £172 10s. Total payments, £1,025.
 - (2.) A report will be obtained from the responsible officer.
- (17.) Old Police Station, George and Pitt Streets:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What is the determination of the Government respecting the old Police Court site at the junction of George and Pitt Streets?
 - (2.) Have the Government received any offers for leasing the land; if not, are they open to receive such offers?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—The intention of the Government was to sell the land, and, as a matter of fact, it was advertised for sale on the 30th May last, but was withdrawn in deference to a request from the Department of Public Works. I assume that the objection to selling would apply also to leasing the land, at least for a term of any considerable length; and until a further reference is made to the Works Department I cannot say how the Government would receive offers that might be made to lease the land.
- (18.) Gaols of the Colony:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the annual cost to the Treasury of the maintenance of the present gaol system?
 - (2.) What are the total earnings, direct and indirect, of all the prisons in New South Wales?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House in the form of a return.
- (19.) Charitable Institutions:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the total State payments per annum to the charities—that is, the expenditure in connection with all charitable institutions in any way assisted by the Government?
 - (2.) Of this amount, what is the approximate cost of the management or machinery of the existing system?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House in the form of a return.
- (20.) Naval Brigade Forces:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that, in consequence of a denial of all opportunities for proper practice, the present Naval Brigade Forces would not be entrusted with the manning of a sea-going vessel?
 - (2.) Is it proposed to continue the present method of administering the Naval affairs of the Colony from the Victoria Barracks?
- Mr. See answered,—The matter of providing a suitable war-ship for training purposes has been brought under the notice of the Imperial authorities.
- (21.) Local Government Bill:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. Chanter, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to introduce and carry into law a comprehensive Local Government Bill during the present Session?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The consideration of this matter will depend upon the progress made with business.

5th July, 1900.

- (22.) Steam-yacht "Ena":—*Mr. Cook*, for *Mr. J. H. Young*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) From whom was the steam-yacht "Ena" purchased by the Government?
 - (2.) What was the price paid?
 - (3.) What professional officers of the Government reported on her value before purchase?
 - (4.) What professional officers of the Government reported as to her fitness for the Government service?
 - (5.) Were such reports of a satisfactory nature?
 - (6.) What was the estimated cost of the repairs and alterations required to fit her for the work of the Government?
 - (7.) Will he lay all the papers, reports, and other documents referring to the purchase of this yacht upon the Table of the House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Mr. Thomas Allwright Dibbs.
- (2.) £2,000.
- (3.) The Shipwright and Engineer Surveyors of the Marine Board, Messrs. William McRitchie and Henry Selfe, reported favourably upon her condition.
- (4.) The Under Secretary for Public Works and the Superintending Engineer of Dredges, Messrs. R. R. P. Hickson and A. B. Portus.
- (5.) Yes.
- (6.) No repairs had to be effected by the Government when the boat was bought, Mr. Dibbs having handed over the "Ena" in good order and condition; nor was any estimate of cost prepared for the alterations now being carried out to the vessel, which are being done in the Government yard by day labour.
- (7.) Yes, if moved for in the usual manner.

2. PAPERS :—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 19th June, 1900,—“The Troffs Pastoral Holding in the Central Division.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Report of a deputation which waited upon the Chief Secretary on the 25th April, 1899, asking for a grant of £2,000 for the purpose of erecting a new Operating Theatre for the St. Vincent's Hospital.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Particulars respecting extension of the lease of the Lavender Bay Jetty.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Third Report from the Printing Committee.

4. VINEYARDS CONDEMNED UNDER VINE DISEASES ACT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Kidd moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

- (1.) The number of vineyards condemned by the Department of Agriculture under the provisions of the Vine Diseases Act of 1893.
- (2.) The date of condemnations; the area of such vineyards; names of owners, and the name and qualifications of the Inspector upon whose report action was determined.
- (3.) The ratable value of the condemned vineyards, and how it was arrived at.
- (4.) The value fixed by the Government Inspector.
- (5.) The amount of compensation paid in each case.
- (6.) The number of claims referred to arbitration as provided in clause 15 of the Vine Diseases Act of 1893.
- (7.) The amount of award, and the amount recommended by Government Inspectors prior to such reference.
- (8.) The number and particulars of claims still undealt with, and the cause of delay in dealing with same.

Question put and passed.

5. DEDICATION OF THE SPORTS GROUND, ALBURY (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. T. H. Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the dedication of the sports ground to the Borough Council of Albury.

Question put and passed.

6. COMPENSATION IN CONNECTION WITH PLAGUE OUTBREAK (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Ashton moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing what compensation has been paid in connection with the plague outbreak—(1) for damage to property; (2) for interruption to business; (3) to persons quarantined as contacts.

Question put and passed.

7. DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Sir William Lyne, “That this Bill be now read a second time,”—

And the Question being again proposed,—

The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
5th July, 1900.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 6 JULY, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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.

Ordered, that the report be adopted on Tuesday next.

The House adjourned, at half-past Five o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 13.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 10 JULY, 1900.

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

ELECTION PETITION (*Canterbury*) :—

(1.) Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table an Election Petition, which had been addressed to him from Thomas Whitford Taylor, of Randwick, in the Colony of New South Wales, representing that, at a bye-election held on the 9th June, 1900, for the return of a Member to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the Electoral District of Canterbury, Sydney Smith, Joseph James Cooper, and Petitioner were severally nominated as candidates for election as Members of the said Assembly for the said Electoral District; that Petitioner is now and was at the time of such nomination and election duly qualified by law to be a candidate at such election, and to be elected a Member of the said Assembly; that on or about the 12th June, 1900, the Returning Officer for the said Electoral District declared the number of votes respectively polled for the several candidates above-named to be as follows:—For Sydney Smith, 527 votes; for Thomas Whitford Taylor, 522 votes; for Joseph James Cooper, 14 votes. And the said Returning Officer then declared that there were ten informal votes, and further declared the said Sydney Smith to have been duly elected a Member of the said Assembly for the said District, and afterwards endorsed on the Writ for the said Election the name of Sydney Smith as the person so elected, and duly returned the said Writ; that several deputies of the said Returning Officer, as by law required, immediately after ascertaining the total number of votes, failed to carry out certain duties; that many persons voted who had no legal right to vote at such election, and more particularly the following:—S. Eastwood, J. Pontifex, J. Duley, A. C. Baker, John Dibble, C. Vonder Heyde; that a person improperly entered one of the polling booths, and sought by practising intimidation to induce certain electors to vote against Petitioner; that votes polled were incorrectly counted; that some votes counted for the said Sydney Smith should have been counted for Petitioner; that on a lawful counting of the said votes Petitioner had a majority, and the said Returning Officer should have declared accordingly; that Petitioner has lodged the £50 required by law to the credit of Mr. Speaker:—and praying that an inquiry may be made as to the various allegations contained in the said Petition; that a recount of the said ballot papers, and the votes recorded thereby, may be made by the Committee of Elections and Qualifications; that it may be declared that the said Sydney Smith was unduly elected, and that the return of the said Sydney Smith as such Member may be declared null and void; that it may be declared and determined that Petitioner was duly elected at the said election to serve and be a Member of the said Assembly for the said district, and is entitled to take his seat accordingly in the said Assembly; and that such further or other relief in the premises may be granted as may be deemed just and necessary in accordance with law.

Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lyne, that the Petition be referred to the Committee of Elections and Qualifications.

(2.) Pursuant to the requirements of the 125th section of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, Mr. Speaker appointed the first meeting of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications to take place at 11 o'clock a.m., on Thursday next, in Committee Room No. 3.

2. QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Camping Reserves and Watering-places:—Mr. Richards asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that the leasing of camping reserves and watering-places leads to great hardship on the part of teamsters?

(2.) Will he cause instructions to issue where such leases are renewed, and in all new leases, that reasonable consideration must be given to the travelling public and to teamsters and drovers?

Mr.

10th July, 1900.

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Representations to that effect have from time to time been made. Each case is, however, dealt with on its merits, and where it is proved that the requirements of teamsters are paramount a lease is not granted. No lease is granted unless the reports of local officers show that no objection exists and the local Land Board recommend it.

(2.) The following conditions are attached to annual leases of reserves, the exceptions being in the case of leases granted many years ago and still current, and of leases of lands reserved after the leases have been granted:—1. The right is reserved to the public and to travelling stock to use, for the legitimate purpose for which they were notified, any reserves situated wholly or partly within the leases. 2. In the case of a travelling stock reserve, the lessee shall post in a conspicuous place, near where the road passes through the lease, a notice stating that such portion is under lease, and giving the name and address of the lessee. 3. The right of the public to travel over all roads and tracks in use through the lease is retained.

(2.) Travelling Stock and Water Reserves:—Mr. Richards asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he call for report and returns, and lay same upon the Table of this House at earliest convenience, showing the number of travelling stock reserves held under lease; also, all water reserves held under lease, and give approximate revenue derived from such sources?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The returns should be moved for in the usual manner.

(3.) Glebe Island, Aberdeen, and Bourke Abattoirs:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many sheep and cattle respectively were killed during last year at each of the following abattoirs:—Glebe Island, Aberdeen, and Bourke?

(2.) How many were condemned as unfit for human consumption at each of the above places?

(3.) Is it a fact that there is a considerable amount of killing done in private establishments without inspection?

(4.) Will he consider whether the removal of the abattoirs from the city would inflict a hardship on metropolitan butchers, and also tend to largely increase the practice of private killing?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Glebe Island—Cattle, 88,022; sheep, 1,188,647. Aberdeen—Cattle, 6,284; sheep, 220,985. Bourke—Works closed.

(2.) Glebe Island—Cattle, 2,267; sheep, 85. Aberdeen—Cattle, 190; sheep, 118 (and rejected for want of condition, 8,454). Bourke—None.

(3.) A considerable amount of killing is done at private establishments in the country districts without adequate inspection. This is not now the case in the immediate neighbourhood of Sydney.

(4.) It is not thought that either would be the case.

(4.) Tunnels for Carrying Telegraph and Telephone Cables:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. Samuel Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the average cost per mile of tunnel now being constructed for carrying telegraph and telephone cables?

(2.) What is the maximum number of cables that the present tunnels are capable of carrying?

(3.) What is the estimated life of the tunnels now being constructed?

(4.) What is the estimated life of iron-pipe conduits?

(5.) Would the cost of conduits of the carrying capacity of the tunnels not be much higher than the cost of the tunnels?

(6.) If so, will he continue to build the tunnels within the Metropolitan area, so that the main trunk lines of telegraph, telephone, and pneumatic tubes may be installed therein?

(7.) Is it a fact that repairs in tunnels to wires can be more effectively, expeditiously, and economically performed than similar repairs can be effected in conduits?

(8.) Is it a fact that the conduit in George-street to Dawes Point is unable to receive any more telegraph or telephone wires?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) Messrs. McCredie, who are the Consulting Engineers for this work, state that the average cost per mile of the telephone tunnels is £14,520. My Honorable colleague, the Postmaster-General, has furnished me with the following replies:—

(2.) Practically unlimited.

(3.) The tunnels will last as long as the bricks and cement, which are of first-class quality, and should, under ordinary conditions, last for a century.

(4.) Under ordinary circumstances about twenty-five years, but, if affected by electric tram currents, a shorter period.

(5.) Yes; but, in view of answer to Question 2, we are not likely to need conduits of the full carrying capacity of the tunnels.

(6.) I am desirous that no further extensions of these costly tunnels should be continued at present, it being my intention to make further inquiry as to whether the cheaper methods of various kinds which I find are adopted in other parts of the world will not meet our requirements here.

(7.) Yes.

(8.) All the conduits to Dawes Point are full, with the exception of one pipe, but more can be laid when occasion requires.

(5.) Post Office Official Employed at Bathurst Show:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that one of the chief clerks in the Bathurst Post Office was employed in a clerical capacity at the recent Bathurst Show for four days?

(2.) Did he receive Government pay while devoting time of the public to the private work aforesaid?

(3.)

10th July, 1900.

(3.) What amount is allotted the Bathurst Postmaster as feed-money for the letter-carriers' horses?

(4.) Is it a fact that such horses are grazed on the Bathurst Show-ground free of expense?

(5.) Is it a fact that the Bathurst Postmaster was absent from the Post Office during the four days of the recent show, and on various days previous thereto, much to the inconvenience of the public?

(6.) Did he draw his salary for such days of absence from duty?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1 and 2.) No; and, from inquiries made, it appears that such was not the case.

(3.) The Postmaster is allowed £113 13s. per annum, and has to supply horses, saddlery, &c.

(4.) The horses are, alternately, allowed to run on the Bathurst Show Ground for rest, by arrangement outside of this Department, as constant stabling is found injurious in view of the heavy work the horses have to do. Those turned out are fed.

(5.) No; only on portions of the four days referred to. The Postmaster, however, was on duty early and late to compensate for this.

(6.) Yes.

(7.) I have made inquiries, and I find that there is no justification for these Questions.

(6.) Employees from Bathurst Model Farm at the Bathurst Show:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that men were employed from the Bathurst Model Farm on the Show-ground gates during the recent Bathurst Show, and received remuneration, while honest able-bodied men are unemployed?

(2.) Will he prevent the practice of those in such positions, drawing Government money, competing for such positions with men out of employment?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) I find that one man usually employed as a labourer on the Bathurst Experimental Farm was engaged by the Bathurst Agricultural Society as a gatekeeper during the recent show there.

(2.) While so engaged he did not draw any wages from the Department. I may say that he has acted in this capacity for the past ten years.

(7.) Property Resumed Northern side of Erskine-street:—Mr. Anderson asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What property was resumed on the northern side of Erskine-street, between Shelly-street and the harbour?

(2.) The number of feet of the frontage of the blocks?

(3.) What amount of money was paid to owners and tenants?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) The property of Eliza Cox and R. F. G. Henderson, containing an area of 1 rood 16 perches.

(2.) 108·9 feet.

(3.) Cox's Estate, £60,000—interest, £3,915 12s.; R. F. G. Henderson, £7,865—interest, £1,499 14s. 7d.; Thomas Noonan (lessee), £8,000—interest, £568 2s. 2d.

(8.) Expenditure on Roads and Bridges for years 1892-3:—Mr. Wilks asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that the expenditure of the large sum named by him on the roads and bridges in 1892 helped to make a deficiency of £390,000 on the accounts for that year which was left to be met by the late Government?

(2.) Is he aware that although Parliament voted a sum of £600,000 in 1893, which was available for roads and bridges, the then Minister for Public Works (Mr. Lyne) only spent of that amount £390,000 on the roads and bridges, leaving a balance of more than £200,000 to be written off?

(3.) Was not this amount kept alive by the Reid Government, and spent on the roads and bridges of the Colony?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Honorable Member has resorted to some curious logic in his Questions:—

(1.) As the Road Vote in 1892 was £894,333, that sum was evidently not then considered too high. The Road Vote, an ordinary expenditure, cannot, therefore, be said to have caused the deficiency of £380,000 referred to by the Honorable Member. If that kind of reasoning is to be adopted, then the fact that the Reid Government saved over £300,000 a year for five years by working a reduced Road Vote, making £1,500,000 altogether, suggests that if the Reid Government had spent the £894,333 in the years 1894-5-6-7-8, as they should have done, they would have added £1,500,000 to their deficiency of £1,049,000, shown by the Finance Commission, which would have made a total deficiency of £2,549,000, as a legacy by the previous Government.

(2 and 3.) Yes; Parliament voted £600,000 for roads in 1893; but owing, I think, to a belief that local government might be introduced, about £216,000 of that sum was not spent. It is true that the amount was "kept alive" and spent by the Reid Government; but—as the following figures for the Road Votes show—what they paid with one hand they kept back with the other. Instead of proposing £894,333 as a Road Vote for each of those years the Reid Government only proposed the following:—In 1894 it was £583,637; in 1895-6-7 it was only £700,000 for eighteen months; for the remainder of their term of office only the sum of £550,000 per year was voted, or £344,333 per year less than the Dibbs Government in 1892. It will thus be seen that, if the Reid Government did spend the £216,000 left unspent by the Dibbs Government, they still worked the Road Vote at over £300,000 less per annum, though in the meantime there has been an increase of over 11,000 miles of roads and 42 miles of culverts and bridges. From these figures the Honorable Member will see how difficult it is to keep the roads and bridges in repair on the diminished vote of the Reid Government.

10th July, 1900.

(9.) Double Shifts on Dredges:—Mr. Wilks asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Referring to his statement in the House on Wednesday, 4th July, is he aware that the system of working double shifts on dredges, and giving the dredge hands the full benefit of the eight hour system, was introduced by the late Government?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The system of working double shifts on dredges was not introduced by the late Government, nor can that Government be credited with establishing the full benefit of the eight-hour system in the Dredge Service, as the following statement will show:—Night and day work started on the dredges in 1873, and ceased in 1879. Two crews only were employed to work twenty-four hours per day, the dredge and crews stopping for meals in each shift, the average working hours being fifty-five per week. In the year 1885 the working hours were, by direction of the Minister for Works, Mr. F. A. Wright, reduced to forty-eight hours per week, the tug, crews, and coxswains, when necessary, taking meals when towing. In 1888 night-work started under the forty-eight hours per week system. In 1896 the Queensland system of working meal hours instead of night-work was adopted, the machinery working fifty-eight hours per week, but the dredge crews only forty-eight, though kept on board nearly ten hours per day. Extra men, together with the vessels' tradesmen, enabled this to be done. In May, 1899, the working hours of the machinery were reduced from fifty-eight to fifty-six per week. On 1st January, 1900, the working hours of the machinery were further reduced from fifty-six to forty-eight hours per week, and the tradesmen no longer utilized for working the machinery during meal hours. It is, therefore, incorrect of the Honorable Member to say that the late Government did introduce the eight-hour system on the dredges, as the men had to remain longer than eight hours on board.

(10.) Fog Signals or Lights in the Harbour:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that during the recent foggy weather harbour passenger steamers were placed in great peril of running on shore owing to the absence of fog signals or lights on the headlands or islands in the harbour?

(2.) Will he take early steps to prevent similar danger in the future to our harbour navigation?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Superintendent of Navigation is not aware that any vessels were placed in peril through the recent fog in the harbour. Inquiries are, however, being made by him into the matter.

(11.) Case of Sergeant Stafford:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that a Select Committee's report was adopted by the Legislative Assembly several years since, recommending the case of Sergeant Stafford for favourable consideration at the hands of the Government?

(2.) Will he be prepared to act on that report, and put a sum of money on the Estimates to compensate that old officer for what the Committee decided was a wrongful dismissal from the Police Force of this Colony?

Mr. See answered,—A Select Committee made a favourable recommendation in this case. The Inspector-General of Police, however, reported that no payments to ex-Senior-constable Stafford would be legal, except by vote of Parliament, and successive Governments have declined to take any further steps in the case. Stafford instituted several actions against the Inspector-General of Police, all of which resulted unfavourably to him, and ultimately the then Attorney-General, in order to prevent further annoyance, took the case to the Supreme Court, when Mr. Fosbery's course of action was fully vindicated.

(12.) Cadet Corps in connection with Public Schools:—Mr. E. M. Clark to ask the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Has the extension of the Cadet movement been stopped by the Department; if so, for what reason?

(2.) Will he take steps, as a national precaution for defence, to provide for the immediate extension of the movement for the formation of Cadet Corps in connection with Public Schools, and the supply of suitable arms for the purpose?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes; from want of funds.

(2.) A sum has been placed on the draft Estimates with this object in view.

(13.) Defaulters under the Income Tax:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many defaulters of the income tax are there in Sydney due for one, two, three, and four years respectively?

(2.) Have the Commissioners complied with the law in suing all defaulters in payment of income tax over the period allowed when they should pay or be sued; if they have not sued according to law, what is the reason for their neglect?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Owing to the limited time at the disposal of the Commissioners, it has not been possible to submit the information in the exact form desired. It may also be mentioned that the figures include a large number of default assessments, many of which will be cancelled owing to the decease or absence from the Colony of the taxpayers:—1896, 81, £440 12s. 9d.; 1897, 241, £1,642 18s. 9d.; 1898, 498, £2,087 0s. 6d.; 1899, 794, £6,652 7s. 8d.; total, 1,614, £10,822 19s. 8d.

(2.) Yes; but it has been found that owing to the cumbersome procedure for recovery of outstanding accounts as laid down by the Taxation Act the progress made is not so prompt or satisfactory as would be desired. The Honorable Member may, however, rest assured that every amount in arrear has been or will be placed in the hands of the Crown Solicitor, and that no taxpayer will be permitted to escape his just liability to the Crown.

(14.) Local Land Board Meeting at Gosford:—Mr. Ferguson, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Lands,—On what date will the next meeting of the Local Land Board be held at Gosford?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I am informed by the Chairman that a meeting of the Local Land Board will be held at Gosford on or about the 30th proximo.

10th July, 1900.

- (15.) Letter-boxes on the Trams :—*Mr. Rigg*, for *Mr. McLean*, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is he aware that considerable inconvenience has been caused in the districts of Marrickville and Newtown by the discontinuance of the practice of providing letter-boxes on the trams?
 - (2.) Is there any more difficulty in collecting letters from boxes affixed to the electric tramcars than was experienced under the old system?
 - (3.) Will he consult with the railway authorities with a view to restoring these postal facilities?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) No. On the steam trams throughout the suburbs there were 100 boxes, and the average number of letters posted in each box was six per diem, showing that the residents of Marrickville and Newtown did not avail themselves of the advantages of posting letters on the trams to a great extent.

(2.) Yes; there is difficulty and danger in posting letters in letter-boxes affixed to electric trams, and considerable risk and danger in attempting to clear them, and the risk was pointed out by the Railway Commissioners, who also stated that the existing boxes are unsuitable for the electric cars, and that a great many more would be required than we have in use on the steam trams, and that we should want a receiving staff of officers at the Circular Quay to obtain the letters. I do not think that the Department would be justified in carrying out a system that would prove a risk and danger to the public and its own officials. The danger is not in posting at the terminus at Dulwich Hill, although there might be considerable danger there, but at the various stopping places *en route*. Letter boxes are not placed on cable trams in Melbourne, and it would be much more dangerous to place them on the electric trams running through this city.

(3.) See reply to No. 2.

- (16.) Adult Suffrage Bill :—*Mr. Hawthorne* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he endeavour to press on with the Adult Suffrage Bill, as foreshadowed in the Governor's Speech, so that the women of New South Wales may be able to exercise the franchise at the approaching Federal Elections?

(2.) Can he inform the House when this measure is likely to be put on the Business Paper for the consideration of Honorable Members?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) This Bill will be dealt with in due course.

(2.) It is not possible at this stage to do so.

- (17.) Members of Parliament holding seats in the Federal Parliament :—*Mr. Neild*, for *Mr. Dugald Thomson*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his promised consideration of the introduction of a Bill to prevent Members of the New South Wales Parliament holding seats in the Federal Parliament, will he provide in the same measure for the readjustment of electorates and the reduction of Members in New South Wales, and accompany it by a Bill conferring Local Government on all portions of this Colony?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This Question is very wide in its scope. Before answering it I should like to know about the date of holding the Federal Elections. If the Commonwealth Bill does not come into operation until 1st January next, it is scarcely likely the election can be held before March, which will be shortly before the present Parliament expires, and this will probably affect the date when a law to prevent a Member holding seats in both Parliaments will come into operation, as also the reduction of the number of Members in the State Parliament. The question of a Local Government Bill for the Colony is too important to answer without mature consideration.

- (18.) Junior Postal Assistants in the Country :—*Mr. Nielsen* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the fact that junior postal assistants, in receipt of salaries of from £65 to £90 per annum, are frequently left in full charge of country offices in the temporary absences of the Post and Telegraph Masters, during which times hundreds of pounds sometimes pass through their hands?

(2.) Will he see that men who have to take such responsible positions are paid salaries commensurate with the responsibilities which they have thus to incur?

Mr. Crick answered,—No. Care is now taken to place only fairly paid officials in temporary charge of country Post and Telegraph Offices. It is sometimes necessary, for instance in cases of sudden illness, or where the Postmaster is subpoenaed as a witness, to let a junior hand take charge, but for a very short period only.

- (19.) Nyang Land Exchange :—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he lay upon the Table of the House all papers and documents connected with the Nyang exchange, granted to the Honorable Simon Frazer, M.L.C., of Victoria?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Copies of the papers should be moved for in the usual manner.

- (20.) Bachelor Teachers in Country Schools :—*Mr. Hogue* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he state upon what grounds, general or specific, he has formed the opinion expressed by him, in answer to a Question in this House on 5th July, that there was danger in sending unmarried male teachers to schools in the country districts where the majority of the pupils are females?

Mr. Perry answered,—On the ground of common sense. It is not desirable that specific instances should be quoted.

- (21.) Votes for Adult Females for the first Federal Parliament :—*Mr. Ferguson*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Whether it is intended to amend the existing Electoral Law in order to enable adult females to exercise the franchise at the ensuing election for the first Federal Parliament?

Mr. See answered.—This Question has already been answered by the Prime Minister in his reply to Question No. 16.

10th July, 1900.

3. **EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. McGowen presented two Petitions from certain residents of Sydney and suburbs, representing that, whilst under the Early Closing Act all shop-keepers are compelled to reduce the hours of labour, those employed in confectioners', fruiterers', and tobacconists' shops have to work on Sundays; and praying that in the Early Closing Act Amendment Bill provision may be made to compel such shops to close on the Sabbath Day.
Petitions received.
4. **BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL**:—Mr. Ferguson presented a Petition from the Journeymen Butchers Union of Broken Hill, representing that the Broken Hill Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards Bill will, if passed, be detrimental to their interests; and praying the House to reject the said Bill.
Petition received.
5. **PAPERS**:—
Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Report of the Stock and Brands Branch of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1899.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Correspondence respecting the dismissal of Mrs. Abrahams, Shaftesbury Reformatory.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. **LANDS FOR SETTLEMENT BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
BEAUCHAMP, *Message No. 43.*
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 purchase, acquisition, and resumption of land for the purposes of closer settlement, and to regulate the disposal thereof; to enable funds to be provided for the above purposes by the issue of debentures and otherwise; and for other purposes.
Government House,
Sydney, 10th July, 1900.
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
7. **PAPER**:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council,—
(a) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Lands, Contingencies," to supplement the Vote "Survey of Lands, Contingencies."
(b) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Postal and Electric Telegraph Department" to supplement the Vote "Adjustment of Salaries under the provisions of the Increment Regulations, &c., Attorney-General's Department."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. **ANJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Braidwood, Mr. Austin 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 absolute necessity for increased expenditure on the roads and bridges of New South Wales."
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.
9. **INTEREST ON JUDGMENTS AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garland 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. Garland, 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. Garland, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
10. **INCLOSED LANDS PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—and Mr. Dight proceeding to move, That this Bill be now read a second time,—
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,—namely, Mr. Cann, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Crick, Mr. Dight, Mr. Ferris, Mr. Garland, Mr. Lees, Mr. McGowen, Mr. McLaughlin, Mr. Mcagher, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Ross, Mr. See, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Watson, and Mr. Willis,—
Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at three minutes before Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 14.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 11 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) The Grafton Bond:—Mr. McLean asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is the Grafton Bond, recently resumed by the Government, being carried on as a bonded warehouse by the Crown?
- (2.) Are there any other bonded stores being conducted by the Crown?
- (3.) Is it a fact that cutting rates are being quoted by the Grafton Bond in opposition to those who hold licenses from the Crown?
- (4.) What license fees are payable to the Crown by the holders of bond licenses?
- (5.) Have the Government considered the advisability of inviting tenders for the lease of the Grafton Bond?
- (6.) Is it the intention of the Colonial Treasurer to further extend the functions of Government by opening other bonded stores?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) As the Grafton Stores became the property of the Government at the date of resumption, and were full of general merchandise, it was absolutely necessary to make immediate temporary arrangements for the carrying on of the business.

(2.) No.

(3.) No complaints have been made, and no instances have come under notice of "cutting rates."

(4.) For first 50 tons cubic space, £50 per annum; for every 10 tons cubic space additional, £10 per annum.

(5.) This is under consideration.

(6.) It is not intended to open other bonded stores.

- (2.) Hunter River Flood Mitigation:—Mr. Brunner asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What progress has been made with regard to submitting the subject of Hunter River Flood Mitigation for the consideration of the Public Works Committee?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—As I have already informed the Honorable Member, I purpose as soon as possible submitting to the House a motion to refer this matter to the Public Works Committee. A scheme which, I believe, will mitigate the severity of the floods in the Hunter has now been prepared by the Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works.

- (3.) Drainage Works, East Maitland and Morpeth:—Mr. Brunner asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he take steps to construct drainage works in the municipal districts of East Maitland and Morpeth similar to those which it is proposed to carry out in other localities for sanitary purposes?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—If application be made for works of this description in the districts named, and they are reported upon favourably by my officers, I will take the usual course in such matters, and treat each case on its merits.

- (4.) Land and Income Tax Act:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the total amount received as land and income tax separately for twelve months ending 30th June, 1899?

(2.) The same for twelve months ending 30th June, 1900?

(3.) What was the total cost expended in connection with the land and income tax for twelve months ending 30th June, 1899?

(4.) The same for the year ended 30th June, 1900?

(5.) What was the gross percentage of cost to money received for each of the years noted in the above Questions?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a return giving the desired information.

(5.)

11th July, 1900.

(5.) Payment of Salary refused by Parliament:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Has any sum been paid to any officer in the Audit Office; and was such refused to be voted by Parliament?

(2.) If so, what is the total amount, and by what authority was the said money paid?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes, to two officers.

(2.) £31 5s., salaries for period July to November, 1898. The amount was, during the financial year ended 30th June, 1898, charged to the Vote "To meet adjustment of salaries on revision by the Public Service Board, item 182," and continued to be so charged under the Supply Acts until Parliament refused to vote the amount. The salaries paid for period July to November, 1898, were subsequently transferred to the Vote "Unforeseen Expenses," under the authority of the then Premier and Colonial Treasurer, the Right Honorable G. H. Reid.

(6.) Payment to Member of Board of Health refused by Parliament:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any member of the Board of Health been paid any sum of money as such member?

(2.) Was the amount refused when the Estimates were before the House?

(3.) What was the total sum paid, and to whom, and by what authority was it paid if Parliament refused to sanction the payment of such money?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) £25, fees for period July to November, 1898, paid under the provisions of the Supply Acts until Parliament refused to vote the amount. The fees so paid were subsequently transferred to the Vote "Unforeseen Expenses," under the authority of the then Premier and Colonial Treasurer, the Right Honorable G. H. Reid.

(7.) Payment to Public Service Tender Board refused by Parliament:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, although Parliament struck off the Estimates a sum on the same as payment to the Public Tender Board, the Government has paid the said Tender Board £136 11s. 6d.; if so, by what authority was this paid?

(2.) Has there been any larger sum paid; if so, to whom was it paid, and by what authority?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The sum of £136 11s. 6d. was paid to members of the Public Service Tender Board from Treasurer's Advance Account. This sum represented fees during the period July to November, 1898, and upon Parliament refusing to vote funds for the service, no further payment was made. The amount received by the members of the Tender Board was subsequently transferred to the Vote "Unforeseen Expenses," on the authority of the then Premier and Colonial Treasurer, the Right Honorable G. H. Reid.

(2.) No.

(8.) Wentworth Estate:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is the Wentworth Estate under offer to the Government as a site for the new city abattoirs?

(2.) What is the area of this estate, and what is the price of it?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Wentworth Estate and several other estates have been offered to the Government as sites for new abattoirs; but nothing of a definite character has yet been done respecting any of them.

(9.) Metropolitan Transit Commission Officers:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many officers are in the employ of the Metropolitan Transit Commissioners?

(2.) What are the names, length of service, and amount of gratuity to which each would become entitled at the end of this year, assuming that the proposed Metropolitan Traffic Act comes into force on the 1st January next, and that none of such officers are appointed to the Police Force?

(3.) What is the amount of money which the Transit Commission has available for the payment of the proposed gratuities?

(4.) Have any of these officers previously received any pension or gratuity from the State; if so, what are their names, the positions from which they retired, the cause of such retirement, and the amount they received?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Twenty-four.

(2.) I will cause this information to be prepared and laid upon the Table as soon as possible.

(3.) £4,334.

(4.) I understand that one of the officers—Edwin May—had previous service as a senior-constable in the Police, from which he retired in 1889 on a gratuity of £168, being incapacitated for police duty through an injury to his wrist, which, I may add, was sustained in the execution of his duty.

(10.) Subletting of Contracts:—Mr. Dacey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Are contractors, under the Colonial Architect, permitted to sublet their contracts?

(2.) What restrictions (if any) are there against this form of sweating?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) Contractors are not allowed to sublet works without the consent, in writing, of the Minister being first obtained, and then only under exceptional circumstances.

(2.) Contractors are liable to be fined £50 for each and every breach of the condition of contract relating to this matter.

(11.)

11th July, 1900.

- (11.) Information Supplied by Relieving Officers:—Dr. Ross asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) Are emergency men, who are sent into the country to relieve officers absent on leave, encouraged to act as spies behind the backs of such officers?
 - (2.) Is information obtained in this matter acted upon to the detriment of the officers concerned, without their having an opportunity of knowing what has been said against them?
- Mr. Wood* answered,—The Public Service Board informs me that they do not obtain any information from emergency officers who may be sent at the instance of Departments into the country to relieve absent officers, and they are not aware that any grounds exist for the insinuation contained in the Question. The Board most strongly discourage any practice of the kind.
- (12.) Extension of Parcels Post to Canada and South Africa:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Parcels Post has lately been extended to Canada and South Africa?
 - (2.) If so, what is the reason that this system of Parcels Post has not been extended to so large a commercial country as that of the United States of America?
 - (3.) Will he see that steps are taken to extend the Parcels Post to United States of America; and also the postal note system, so as to make the notes for greater public convenience payable all over the Empire?
- Mr. Crick* answered,—
- (1.) Parcel Post between New South Wales and Canada has been some years in operation. The system has recently been extended to Cape Colony.
 - (2.) The United States of America for a long time declined to inaugurate a Parcel Post system with New South Wales, but negotiations are now in progress for this purpose, which it is expected will be shortly completed.
 - (3.) I understand the postal note system is not now in operation within the United States of America itself, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain has already declined to reciprocate the system between itself and Australia.
- (13.) Amendment of the Public Instruction Act:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—In carrying out the present system of public instruction, will he see in any proposed amendment of the Act that provision is made for extending the distance from 2 to 3 miles, seeing large numbers of children are being deprived of education by being a few yards over the 2 miles?
- Mr. Perry* answered,—The matter will receive consideration. Although children living within the 2-mile radius are compelled to attend school, it does not follow that those outside that distance are "being deprived of education."
- (14.) Meteorological Conditions in New South Wales:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Will he obtain from Mr. Russell, M.A., Government Astronomer and Meteorologist, a report on the recent cold weather and phenomenal fall of snow that occurred all over the Colony, and the probable cause of the same compared with the previous prolonged and disastrous droughts through which the Colony of late years has passed?
 - (2.) If similar cold weather and an unprecedented fall of snow has ever previously been experienced in these Colonies; if so, when, and to what extent?
 - (3.) Is there any likelihood (meteorologically or otherwise) of similar cold and phenomenal fall of snow likely to occur in the future; if so, from what cause or probable causes are such atmospheric perturbations likely to occur; and, if so, are there any means or known meteorological laws by which their advent may be accurately or approximately foretold?
- Mr. Perry* answered,—The Government Astronomer reports that the data to enable him to reply to these Questions are not yet to hand. If the Honorable Member will repeat his Question for a night towards the end of next week, I shall be glad to supply the information sought.
- (15.) Resumption of Property since Outbreak of Plague:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he give the House a list of names of owners of all properties resumed, as the result of the outbreak of plague, in the City of Sydney?
 - (2.) What was the total cost incurred by the Government in effecting the cleansing of those properties?
 - (3.) Will he state the respective amounts which should be debited against each of the respective owners of the properties enumerated in his answer to Question No. 1?
 - (4.) Does he intend to see that such amounts are charged to such owners, and are deducted from any compensation that may be awarded them at a later date for the resumption of their property?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1, 2, and 4.) The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.
 - (3.) I do not think it would be possible to answer this Question; it would be only a haphazard reply.
- (16.) Residence of the Governor-General:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have representations been duly made to the Home Government that, as the mother Colony, and as the Colony in which will be located the permanent seat of Government, there are special claims in favour of the Governor-General coming direct to New South Wales, and remaining here except during the period the Federal Parliament will be in Session in Melbourne?
 - (2.) As the Governor-General will arrive in Australia during the summer months, will all arrangements be made at the Governor's Moss Vale residence for his country abode?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) If the Governor-General resides in New South Wales, he will probably reside at Government House Sydney.

11th July, 1900.

- (17.) Large Estates in the Riverina District:—Mr. Rose asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it not a fact that there is no compiled data in the Lands Department which shows that the bulk of the large estates in the Riverina has been built up by conditional purchase?
 - (2.) Is it not a fact that transfers of conditional purchases, as represented by the books of the Lands Department, include all security transfers where the land never changes possession, and where no actual transfer ever takes place?
 - (3.) Is it not a fact that, upon payment of a mortgage, the change of name from mortgagee to mortgagor appears as a transfer, though the mortgagor never transferred the conditional purchase?
 - (4.) In such instances do not the books of the Department show one transfer from mortgagor to mortgagee, and another transfer upon payment from mortgagee to mortgagor, whereas no actual transfer of the conditional purchase has taken place?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) All transfers of conditional purchases are executed in the form of absolute transfers, which is the only form provided and recognised by this Department. The Commissioner for Stamps, if satisfied that a transfer is by way of mortgage, and exempt from stamp duty, endorses the document to that effect, and that is the only intimation the Department has of the nature of the transfer.
- (18.) Government Savings Bank of New South Wales:—Mr. Terry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Respecting the last report and balance sheet of the Government Savings Bank of New South Wales, has any report been made by either of the auditors in relation to the conducting of the business of the Bank?
 - (2.) If he has received no such report, will he inquire whether any was made; and if there was, will he procure it and lay it upon the Table of the House for public information?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Managing Trustee of the Savings Bank of New South Wales that there has been no complaint from the auditors respecting the report and balance-sheet for the year 1899.
- (19.) The Labour Bureau:—Mr. Kidd, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Was a ballot taken at the Labour Bureau on Monday last for 400 labourers and tradesmen for country work?
 - (2.) How many presented themselves for ballot?
 - (3.) Was it a condition of qualification that each applicant should be in a position to provide himself with a tent, blanket, and a fortnight's provisions?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that numbers could not submit themselves to the ballot because of their inability to so provide themselves?
 - (5.) What steps does he propose to take to provide for this class of labour?
- Mr. Perry answered,—
- (1.) Yes, for town and country.
 - (2.) 1,647.
 - (3.) The men were employed at a daily wage, and were informed that they would have to make their own arrangements for shelter and food—a condition imposed by the Works Department.
 - (4.) I am not aware; but, if so, the cases must have been very few. Four hundred men were wanted, and more than four times as many took part in the ballot.
 - (5.) The matter is now under consideration by the Labour Commissioners.
- (20.) Foreshore at Ball's Head Bay:—Mr. Kidd, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has an application been made by the trustees of Berry's Estate to purchase and reclaim nearly 6½ acres of foreshore at Ball's Head Bay?
 - (2.) Is this in the neighbourhood of an island alleged to have been annexed and connected to Berry's Estate by means of filling in?
 - (3.) Is it the policy of the Government to allow reclamations of this character to be effected by private individuals; and, if not, will he take immediate steps to protect the public rights in the matter?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) It is in the neighbourhood of what is known as Gore Island, which is really a peninsula forming part of Wollstonecraft's grant of 524 acres.
 - (3.) This application is only in its initial stage, and before a final decision is arrived at an inquiry by the Local Land Board will be held.
- (21.) Land Occupied near the Spit by Retired Public Servant:—Mr. Kidd, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a retired officer of the Roads and Bridges Department named Flynn and others are occupying Government land near the Spit, resumed some time ago for bridges and roads purposes?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that camping and boating parties are refused admission to the land in such occupation?
 - (3.) What is the area of the land; and will he take steps to have it proclaimed a temporary public reserve, pending its requirement for the purpose for which it was originally acquired?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) I understand that Mr. P. H. Flynn, who was formerly Chief Clerk in the Roads and Bridges Branch of this Department, was permitted to temporarily occupy the land in question, conditionally upon his acting as caretaker.
 - (2.) I am not aware.
 - (3.) 2 acres 2 roods and 22 perches. The representations of the Honorable Member will be inquired into.
- (22.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th July, 1900.

(22.) Public Officials Riding on the Trams Free:—*Mr. Kidd*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that members of the Police Force, when in uniform, are permitted to ride upon trams free?
- (2.) Is it a fact that letter-carriers from the General Post Office are compelled to pay fares upon trams?
- (3.) Will he request the Railway Commissioners to allow letter-carriers when in uniform the same privilege as members of the Police Force?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Railway Commissioners:—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) The members of the Police Force when in uniform have been allowed for many years, in fact before the Railway Commissioners were appointed, to ride free on the trams, in view of the assistance they could give at any time, if required, to the tramway employees. There is no reason why exceptional treatment in connection with the trams should be extended to letter-carriers.

(23.) *Mr. C. N. Payten*, S.M., Sydney, and *Mr. T. E. McNevin*, P.M., Parramatta:—*Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick* asked the Attorney-General,—

- (1.) What is the length of service of *Mr. C. N. Payten*, Stipendiary Magistrate, of Sydney, and of *Mr. T. E. McNevin*, Police Magistrate, Parramatta?
- (2.) What is the length of service of each of these officers in the grade of Police Magistrate?
- (3.) Did *Mr. McNevin* hold the responsible position of Chief Clerk to the Department of Justice, and, in the absence of the Under Secretary, was the control of the whole Department left in his hands?
- (4.) Is *Mr. McNevin* the author of the Manual for Coroners and the Manual for Clerks of Petty Sessions, and are these books supplied at the expense of the Government to officers for their instruction and guidance?
- (5.) Did *Mr. McNevin* at any time act in the capacity of Stipendiary Magistrate in Sydney; and if so, was any complaint made as to the manner in which he discharged his duty?
- (6.) Was *Mr. McNevin* an applicant for the position of Stipendiary Magistrate, vacated by *Mr. Delohery*; and, if so, why was he passed over in favour of *Mr. Payten*?

Mr. Wood answered,—

- (1.) *Mr. Payten*, twenty-eight years and five months; *Mr. MacNevin*, thirty-two years and five months.
- (2.) *Mr. Payten's* services as Stipendiary Magistrate, three years and six months; *Mr. MacNevin's* services as Police Magistrate, four years.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) Yes. On five occasions, making a total of four months and eighteen days. I am not aware of any complaint.
- (6.) *Mr. MacNevin* was an applicant for the position which became vacant by *Mr. Delohery's* appointment to the Public Service Board, but *Mr. Payten*, who is considered to be a very efficient Magistrate, and whose status as one of the Stipendiary Magistrates of Newcastle gave him precedence of *Mr. MacNevin*, was selected to fill the vacancy.

(24.) Advance to Settlers Fund:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) How much of the Advance to Settlers Fund has been advanced to settlers up to the 30th June last?
- (2.) How many persons have received advances on conditional purchases or freeholds?
- (3.) How many persons have received advances on leaseholds?
- (4.) What amount of principal and interest has been received by the Board up to the 30th June last?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) £178,332 3s. 4d.
- (2.) 988.
- (3.) 1,241.
- (4.) £5,806 7s. 6d.

(25.) Government Railway Gate-keepers:—*Mr. Nobbs* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it not a fact that a number of signalmen called gate-keepers on the railways of the Colony are compelled to work twelve hours per day?
- (2.) If so, will he bring the matter under the notice of the Railway Commissioners, with a view to having the hours of labour of these men reduced to eight?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I have brought the matter under the notice of the Railway Commissioners, who suggest, in order that it may be more definitely considered, that the Honorable Member should write them, giving particulars of the matters he refers to. As a rule, signalmen and gatekeepers are distinct positions.

(2.) The question of the hours of the staff is periodically considered by the Commissioners, and the matter has recently been under review. The Commissioners hope to be able to meet most, if not all, exceptional cases of long hours.

(26.) Professional Staff, Lands and Works Departments:—*Mr. Nelson* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What was the number of officers in, and the amount granted as increments to, the lower series of grades of the purely Professional Staff in the Lands and the Works Departments respectively in the regarding of May, 1899?

(2.)

11th July, 1900.

(2.) Out of £14,000 voted by Parliament on the Estimates for 1899-1900 for increments, &c., to the Public Service, how much was absorbed by the lower series of grades of the purely Professional Staff of the Lands Department—(a) as a result of appeals; (b) by increments independently of appeals; (c) By new salaries under £100 per annum?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

- (27.) Quarantined Areas, Darling Harbour:—Sir Matthew Harris asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Under whose authority was Mr. McCredie appointed to deal with matters in connection with the quarantine areas at Darling Harbour and the city?
 - (2.) Which of the Ministerial Departments is responsible for all acts done in connection with the quarantining of such areas?
 - (3.) Is it the intention of the Government to compensate the various property owners and others who suffered damage through the recent illegal quarantining of such areas and the pulling down and otherwise structurally interfering with their buildings and premises in the interest of the public health, in order to prevent the spread of the plague?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Mr. McCredie was appointed by me, upon the recommendation of the Under Secretary for Public Works.
 - (2.) The Treasury.
 - (3.) Except in exceptional cases of hardship, I think the Government ought to be compensated for cleansing the properties.
- (28.) Glebe Island Bridge:—Sir Matthew Harris asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What is the reason of the delay in the completion of the new Glebe Island bridge?
 - (2.) What is the total cost of the work to date?
 - (3.) Is he aware that a large amount of silting-up is taking place both at the northern and southern ends of the causeway of such bridge in Roselle Bay as a consequence of the erection of such causeway?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) There has not been any delay in the construction of this bridge; the ironwork is being manufactured in England, and the other work is being rapidly pushed on.
- (2.) £38,500.
- (3.) I am informed that there has been no silting up in Roselle Bay as a consequence of the erection of the causeway. A comparison of old and recent soundings shows no change for the worse, except in places near sewers, which are being attended to.

- (29.) Exchange of Lands, Berembad Pastoral Holding:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- Will he produce all papers in the case, and state upon what grounds the then Minister for Lands, in 1894, sanctioned the exchange of certain lands on Berembad Pastoral Holding in direct opposition to the finding of the Local Land Board sitting at Narrandera in February of that year, the Board's recommendation being as follows:—“ We cannot recommend this proposal, inasmuch as in our opinion the land sought in exchange is decidedly of greater value than that offered in “ surrender, having a direct frontage to the railway line, while the land offered is distant 1 mile “ and over from the railway line. We are also of opinion, upon a view of the plan, that the “ exchange if allowed would not have as an effect the consolidation of applicant's freehold ”?

Mr. Hassall answered,—If copies of the papers are moved for in the usual manner, I am not aware of any objection to their being laid upon the Table of the House. I find, however, that the exchange was approved of by Mr. Secretary Copeland, who had it twice under consideration, and who, in view of what he regarded as the merits of the case, and presumably the fact that the Board's recommendation was not in accordance with the evidence taken, approved of the exchange.

- (30.) Remuneration to Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the total sum paid to each member of the Public Works Committee during the term of the present Parliament?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be laid upon the Table of the House in the form of a return.

- (31.) Extension of the Railway into the City:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) On what date was the question of extending the railway into the City of Sydney referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?
 - (2.) On what date was the inquiry opened; and on what date was it closed?
 - (3.) On what date was the report of the Committee presented to this House?
 - (4.) How many witnesses in all were examined on the project?
 - (5.) On an average how many witnesses were examined at each meeting?

Mr. See answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a statement in reply to this Question.

2. FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Norton presented a Petition from certain licensed fishermen and oystermen, stating that the law under which Petitioners pursue their calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds, in the Petition set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
Petition received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—Section I.—Correspondence respecting the proposal of the Eastern Telegraph Company for additional Telegraph communication between Great Britain and the Australasian Colonies, *via* the Cape of Good Hope; Section II.—Proposals for construction of Submarine Cable between Canada and Australasia, across the Pacific Ocean.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th July, 1900.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Return (*in completion*) to an Order, made on 19th June, 1900,—
“The Troffs Pastoral Holding in the Central Division.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895, relating
to Institutions for the Insane.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account during the month of May, 1900.
 - (2.) By-laws of the Borough of Lithgow, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.
 - (3.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Inverell, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.
 - (4.) Regulations under the Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act, 1894, relative to the trade of “Knacker.”
 - (5.) Return showing, in relation to Income and Land Taxes, the gross receipts and expenditure for financial years ended 30th June, 1899 and 1900, with percentage of expenditure to receipts.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Particulars respecting Inquiry by the Public Works Committee into the Railway Extension into the City of Sydney.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. INCLOSED LANDS PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Dight moved, without Notice, That the Order of the Day for the second reading of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill, which lapsed by the House being counted out on Tuesday, the 10th July, 1900, be restored to the Paper, and stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday, 2nd October.
Question put and passed.

5. CABLE BETWEEN CANADA AND AUSTRALASIA (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on Thursday next, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the following resolutions:—
(1.) That this House approves that the Government of New South Wales be authorised to co-operate with the Governments of Great Britain, Canada, Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand, in raising the required capital and adopting such other measures as shall be found best calculated to give effect to the construction and maintenance of an all-British submarine cable between Canada and Australasia across the Pacific Ocean.
(2.) That the New South Wales proportion of the cost thereof shall not exceed one-ninth of the whole amount involved.
(3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
Question put and passed.

6. INTEREST ON JUDGMENTS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Garland, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Garland then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to amend the law with respect to the rate of interest on verdicts and judgments in the Supreme Court.*”
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 law with respect to the rate of interest on verdicts and judgments in the Supreme Court,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 11th July, 1900.*

7. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Public Works Committee Election Bill postponed until Tuesday, 2nd October.

8. INDECENT PUBLICATIONS 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 suppress indecent and obscene publications,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 11th July, 1900.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

9. CABLE BETWEEN CANADA AND AUSTRALASIA:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Crick, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 44.

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 and maintenance of an all-British Submarine Cable between Canada and Australasia across the Pacific Ocean.

*Government House,
Sydney, 10th July, 1900.*

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

11th July, 1900.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Northumberland, Mr. Norton, 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 claim of Samuel Gibson, ex-prisoner of the Crown, for compensation from the Government for the loss of an eye while serving a sentence at Trial Bay Prison."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Norton moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
11. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL**:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 make further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879, and the Acts amending the same.
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 further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879, and the Acts amending the same.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879, and the Acts amending the same*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
12. **SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those 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 make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
13. **MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan 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 negatived.
Original Question again proposed.
Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 12 JULY, 1900, A.M.

Original Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 15.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 12 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Small Arms and Ammunition:—*Mr. Rose*, for *Mr. Quinn*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—(1.) Has he received any intimation from *Mr. Chamberlain* recently with regard to the small arms and small arms ammunition required by this Colony?

(2.) If not, and in view of the urgent necessity for providing for contingencies, will he obtain the necessary arms and ammunition from the United States?

Sir William Lyne answered—A cablegram was sent to the Agent-General, on 23rd December last, to make arrangements with the War Office, London, for shipping by fast steamer to Sydney 4,000 Lee-Enfield rifles and 3,000,000 rounds .303 cordite ammunition, and a reply was received to the effect that the rifles would be ordered from trade, but that cartridges could not be supplied, and the latter were, subsequently, ordered from Nobel's Explosive Co. All necessary arrangements have, therefore, been made to provide for contingencies.(2.) Grants to Hospitals:—*Mr. Wilks* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to the Questions asked by *Mr. Wilks* on 5th July, relative to the grants to denominational hospitals, and the Chief Secretary's answers thereto,—(1.) Are the two institutions—*St. Vincent's Hospital* and the *Lewisham Hospital*—referred to in his answer as having received grants of public money, public institutions?

(2.) If so, have the provisions of the Public Institutions Inspection Act, section 3, 30 Vict. No. 19, been complied with in regard to the said two institutions?

(3.) Is it the intention of the Government, in regard to future proposed grants to denominational institutions, to submit them under a distinct heading on the Estimates, to be voted upon by Parliament?

Mr. See answered,—The institutions do not receive the Government subsidy of £1 for £1. Full particulars relating to these were given in my reply on 5th July.(3.) Amending Land Bill:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to provide in the new Land Bill for giving a successful applicant for land the right to elect whether he will take his holding under a conditional purchase, homestead selection, or settlement lease tenure?

(2.) Will a provision be embodied in the new Bill which will give a homestead selector and settlement lessee the right of converting their holdings into conditional purchases, subject to the section in the 1895 Act, which limits conditional purchase to the owner sufficient to support a family?

(3.) If no, is it the intention of the Government to abolish conditional purchase by Act of Parliament?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1 and 2.) I cannot at present give any definite answer to the Honorable Member in reply to the first two Questions he has asked, as they are such as would deserve the fullest consideration before any consideration is arrived at with regard to them.

(3.) I can, however, assure the Honorable Member that it is not the intention of the Government to abolish conditional purchases by Act of Parliament.

(4.)

12th July, 1900.

- (4.) Adult Suffrage Bill:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he, in view of the statement in the Governor's speech that the Government would introduce a Bill to qualify women for the suffrage, so that adult suffrage would be the law of New South Wales, cause the police when they are collecting the new rolls to also collect a second roll of women qualified, to be in readiness in the event of the promised legislation becoming law?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Until such a Bill is passed I am unable to issue any instructions in the direction indicated.

- (5.) Cleansing and Repairing Wharfs, &c., in Quarantined Areas:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What steps (if any) does he intend to take to compel the owners of property and land to reimburse the Government for the large expenditure of public money that was incurred on dirty wharfs, and cleaning out and repairing their property in the quarantine areas in Sydney during the outbreak of bubonic plague?

(2.) If so, when does he intend to take such proceeding to protect the general taxpayers of the Colony from this heavy outlay of public money?

Sir William Lyne answered,—So far as the law will allow, proceedings will be taken for the recovery of expenditure in the cleansing of properties. The matter has been referred to the law officers of the Crown.

- (6.) Grant to Canterbury Road Trust:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How long has the Canterbury Road Trust been receiving £1,384 for 4½ miles of road per annum; and what is the total amount received by them?

(2.) How long has the £1,000 per annum for the 3½ miles of road, Randwick and Coogee road within the limits of Randwick, been paid, and to whom, and what is the total paid for the purpose?

(3.) How long has the half mile of boundary road, Centennial Park (Cleveland-street to Queen-street entrance), been paid £1,000 per annum; and what is the total sum paid for expenditure on that road?

(4.) How long has the £600 per annum been paid for Glebe Island Bridge to Petersham, within the limits of Balmain and Leichhardt, 3 miles in length?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) The Canterbury Road Trust has not received £1,384 per annum. The amount of £1,384, voted 1899-1900, for roads in Canterbury district, is divided amongst the various roads enumerated on Schedule A2 attached to Estimates-in-Chief. Amount allotted to Canterbury Council for maintenance of 4½ miles of Canterbury Road averages (say) £224 per annum from 1893.

(2.) From 1894 inclusive, to Randwick Council, total to date, £6,500.

(3.) The vote of £1,000 on 1899-1900 Estimates, Schedule A2, is a special vote for completion of this Centennial Park Boundary Road, taken only on the Estimates of that year. The expenditure to date is £223 10s.

(4.) £600 was voted on Roads Schedules for 1898-1899 and 1899-1900. Various larger or smaller sums have been voted in previous years from 1884.

- (7.) Electric Current supplied to Parliament House:—Mr. Nelson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the plant which supplies the electric current for Parliament House has been working for twenty years; if not, how long?

(2.) Is he aware that one of the boilers is obsolete, and is only capable of carrying a pressure of 60 lb. to the square inch?

(3.) Is he also aware that the second boiler carries 120 lb. to the square inch; consequently only one boiler is available for steaming purposes?

(4.) Is he aware that the tubes in the boiler now being used are in a bad condition?

(5.) Is it the intention of the Government to carry on the electric lighting by means of obsolete plant now existing?

(6.) If so, will he call for a report on the plant at once?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No; seventeen years.

(2.) The boiler in question is in good order, but is obsolete only by reason of its low-working pressure.

(3.) Yes; but both boilers are serviceable when worked with their respective engine and dynamos.

(4.) The tubes are in good order, having been recently repaired.

(5 and 6.) No. The question of new plant is now under consideration.

- (8.) Remuneration to the Military Staff:—Mr. Phillips asked the Colonial Secretary,—With reference to Mr. Phillip's Question of 26th June, relative to remuneration to officers and others of the Military Staff for extra work in connection with the despatch of Contingents to South Africa,—

(1.) Has he approved of this remuneration being granted?

(2.) What is the amount approved for the various ranks?

(3.) When will it be paid?

(4.) What were the amounts paid to persons outside the Department for work in connection with the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent?

Mr. See answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) This matter has not yet been decided.

(4.) It is impossible to give a reply to this Question at a moment's notice, but I will cause a return to be prepared and laid upon the Table giving the desired information.

(9.)

12th July, 1900.

(9.) Leases of Ferry Companies, Circular Quay:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) What are the terms of leases of the different ferry companies running to the Circular Quay, and the rentals paid?

(2.) Does the condition of such leases give power to erect shops and other offices on such wharfs, to the detriment of public convenience?

(3.) Will he inquire into the action of the Sydney Ferries Company (which, with an increasing passenger traffic, particularly at No. 1 Jetty) taking up all the available space for passengers by such erections, and, if possible, have them removed?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No. 1 Jetty—Half leased to the Watson's Bay Ferry Company at a yearly rental of £200, the company to pay for insurance; term of lease, three years. No. 2 Jetty—Leased to the Port Jackson Ferry Company at a yearly rental of £800, the company to pay for insurance; term of lease, three years. No. 5 Jetty—Leased to Sydney Ferries, Limited, at a yearly rental of £400, the company to pay for insurance; term of lease, three years. No. 6 Jetty—Leased to Sydney Ferries, Limited, at a yearly rental of £1,000, the company to pay for insurance; term of lease, three years.

(2.) No; the leases do not empower the lessees to erect shops and offices without the written permission of the Treasury.

(3.) No complaints of the kind referred to have been received from the public.

(10.) Dancing Saloons:—Mr. Jessep asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the answer given by him to a deputation, that he would consult with his colleagues as to the advisability of bringing in a Bill to license and control the dancing saloons of the city and Colony, will he state as the result of that consultation whether he intends to introduce the Bill this Session?

Mr. See answered,—If the state of public business will permit it is my intention to bring forward a measure of this kind for consideration.

(11.) Cattle-carrying Vessels:—Mr. Samuel Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that, owing to improper, insecure fixing of stalls on steamers visiting our ports, great destruction of life amongst cattle has taken place?

(2.) Is he aware that the regulations in Victoria governing cattle-carrying vessels are much superior to any regulations in New South Wales?

(3.) Is it a fact that there are no regulations for the carriage of animals on ships for our Navigation Department to enforce?

(4.) Will he adopt the Victorian regulations for the carriage of animals by ships, and have the same enforced in this Colony?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Superintendent is not aware of the destruction of life amongst cattle through insecure fixing of stalls on steamers visiting these ports. The regulation of the carriage of live stock in vessels leaving this port is under the supervision of the Shipwright Surveyor and the Inspectors of the Department, and the Superintendent is not aware that, at any time, fittings which have been approved of by them have given way. The question of the preparation of regulations for the carrying of live stock in ships from this port is now under the consideration of the Superintendent.

(12.) Holidays to Public Servants:—Mr. Samuel Smith asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that public servants in the Special, Professional, and Clerical Divisions are, after one year's service, allowed three weeks' holiday for recreation?

(2.) Has a similar concession been allowed to the public servants in the General Division; if not, will he grant the same holiday allowance to the General Division as enjoyed by the other Divisions?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The Public Service Board have now under consideration the question of allowing three weeks annual leave of absence to all employees of the General Division, and, with a view to enabling them to arrive at a determination on the subject, they are obtaining an estimate of the cost which would be involved from the heads of the various Departments.

(13.) Tug-boats:—Mr. Cann, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How many tug-boats are there in the Government Service?

(2.) What is the name and nominal horse-power of each boat?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) Twenty-six in my department.

Name.	Nominal Horse-power.	Name	Nominal Horse-power.	Name.	Nominal Horse-power.
(2.) Thetis...	86	Achilles	20	Octopus	6
Ceres...	56	Cyclops	34	Vesta ..	10
Orestes	55	Athena	9	Oberon	10
Rhea ...	34	Ganymede	14	Unara	11
Dawn	43	Dayspring	20	Seylla...	10
Galatea	28	Minerva	20	Vivandiere	11
Lilian	34	Phoenix	17	Ariel ...	6
Dooribang	24	Callisto	8	Europa	5
Dione	20	Aurora	6		

(14.) Temporary Composing Staff, Government Printing Office:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that the men employed on the Temporary Composing Staff of the Government Printing Office have been in the Service for periods ranging from six to twenty years?

(2.)

12th July, 1900.

- (2.) Is he aware that these men have been put through a severe test to qualify for their temporary positions?
 (3.) Can he inform the House when it is intended to give effect to the promise he made in March last to place these men on a more stable footing?
 (4.) What position are they to be placed in?

Mr. Perry answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes.
 (3.) This matter is engaging the attention of the Department.

(15.) The Naval Brigade:—*Mr. McLaughlin* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Will the Government take the opinion of this House before sending the Naval Brigade as a land force to assist the allied Powers in China?
 (2.) What do the Government think this Colony can gain by the dispatch of these men there?
 (3.) Does he consider they are required, or can be of any service in China?
 (4.) Considering the numerical strength of our own defence forces, and the state of our Treasury, is it wise to send any more men from this Colony for foreign military service?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I was informed members of the Naval Brigade were willing to serve in China, and on 4th instant sent the following cablegram to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, viz.:—"Europa now at Sydney; believe going to China; can take number of our Naval Brigade, and understand desirous of doing so. Men good sailors, some old men-of-war's men, ready an hour's notice. Would like them to have opportunity to go." I received a reply to the effect that, as all ships were fully manned, the men could not be utilized for ordinary man-o'-war duties, but, if prepared to serve as Naval Brigade with expedition for protection of British life and property, could render invaluable service. To this a further cable was sent, on 10th instant, that the men were willing to serve as Naval Brigade as indicated in cable. No further report has been received.

(16.) Captain Webb, Imperial Service:—*Mr. Wilks* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a Captain Webb, of the Imperial Service, has been appointed to the New South Wales Military Headquarters Staff?
 (2.) What has been the necessity for the appointment of an extra officer to the staff?
 (3.) Is it true that Captain Webb is visiting Sydney on leave from his regiment?
 (4.) What rate of pay is this officer to receive?
 (5.) If necessity did exist for such an appointment, was an opportunity given for officers of the local forces to apply for it?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces.

- (1.) As a temporary measure, yes.
 (2.) The number of officers absent in South Africa leaving an abnormal amount of work on the reduced staff at Headquarters.
 (3.) Yes.
 (4.) £1 per diem, inclusive of pay and allowances.
 (5.) An experienced officer was required who could devote his whole time to the work.

(17.) Report by Inspectors of Collieries:—*Mr. Edden* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has he yet received from the Inspectors of Collieries any report on the work performed by engine-drivers at the various collieries in the coal-mining districts?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Yes, the report has been received, and I intend to submit the matter for the opinion of the Crown Law Officers as to the proper duties of engine-drivers under the general rules.

2. FISHERIES ACT:—*Mr. Norton* presented four Petitions from certain licensed fishermen and oystermen of Gosford, Terrigal, Lake Macquarie, Manly, and Dora Creek, stating that the law under which Petitioners pursue their calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds in the Petitions set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
 Petitions received.

3. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:—*Sir William Lyne* informed the House that he had received from His Excellency the Governor a Minute, which he read to the House, as follows:—

The Governor has to submit, for the information of the Honorable the Prime Minister, the subjoined copy of a telegraphic despatch which has this day been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

"The Queen's Assent to the Australian Commonwealth Bill having been given on the 9th July, I desire, on behalf of Her Majesty's Government, to congratulate the Prime Ministers and People of Australia on the consummation of the patriotic task on which they have laboured with so much ability, zeal, and self-sacrifice. I trust that the People of Western Australia will shortly declare their determination to become a part of the Commonwealth, and that Her Majesty The Queen will be able to proclaim the Union of the whole Continent, which will enable Australia to take her place among the family of Nations under the Crown, and will conduce to her future progress and prosperity."

BEAUCHAMP,
 Governor.

12th July, 1900.

Sir William Lyne also read to the House a Minute of the Board of Health relative to the cessation of the Bubonic Plague, and issue of Clean Bills of Health.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th July, 1900.

4. **LIQUOR ACT**:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Watson—From Matthew Lindsay, Chairman of a meeting of the Invincible Lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars at Temora.
 - (2.) By Mr. Cohen—From certain residents of Petersham and District.
 - (3.) By Mr. Cotton—From certain residents of Newtown and District.
 - (4.) By Mr. Affleck—From certain residents of Gunning.
 - (5.) By Mr. Affleck—From William Pearson, Chairman of a meeting of the Eureka Lodge, 359, of Independent Order of Good Templars at Gunning.
 - (6.) By Mr. W. W. Young—From James Worboys, Chairman of a public meeting at Bathurst.
 - (7.) By Mr. Cotton—From certain residents of Newtown.
 - (8.) By Mr. Cotton—From certain residents of Newtown and District.
 - (9.) By Mr. Cotton—From certain residents of Newtown and District.
- Petitions received.
5. **WOMEN'S FRANCHISE**:—Mr. Fegan presented a Petition from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, praying that the franchise may be extended to women in time for them to vote at the first Federal Elections.
Petition received.
6. **PAPERS**:—
- Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—Amended Rates and Regulation under the Electric Telegraph Act.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Report of Colonel Bell, as Official Representative of New South Wales at the International Commercial Congress of Philadelphia.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fourth Report from the Printing Committee.
8. **CASINO TO LISMORE RAILWAY BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- BEAUCHAMP,
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 sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 12th July, 1900.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
9. **LAND TAX (CONTRIBUTION) BILL**:—
- (1.) The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- BEAUCHAMP,
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 amend section 12 of the "Land and Income Tax Act Assessment Act of 1895."
- Government House,*
Sydney, 12th July, 1900.
- (2.) Sir William Lyne moved (*Formal Motion*), pursuant to Notice, That the Land Tax (Contribution) Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during a previous 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 section 12 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895,"—forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence during a previous Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative 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.
10. **APPLICATIONS FOR EXCHANGES OF LAND** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The number of applications for exchanges of land received by the Lands Department during the year 1895, and the number of such applications not yet finally disposed of.
 - (2.) The like information regarding applications received during the year 1896.
 - (3.) The like information regarding applications received during the year 1897.
 - (4.) The like information regarding applications received during the year 1898.
 - (5.) The like information regarding applications received during the year 1899.
- Question put and passed.

12th July, 1900.

11. CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend and extend the Children's Protection Act of 1892.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) Mr. Neild then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend and extend the Children's Protection Act, 1892*,"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 16th October.
12. COBAR TO WILCANNIA RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Cobar to Wilcannia, provided that before commencing the said work certain land required is contracted to be conveyed free of cost to the Crown; to authorise the transfer of certain Crown land revenue of the district benefited by the line to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, discharged.
13. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Wellington, Mr. Haynes, 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 failure of the present system of dealing with the unemployed difficulty."
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Haynes moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 13 JULY, 1900, A.M.

- Question put and negatived.
14. METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See 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. See, 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. See, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
15. DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION 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. Perry moved, "That" the report be now adopted.
 Sir William Lyne 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 5 and 14, and the consideration of a new clause; also Schedule 1 and the consideration of a new Schedule."—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 5 and 14, and the consideration of a new clause; also Schedule 1 and the consideration of a new Schedule,—put and passed.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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.
 Mr. Perry moved, "That" the report be now adopted.
 Sir William Lyne 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 3,"—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 3,—put and passed.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair; and House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
 Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 3^o with a further amendment.
 On motion of Mr. Perry, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th July, 1900.

16. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday next :—
- (1.) Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill ; second reading.
 - (2.) Cable between Canada and Australasia ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the following resolutions :—
 - (1.) That this House approves that the Government of New South Wales be authorised to co-operate with the Governments of Great Britain, Canada, Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand, in raising the required capital and adopting such other measures as shall be found best calculated to give effect to the construction and maintenance of an all-British submarine cable between Canada and Australasia across the Pacific Ocean.
 - (2.) That the New South Wales proportion of the cost thereof shall not exceed one-ninth of the whole amount involved.
 - (3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
17. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** :—
- (1.) *Railway from Temora to Gunbar* :—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Temora to Gunbar.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
 - (2.) *Railway from Casino to Lismore* :—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the line of railway from Casino to Lismore, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.
Question put and passed.
 - (3.) *Sewerage Works for the Borough of Newcastle, and the Municipal Districts of Hamilton, Merewether, Wickham, and Carrington* :—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Sewerage Works for the Borough of Newcastle, and the Municipal Districts of Hamilton, Merewether, Wickham, and Carrington.
Question put and passed.
 - (4.) *Electric Tramway from Belmore Park to Fort Macquarie via Castlereagh-street* :—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 double line for an electric tramway from Belmore Park to Fort Macquarie by way of Castlereagh and Bligh streets with single lines down Loftus and Young streets.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
18. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Fegan moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-five minutes before Eight o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 16.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 17 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Intestate Estates:—*Mr. Hawthorne*, for *Mr. McLean*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that for many years past the Judge in Ecclesiastical, and since 1890, the Probate Jurisdiction of the Supreme Court has granted administrators of intestate estates power to sell real estate of and belonging to the estates of deceased persons?

(2.) Is it a fact that very many sales of real estate in the Colony have been made by administrators relying on the orders giving them leave to sell?

(3.) Is he aware that, by the recent decision of the Full Court in the case of *Kelly v. Toohey*, the Court decided that the Judge had no power to grant general orders giving leave to sell real estate, inasmuch as it gave the administrator a discretion, and that, therefore, all such orders have been *ultra vires*?

(4.) Is he aware of the serious effects of this decision, inasmuch as it affects every title in New South Wales in which land has been sold by an administrator, in pursuance of the powers of sale granted by the Court now held to be *ultra vires*?

(5.) Will he at once introduce a Bill to validate all titles which have been affected by this decision, and to make any, and, if so, what alteration in the existing law?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that such is the case.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) A Bill to deal with this matter is almost ready.

- (2.) Stock killed at Riverstone:—*Mr. Watson*, for *Mr. Dacey*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many sheep and cattle respectively were killed during last year at Riverstone?

(2.) How many were condemned as unfit for human consumption?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Sheep, 463,152; cattle, 22,904.

(2.) Sheep, 454; cattle, 238.

- (3.) Trade of the Islands of the Pacific:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Dugald Thomson*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he observed that the interests of New South Wales and of Australia in the islands of the Pacific are threatened by the Premier of New Zealand offering inducements to those islands to transfer their trade from Australia to New Zealand, and seeking to have certain groups attached to his Colony?

(2.) May not such attachment end in those groups being brought within the limits of the New Zealand tariff, thus giving free entry to goods from New Zealand, and placing restrictions on goods from Australia?

(3.) Will he consider whether the greatest security for equality of trading conditions is the continuance of the direct control of the islands by the British Government?

(4.) Will he resist any attempt to divert, except by open competition, the trade which has been developed between the islands and Australia?

Sir William Lyne answered,—In view of the distinct statement of *Mr. Chamberlain*, that the suggestion of New Zealand for the incorporation with the Colony of certain groups of islands in the Pacific must be discussed between New Zealand, Great Britain, and the Commonwealth of Australia, it would be premature to take any present action in the matter. Meanwhile, there can be no undue and successful attempt to divert the trade which has been developed between the islands and Australia.

- (4.) The City Trams:—*Mr. Whiddon* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he, in considering any change of route of the city tramways, consider the advisability of having the line extended along Elizabeth-street, from Belmore Park to Redfern-street, thence to the junction of Castlereagh-street,

17th July, 1900.

street, Redfern, meeting the present line there, with the view of reducing the congestion of traffic at George-street and Devonshire-street, and avoiding the detour now made by the Redfern, Waterloo, and Botany trams in having to proceed round a bend from Belmore Park, through Pitt and George Streets, into Devonshire-street, the number of these trams travelling daily being over 100?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered—The representations of the Honorable Member will receive my best consideration. In view of another proposed route to Redfern, I cannot at present do more.

- (5.) Organist at St. James' Church:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) Is a Mr. Mason, employed in the Education Department, acting in the position of organist at St. James' Church?
 - (2.) What is Mr. Mason's salary as an officer of the Government?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that he is also paid a salary of £100 per annum in connection with his church duties?
 - (4.) Will the Public Service Board take steps to prevent the competition of officers of the Service with professional gentlemen whose living largely depends upon their ability for duties of organist, &c.?

Mr. Wood answered,—

- (1.) The Public Service Board are not aware.
 - (2.) £200 per annum.
 - (3 and 4.) The Public Service Board inform my honorable colleague that in March last they received an intimation from Mr. Mason, through the head of his Department, that he held the position of organist at St. James' Church, and the Department was then informed that, other organists being available, the Board did not approve of public servants holding these positions except where they were of an honorary character, and they were unable to make an exception in Mr. Mason's favour.
- (6.) Employees at the Government Printing Office:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a number of employees in the Government Printing Office, who are classed as temporary hands, have been for five to ten years employed continuously in the department?
 - (2.) Will he take steps to place those who have been so employed for a period of five years or over on the permanent staff where possible?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I will look into this matter and see what can be done.

- (7.) Balmain and Five Dock Trams:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Will he confer with the Railway Commissioners as to the advisability of extending the Balmain tram line from Weston Road on to Petersham railway station, *via* Leichhardt?
 - (2.) Will he also call for a report as to an extension of the Five Dock tram from Ramsay Road on to Ashfield railway station, so as to connect with the Enfield tram at that station?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The necessary inquiries will be made into these matters of the Railway Commissioners, and, when reports shall have been received, a communication will be addressed to the Honorable Member.

- (8.) Submitting Important Questions to Referendum Votes of the People:—Mr. Kidd, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to introduce during this Session a Bill to provide for submitting in certain cases important questions to referendum votes of the people, so that Parliament will be assured of the people's wishes before legislating on such matters?

Sir William Lyne answered,—No, excepting it may be in specific cases.

- (9.) Crown Lands Scrubbed and Ringbarked, Central District:—Mr. Kidd, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What is the total area of Crown lands in the Central District which the Government has had scrubbed and ringbarked?
- (2.) How much of this land has been leased, and at what rentals?
- (3.) What interest will the total rentals pay on the total cost of scrubbing and ringbarking the land so leased?
- (4.) How much of the land so improved by the Government is still available for settlement, and on what terms will it be offered, and when?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Total area of Crown lands, 777,899 acres scrubbed and cleared in connection with West Bogan scrub clearing operations.

- (2.) 50,857 acres, at 1-25d. per acre per annum as improvement lease.

8,756	„	1-26d.	„	„
68,554	„	1-50d.	„	„
10,921	„	1-67d.	„	„
2,323	„	1-70d.	„	„
105,060	„	1-75d.	„	„
78,349	„	2-00d.	„	„
3,045	„	2-03d.	„	„
5,039	„	2-14d.	„	„
2,287	„	2-20d.	„	„
35,798	„	2-25d.	„	„
39,877	„	2-50d.	„	„
10,401	„	3-00d.	„	„
2,511	„	3-50d.	„	„
9,444	„	3-62d.	„	„
2,560	„	4-00d.	„	„

435,722 acres, total area under improvement lease.

(3)

17th July, 1900.

- (3.) Nearly 7 per cent. (6·9 per cent.) on the expenditure for wages exclusive of cost of supervision.
- (4.) 342,177 acres still available for leasing—195,219 acres to be offered as improvement lease at public auction at Nyngan on 30th July next, the upset annual rental varying from $\frac{1}{4}$ d. to 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ d. per acre; the balance of the cleared land, 146,958 acres, will be offered shortly.
- (10.) Salary of Teachers of small Country Schools:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it not the practice of the Department of Public Instruction to reduce the salary of teachers of small country schools when the attendance thereat falls below the required numbers, even though such falling off is due to circumstances over which they have no control?
- (2.) In the case of teachers whose classification is above their schools, is it not a fact that such teachers are merely paid the salary associated with such schools?
- (3.) How many 1A and 1B teachers are awaiting promotion to schools of the class to which they are entitled?
- Mr. Perry answered,—
- (1.) It is not the practice, but is done in exceptional cases only.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Teachers are not entitled to appointment to any particular class of school. Those who by examination succeed in raising their classification render themselves eligible under the regulations for promotion to higher class schools; but, as in other Departments of the Service, they must await the occurrence of vacancies. At present there are fourteen 1A and sixty-seven 1B teachers who will be appointed in their turn to positions corresponding with their classification as opportunity offers.
- (11.) Salary of Junior Clerks of the Public Service:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) Are junior clerks, who have been admitted to the Public Service by competitive examination, entitled to annual increments to their salaries?
- (2.) If so, what amount of increment are they entitled to receive after each year of service?
- (3.) Have all those who are entitled to these increments received them?
- (4.) If not, why not?
- Mr. Wood answered,—
- (1.) Yes, under the regulations which were republished in the *Government Gazette* of 28th June.
- (2.) The commencing salary is £50 per annum. The increment is £15 per annum up to £140 per annum, and £10 per annum to £150, when they are required to pass a test examination to show their fitness to receive a higher salary.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) Before an officer can be granted an increment under the regulations it is necessary that the head of his Department should furnish a certificate to the Board that he has shown such attention and aptitude for work as to warrant an increment being given, and, further, that the necessary funds shall be provided by Parliament to enable the amount to be paid. The sum of £14,000 voted by Parliament last year covered not only payment of increments to the officers of the lower grades of the Clerical Division, but also increases to the salaries of professional officers under £300 per annum, and provision for the salaries of new clerks under £100 per annum. This sum was not sufficient to enable increments to be paid to all the officers in regard to whom favourable certificates were given by the heads of the Departments, and consequently a number of cases have had to stand over. The Public Service Board are now considering appeals from the officers concerned, and as soon as they have dealt with these they intend to make a recommendation as to the further increments they consider should be granted, but before these can be paid, as already pointed out, it will be necessary that further funds should be voted.
- (12.) Narrabri to Walgett Railway:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) On what date was the question of constructing a railway from Narrabri to Walgett referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?
- (2.) On what date was the inquiry begun, and on what date was it closed?
- (3.) On what date was the report of the Committee presented to this House?
- (4.) The total number of witnesses examined at the inquiry, and the average number at each meeting?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) 12th December, 1899.
- (2 and 3.) The inquiry was commenced on 25th April, but not continued after the 26th April until the 18th May, when evidence was taken at Narrabri. The inquiry will probably be closed this week.
- (4.) The total number of witnesses examined is ninety-nine, all of whom but nine were examined in the country. The average of this number, calculated on the number of sittings, is six or seven, but at the sittings in the country, which generally occupied most of the day, and in one instance until after 9 o'clock at night, the witnesses examined at one sitting ranged from five to fifteen. Since the opening of this inquiry the Committee have also carried on their inquiries respecting the proposed Railways from Wellington to Werris Creek and Grafton to Casino, Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney, Central Station and Administrative Offices, Devonshire-street, and the Tuckian Flood Escape scheme; and dealt with their reports relating to the proposed Improvements at Glebe Island, Wharfage—Woollomooloo Bay, Railway from Gundagai to Tumut, and Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney.
- (13.) New Railway Station and Administrative Offices:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) On what date was the question of erecting a new railway station and administrative offices referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?
- (2.) On what date was the inquiry begun, and on what date was it closed?
- (3.) On what date was the report of the Committee presented to this House?
- (4.) The total number of witnesses examined at the inquiry, and the average number at each meeting?
- Mr.

17th July, 1900.

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) 7th December, 1899.

(2.) The inquiry was opened on 21st April, and closed on 6th June, 1900.

(3.) The Committee's report will be presented to the House within the next few days.

(4.) The witnesses examined, whose evidence will appear with the Committee's report in this inquiry, number three; but evidence relating to the proposed work was taken, to a large extent, in the inquiry respecting the Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney.

(14.) Blue Book relating to Federation of the Australian Colonies:—*Mr. Brunker*, for Mr Carruthers, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he received a copy of the Blue Book laid upon the Table of the Imperial Parliament, and containing papers, despatches, &c., relating to Federation of the Australian Colonies?

(2.) Is he aware that this Blue Book has been laid upon the Table of the Victorian Houses of Parliament by the Premier of Victoria on the 27th of June last?

(3.) Did he have in his possession a copy of that Blue Book when the subject of the amendments to clause 74 were under consideration in this House?

(4.) In view of the very important matter contained in that Blue Book (a copy of which is now in the Library of Parliament amongst the Victorian Parliamentary reports), will he lay the same upon the Table of this House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes; through the Agent-General for this Colony.

(2.) I am not aware.

(3.) The Agent-General's letter advising the despatch of the Blue Book was only received at the Treasury on 21st June, the date the amendments were under discussion in this House, but not seen by me until afterwards.

(4.) Yes.

(15.) Rifle Range and Volunteer Company, Forbes:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. Reymond, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Have any steps been taken to get the rifle range at Forbes ready?

(2.) Has the application of a number of Forbes residents for the formation of a Volunteer Company at that place been dealt with?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes, the land has been resumed.

(2.) At present under the consideration of the Government with similar applications. There are about 120 applications, numbering something like 10,500 volunteers.

(16.) Inspection of Harbour Works of the United Kingdom and America:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for Mr. Hawthorne, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that his predecessor in office sent Mr. Fischer, of the Tramway Construction Branch, to America and other parts of the world to study and inspect the latest developments in the electric tram system before he proceeded with the George-street tram construction?

(2.) In view of the very large expenditure likely to be incurred in the construction of new wharfs and the approaches thereto, will he adopt a similar course to that indicated in the above Question by sending an experienced officer from the Harbours and Rivers Branch of his Department to visit all the largest recently-constructed harbour works of the United Kingdom and America?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) I understand that Mr. Fischer was dispatched to America for such a purpose.

(2.) I cannot make any definite promise until I shall have further considered this matter.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. McGowen—From members and adherents of the Redfern Congregational Church.

(2.) By Mr. Arthur Griffith—From certain residents of Lambton.

(3.) By Mr. Arthur Griffith—From certain residents of Waratah.

Petitions received.

3. FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Norton presented three Petitions, from certain licensed fishermen and oystermen of North Sydney, Watson's Bay, and Ulladulla, stating that the law under which Petitioners pursue their calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds in the Petitions set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
Petitions received.

4. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS (*Election Petition—Taylor v. Smith—Canterbury*):—

(1.) Mr. Wright, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, and Evidence taken before the Committee of Elections and Qualifications, to whom was referred, on 10th July, 1900, the Petition of Thomas Whitford Taylor, Esquire, against the return of the Honorable Sydney Smith, as Member for the Electoral District of Canterbury.

And the said report was read at length by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

“The Committee of Elections and Qualifications, duly appointed on the 14th June, 1900, to “whom was referred on the 10th July, 1900, a Petition from Thomas Whitford Taylor, Esquire, “against the return of the Honorable Sydney Smith, as Member for the Electoral District of “Canterbury,—have determined and do hereby declare:—

“1. That the Election for the Electoral District of Canterbury is wholly void in consequence “of certain irregularities at the Strathfield polling booth.

“2.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th July, 1900.

" 2. That the irregularities in the conduct of the Election were caused by an error of judgment on the part of the Deputy Returning Officer at Strathfield.

" 3. That the Committee make no award as to costs.

" F. A. WRIGHT,
" Chairman.

" No. 3 Committee Room,
" Legislative Assembly, 16th July, 1900."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

(2.) Mr. Wright moved, That the Committee of Elections and Qualifications have leave to adjourn *sine die*, the matter referred to them having been disposed of.

Question put and passed.

Mr. Speaker stated that, under the authority of the Report of the Committee of Elections and Qualifications, just read, a new Writ would issue.

5. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Appendix, relating to the proposed Extension of the Railway into the City of Sydney. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. WOMANHOOD SUFFRAGE:—Mr. Rose moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the franchise should not be imposed upon the women of New South Wales until a majority of adult females voting at a referendum have approved of womanhood suffrage.

(2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 10.

Mr. Crick,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Nelson.

Tellers,

Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Rose.

Noes, 47.

Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Meagher,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Lees,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Ashton,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Watkins,

Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Samuel Smith,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Price,
Mr. See,

Mr. Terry,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Spence,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Holman,
Mr. Bennett.

Tellers,

Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Thomas.

And so it passed in the negative.

7. GOVERNOR'S SALARY AND ALLOWANCES:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
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 provide for the salary and allowances of the Governor of New South Wales, and certain members of his staff, and for purposes connected therewith or incidental thereto.

Government House,
Sydney, 17th July, 1900.

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

8. RESUMPTIONS FOR MINING TOWNS:—Mr. Watkins moved, pursuant to Notice, That in the opinion of this House,—

(1.) Where any mine is developed upon private property employing not less than 100 men, and the owners of such property refuse to sell residential lots at market rates, the Government should resume a surface area, the same to be resold in lots suitable for town purposes.

(2.) The Government should obtain a report concerning the existing leasehold towns where mining is being carried on, with a view to resuming the land, the same to be resold in town lots. Present residents on residential lots to have the first right of purchase.

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,—namely, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Cann, Mr. Cook, Mr. Crick, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Holman, Mr. Law, Mr. Moore, Mr. Nielsen, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Samuel Smith, Mr. Spence, Mr. Spruson, and Mr. Watkins,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at twenty minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 17.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 18 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Meteorological Conditions in New South Wales:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Will he obtain from Mr. Russell, M.A., Government Astronomer and Meteorologist, a report on the recent cold weather and phenomenal fall of snow that occurred all over the Colony, and the probable cause of the same compared with the previous prolonged and disastrous droughts through which the Colony of late years has passed?

(2.) If similar cold weather and an unprecedented fall of snow has ever previously been experienced in these Colonies; if so, when, and to what extent?

(3.) Is there any likelihood (meteorologically or otherwise) of similar cold and phenomenal fall of snow likely to occur in the future; if so, from what cause or probable causes are such atmospheric perturbations likely to occur; and, if so, are there any means or known meteorological laws by which their advent may be accurately or approximately foretold?

Mr. Perry answered,—The Government Astronomer has furnished a report upon this matter, which I will lay upon the Table of the House.

(2.) Caretaker at the Metallurgical Works, Clyde:—*Mr. Dacey*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Was a man named White employed lately as caretaker at the Metallurgical Works, Clyde; and for how long?

(2.) Have his services been lately dispensed with; and, if so, for what reason?

(3.) Has another man been appointed in his place; and, if so, for how long?

(4.) Did his duties as labourer and caretaker compel him to remain at his work for 157½ hours per week; and what salary was paid to him?

(5.) Is it a fact that during the time he was employed he was permitted only, on one public holiday, seven hours off duty?

(6.) Was it understood when he engaged that only in exceptional circumstances he would be employed other than at night duty?

(7.) Has he applied for remuneration for holidays or for re-employment in another capacity, and been refused; if so, why?

(8.) Will the Minister, having consideration to all the circumstances of the arduous duties and long hours worked by this man, favourably consider the question of remuneration or his re-employment?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes, for about two and a half years.

(2.) Yes, consequent upon the closing of the works.

(3.) When the works were closed the best qualified man was retained. No new man has been taken on.

(4.) No; he was paid £2 5s. 6d. per week for duties of a very light nature.

(5.) No.

(6.) No.

(7.) Yes; but the reports received show that since October last he was allowed off duty every Wednesday, as well as on Saturday mornings, in lieu of holidays worked.

(8.) Yes.

(3.)

18th July, 1900.

- (3.) Crown Lands in the Central Division :—Mr. Byrne asked the Secretary for Lands,—In view of the fact that a large number of men are waiting to take up selections of land in the Central Division, will he say when land for selection will be thrown open; when does he intend to bring in the Bill promised at the close of the last Session to deal with travelling stock routes?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Before the Central Division leases expired instructions were issued to the District Surveyors for reports as to the disposal of the areas that would be available, and for designs for subdivision where necessary. Designs have already been approved for the subdivision of about 1,750,000 acres within the leasehold areas, the pastoral leases of which expired or expire during the current year. Survey of part of this area has been completed, and action is now in progress for setting apart this land as soon as possible. Areas will be, from time to time, made available for settlement purposes, on receipt of plans and reports from the District Surveyors. Arrangements are being made at the present time to gazette such blocks as are actually ready, comprising about 45,000 acres. In some instances blocks are withheld until a larger area in the district is ready, as it is thought preferable to make a fairly large area available at the one time than several smaller areas at different times. The question as to the Bill to deal with travelling stock reserves is under consideration in the Department of Mines and Agriculture.

- (4.) Long-service Pay :—Mr. Byrne asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he bring in a short Bill to institute the system of long-service pay, such as is in force in some of the other Colonies?

Mr. See answered,—If the Honorable Member will be so good as to state to what service his Question refers, it will enable me to furnish an answer.

- (5.) Alleged Cure for Bubonic Plague :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to a recent alleged discovery that has been made in Adelaide to the effect that swallowing the serum or prophylactic of plague conferred immunity on the persons who had swallowed it?

(2.) Will he obtain from the Board of Health a report as to the therapeutic value or otherwise of this alleged discovery and cure for plague?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes. Nothing new has been mentioned in the daily papers; the plan has been experimentally tried, and has yielded unsatisfactory results. I have obtained this answer from the Board of Health.

- (6.) Bubonic Plague at the Coast Hospital :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to an extraordinary report appearing in the *Herald* of the 14th instant, to the effect that "Two cases of bubonic plague were discovered at the Coast Hospital " after having been confined in that institution for over five or six weeks before the existence or "nature of the disease was discovered or diagnosed"?

(2.) If the nature of the disease in these two invalids was not detected till after the end of five or six weeks' confinement, what disease or diseases were they being treated for or suffering from during this period of their confinement in the Coast Hospital?

(3.) Who is answerable for such mistakes and violation of the law in not reporting these cases in the usual manner; and do the Government intend to take any action to have the guilty parties punished, as was done on former occasions during the outbreak of small-pox?

(4.) Will he obtain from the Board of Health a report explaining how the existence of bubonic plague was not discovered in these two inmates until after both had become convalescent?

(5.) What was the reason that, after having become convalescent there, it was found necessary to send them to the Quarantine Station?

(6.) When it was subsequently discovered that they had recovered from an attack of bubonic plague, upon what ground or symptoms was the diagnosis made; and why were the contacts in the Coast Hospital not placed in Quarantine as was done in preceding cases that occurred in the city?

(7.) The cases, it is alleged, were of a mild type; if so, how long usually does it take to recover from an ordinary attack of bubonic plague?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The cases adverted to were not confined in the Coast Hospital for over five or six weeks, but were observed as soon as they were received, and they were transmitted to the proper isolation hospital at once.

- (7.) Diseases in Stock killed in New South Wales and Victoria :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to a return lately published in Victoria to the effect that 4 per cent. of the cattle killed at the abattoirs in that Colony are condemned as suffering from tuberculosis?

(2.) What is the percentage of cattle slaughtered in New South Wales and condemned as suffering from this disease?

(3.) Can he assign any reason for the rapid increase and spread of this disease in this Colony of late years?

(4.) Will he obtain a report from the Board of Health as to whether the system of inoculation that has hitherto been carried on wholesale throughout the Colony for the cure of anthrax, pleuropneumonia, and tuberculosis, &c., has not only been the means of fostering these diseases in our flocks and herds, but has actually propagated these diseases?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The percentage of the cattle slaughtered at Glebe Island, and condemned for tuberculosis, during 1899, was just 3 per cent.; in 1898 it was 3.9 per cent. Full information for the whole of the Colony is not available.

(3.) It is not thought that the disease is increasing. More careful inspection has, since 1896, led to a greater percentage of condemnation than before.

(4.)

18th July, 1900.

- (4.) The President of the Board of Health informs me that inoculation as a protection against anthrax is almost confined to sheep, which hardly ever suffer from tuberculosis; that inoculation for the cure of tuberculosis has never been used in the case of cattle; and that it is extremely probable that inoculation of pleuro-pneumonia virus has been and is a means of spreading tuberculosis. In a report presented to Parliament during 1897 he suggested that it might be illegal to take this virus from any beast not first ascertained to be free from tuberculosis, by way of warning. It would not be possible to secure general observance of such an enactment.
- (8.) Police Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Nobbs, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Do the Government intend to bring in a Bill to regulate the Police Superannuation Fund during the present Session?
 - (2.) If not, when do they intend to bring in such a Bill?
 - (3.) How many men are there in the Police Force of the Colony over 60 years of age, and due for pension, and are not allowed to retire?
 - (4.) Did the members of the Police Force who joined during the last eighteen years consent to the deduction of the additional one per cent. from their wages?
 - (5.) What deduction (if any) from their wages have members of the Police Force consented to, and have they signed any document or writing to that effect?
 - (6.) How many men are there in the Police Force who have served thirty years and over?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1 and 2.) This matter is under consideration.
 - (3.) Thirty-seven.
 - (4 and 5.) Thirty-two years ago all officers and men serving, and all police appointed since, consented in writing to the contribution of 3 per cent. instead of 2 per cent. as fixed by the Act.
 - (6.) One hundred and thirteen.
- (9.) George-street Electric Trams:—*Mr. Dacey*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have there been numerous complaints in regard to the want of time given to passengers to alight and enter trams in George-street?
 - (2.) Have any accidents been reported as a result of same; and, if so, how many?
 - (3.) Will the Railway Commissioners take steps to prevent complaints and accidents by allowing sufficient time for passengers to alight from and enter trams?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners furnish the following replies:—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) A number of accidents have occurred owing to passengers attempting to enter or leave trams in motion; but investigation shows that almost without exception the accidents are due to want of care on the part of the travelling public.
 - (3.) Every precaution is taken. The staff are specially enjoined to exercise care in this respect.
- (10.) Case of James Irwin:—*Mr. Dacey*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Minister of Justice,—Has a Petition been received by him asking for an inquiry by Royal Commission or otherwise into the alleged maladministration of justice in the case of James Irwin, who was convicted for conspiracy in 1893; and, if so, does he intend to comply with the prayer of the Petition?
- Mr. Wood answered,—Since 1886 James Irwin has been writing letters to the Department of Justice respecting a decree of the Equity Court made in 1885 in favour of the plaintiffs, in a case *Lyons and Farrelly v. Erwin*. In April and September, 1887, as the result of inquiries which had been made, he was informed that the Department could not interfere in the case, which had been decided by a final decree of the Equity Court, and in November, 1887, he was told that it would be useless for him to address the Department any further on the subject. He has, however, continued to write many rambling and incoherent letters. In 1890 he was convicted of making a false statement on oath, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment, and in June, 1893, he was convicted of conspiracy, and sentenced to two and a half years' imprisonment. Petitions were presented by him in 1898 and 1899, praying for an inquiry under the 383rd section of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, but they were both refused. Another petition was presented by him to His Excellency the Governor in December last, asking for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into his case, but no action has been taken regarding it.
- (11.) No. 3 Jetty, Circular Quay:—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Dugald Thomson, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is the public use of No. 3 Jetty, Circular Quay, to be discontinued?
 - (2.) If so, what other jetty at the Quay is to be devoted to the use of the public?
 - (3.) What annual revenue has No. 3 Jetty yielded as a public jetty; and what is it anticipated it will yield if leased as a private jetty?
 - (4.) Have all the ferries removed from the quarantined area to Circular Quay returned to Darling Harbour; if not, which remain, and when will they return to their old wharfs?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) No; not before the new jetties at Fort Macquarie have been constructed and the electric tram-line extended thereto.
 - (2.) Answered by No. 1.
 - (3.) The annual revenue from No. 3 Jetty, as a public jetty, is about £500, and the rental anticipated to be received from it if leased to a company is £600 per annum.
 - (4.) All the ferry companies removed from the quarantined area to Circular Quay have returned to their own wharfs, with the exception of the Hunter's Hill and Lane Cove Ferry, and this ferry will return to its own wharf shortly.
- (12.) Irrigation and Water Conservation Works:—*Mr. Waddell* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Referring to his statement in the Assembly, on 12th July, that he would shortly put in hand certain works for irrigation and water conservation purposes, will he state the localities where the principal of these works will be carried out, also the nature of the works respectively?

Mr.

18th July, 1900.

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I have already given instructions for cutting a channel from the Edwards River to the Wakool River. This work will benefit about 250 miles of frontage to rivers and creeks; and also for a cutting from Macquarie River to Belaringar Creek. This work will benefit about 120 miles of the creeks. Both works have been inquired into by the Local Land Boards, and approved of. A number of other works are being got ready, and will be approved as soon as possible. In addition, a large number of smaller works are being prepared by the Roads Branch in various localities in each of the three divisions. The works will consist of cuttings between rivers, weirs over rivers, locking in of lake waters, utilisation of billabongs and ana-branches, and dams, causeways, &c.

(13.) Executive Functions of Governor-General and Ministers outside New South Wales:—Mr. Waddell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he obtained an opinion yet from the Attorney-General as to the legality of the Governor-General and his Ministers at any time discharging their executive functions outside New South Wales?

(2.) Will he endeavour to obtain the opinion of Sir Samuel Griffith on this point?

Sir William Lync answered,—

(1.) No, I have not obtained the opinion of the Honorable the Attorney-General, who is at present absent. I am informed on good legal authority—if it be desired by Honorable Members I will lay the opinion of the authority to which I refer upon the Table—that the Seat of Government according to the Act must be in New South Wales; but certain Executive acts will necessarily be performed outside the Colony during the period Parliament is sitting in Melbourne.

(2.) No; I do not think there is any occasion to do so at present.

(14.) Education of Children:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the fact that last year's returns show that 61,305 children, or more than one-sixth of the whole juvenile population between the ages of 6 and 14, were not enjoying the benefits of any system of education?

(2.) Are there no means whereby this condition of things may be remedied; and, if not, will he introduce legislation of a character calculated to effect the requisite change?

(3.) Is he aware of the circumstance that there are scattered throughout the Colony a number of unclassified private academies and schools in which no record is kept of the pupils who attend, and who are not subject to any system whatever of examination through the medium of which the efficiency of their teachers may be proven?

(4.) In order to remedy this state of affairs, will he take such steps as will afford the public and parents an opportunity of learning on what lines these private establishments are conducted?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1 and 2.) No; it is not a fact. The Department's report for 1899 shows that there are 61,305 children between the ages of 4 and 15 years who receive instruction at home, have completed their education, or are untaught. The number of children between 6 and 14 years of age who do not attend either public or private schools is estimated to be 6,904, or 2·7 of the statutory school population of the Colony.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) The matter is now engaging my attention.

(15.) Services of the Naval Brigade in China:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the following extract from a Press interview with Captain Hixson, of the Naval Brigade, *in re* the matter of securing volunteers for service in China:—
“Can you give any reason for the poor response, captain?” “No; except, perhaps, that the men
“did not think the pay sufficient, in view of the fact that they were only offered 5s. a day, while
“those accepted from Victoria were to receive 7s. 6d.”?

(2.) Is it also within his knowledge that Captain Hixson has stated that the offer of 200 Naval Brigade men for China was made in the first instance “by a few agitators without any authority”?

Sir William Lync answered,—

(1.) I do not think the question of pay has unduly influenced the men. The rate of pay mentioned was suggested by Captain Hixson, and is similar to that of the Imperial Bushmen in South Africa.

(2.) I do not know what Captain Hixson means by “a few agitators without any authority,” if he made the statement. The first move in the matter was made in connection with H.M.S. “Europa,” which, it was understood, was going to China, and short of men, and some of the Naval Brigade were desirous of serving on board as men-of-war's men. This offer was, however, declined by the Admiralty, as all ships were fully manned; but it was intimated at the same time that, if the men were prepared to serve as a Naval Brigade with the expedition for the protection of British life and property, they could render invaluable service. This altered the matter completely. I consulted with the Commanding Officer, and from his statements to me I cabled that the Brigade would be willing to take such service, but it seems that they only wished to serve as men-of-war's men.

(16.) The Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many days have been occupied by the Public Works Committee, wholly and partly, in considering their report on the proposed railway extension into the city?

(2.) The total sum payable to the members of the Committee in respect of such meetings?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Three sittings and a few minutes of a fourth were occupied in the consideration of the report it being submitted at the first sitting to a general discussion, and the various clauses dealt with at the subsequent sittings.

(2.) The fees, including all expenses to members of the Committee, payable in connection with the three sittings, amount to £45 3s.

(17.)

18th July, 1900.

(17.) Payments to Members of the Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have the officials at the Treasury yet ascertained how much of the public revenue has been paid to each member of the Public Works Committee now in office?
- (2.) If so, will he kindly state the sum paid in each case, so that the information may appear in the Votes and Proceedings of this House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A return giving the required information will be laid upon the Table to-day.

(18.) Inquiry by Public Works Committee on Flood Escape Scheme at the Tuckian Swamp:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) On what date was the question of carrying out a Flood Escape Scheme at the Tuckian Swamp referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?
- (2.) On what date was the inquiry begun; and on what date is it likely to be closed?
- (3.) How many persons have been examined at this inquiry, and how many per meeting?
- (4.) The estimated cost of carrying out this scheme?
- (5.) The reason for the prolongation of the inquiry?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) 23rd November, 1899.
- (2.) The inquiry was opened in Sydney on 21st February, and on the 24th a Sectional Committee left Sydney to inspect the site of the proposed works, and to take local evidence. In Sydney the inquiry was resumed on 8th June, and continued at intervals until the 17th instant, when the evidence closed.
- (3.) The total number of witnesses is forty-three, of whom thirty-six were examined in the country. The number examined at each sitting ranged in Sydney, where all the witnesses but one were either Government officials or Members of Parliament for the district, from one to two, and in the country from one to ten.
- (4.) Six schemes were proposed, the estimated cost of which respectively is £77,300, £80,700, £34,500, £37,800, £46,500, and £23,700.
- (5.) It is not possible, without greatly delaying the inquiries relating to other proposals, to carry out an inquiry respecting any one proposed work continuously from start to finish, and in the case of the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme there are points of peculiar importance touching navigation and riparian rights which it has been necessary to very carefully consider.

(19.) Dismissal of Officer from Training Ship "Sobraon":—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) If he is aware that an officer employed on the training ship "Sobraon" has recently been dismissed for conveying a small piece of butter to two boys who had been confined in the punishment cells for some days on a diet of dry bread and water?
- (2.) If so, will he call for a report, and lay same upon the Table of this House, setting forth all the circumstances of the case?

Mr. Perry answered,—

- (1.) I am not aware.
- (2.) I have called for a full report upon the matter, which will be laid upon the Table to-morrow.

(20.) Case of E. O'Gallagher respecting Mineral Lease:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is he aware that one E. O'Gallagher, of Newcastle, deposited with the Department, in the year 1874, a sum of £50 to acquire a mineral lease over an area of land on Jurd's run, in the New England District; that this area was not available, and O'Gallagher subsequently marked out a piece of ground at Bishop's Bridge, in the Maitland District?
- (2.) If so aware, is he also acquainted with the fact that Mr. O'Gallagher was unable to obtain from the Government a recognition of his title to this land, or the refund of his deposit of £50?
- (3.) In view of these circumstances, will he state upon what grounds Mr. O'Gallagher has been persistently refused either recognition of his claim to the land in question, or a refund of the sum of £50 received from him so far back as 1874?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) Mr. O'Gallagher was one of a party who took out authorities to select land for mining purposes about twenty-nine years ago in terms of the Crown Lands Occupation Act, 1861, in pursuance of which they applied for five areas of 40 acres each on Jurd Bros.' land, New England District. £50 was deposited as first year's rent. As these areas were not available, the period of the authority was extended from time to time; when the Mining Act of 1874 came into operation the parties were allowed to select land in lieu of that formerly applied for. Instead of applying to select land for mining purposes, Mr. O'Gallagher wanted to take up a free selection, but, as the money paid could not be so used, O'Gallagher decided to select an area for mining purposes near Maitland, and, although advised as to procedure, he did not lodge an application for a lease. Every opportunity and assistance were given to the party to secure land in satisfaction of their authorities to select. All the officers connected with the transaction are now either deceased or have left the Service, but careful search through the records shows that the party failed to make any title to Crown land in satisfaction of these authorities after the first selection was found to be invalid.
- (2 and 3.) Applications for refund have been refused by successive Ministers, because the party did not avail themselves of the right given to them to take up other land. The matter was held over for them to do this for three or four years. Under any circumstances the refund could not be made to Mr. O'Gallagher as the money was paid by a party of five other men besides himself.

(21.)

18th July, 1900.

(21.) Conference of Premiers respecting Commonwealth Bill:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was a Conference of Prime Ministers held in Sydney in January last, and in Melbourne in April last, on the subject of amending the Commonwealth Bill and other important questions?

(2.) If so, when does he intend to lay the reports of such Conferences upon the Table of this House?

(3.) Is he aware that the instructions issued to Mr. Parker, Q.C., by the Government of Western Australia, were laid before the local Parliament as soon as it reassembled in May last, and published for general information?

(4.) Why have not the instructions issued to Mr. Barton, Q.C., by the Government of New South Wales, yet been presented to this House, and published for general information?

(5.) Is he aware that all the cablegrams dispatched at public expense to and from Mr. Kingston, Q.C., at Westminster, on the subject of amending the Commonwealth Bill, have been laid by the Prime Minister of South Australia before the House of Assembly, and printed for general information?

(6.) Why have not all the cablegrams sent to and from Mr. Barton at public expense yet been laid before this House?

(7.) When does he expect to be in a position to lay before this House, in accord with his promise of 19th June, a copy of all the communications which have passed since June, 1898, on the Commonwealth Bill, between the Government of New South Wales and the Governments of Australian Colonies and of Great Britain and Mr. Barton?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) To-day.

(3.) No.

(4.) They were published in the Press, and are embodied in the report of the proceedings of the Premiers' Conference, Sydney.

(5.) No; I can hardly think that all telegrams have been made public.

(6.) Because I do not feel justified in making public communications which have been marked "confidential" by the sender.

(7.) I am waiting detailed information by mail.

(22.) Chief Secretary:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is the use of the designation "Chief Secretary" by the Colonial Secretary for the time being sanctioned by any law?

(2.) If not, will he consider the propriety of discouraging the use of the designation, especially in public Bills submitted to either House, until the title of his ministerial office has been so altered in a constitutional way?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) No legal or official sanction can be given without an amendment of the Constitution Act.

(2.) Yes.

(23.) Flood-waters from Goulburn:—Mr. Morgan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he call for and have a report made by an engineer as to the feasibility and probable course of diverting flood-waters from Goulburn and above Camden into the sea by way of George's River, and thus prevent such flood-waters from increasing to so disastrous an extent, as has been done lately, by the swollen rivers in the Nepean and Hawkesbury valleys?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Yes, as soon as an officer can be spared.

(24.) Richmond Bridge:—Mr. Morgan asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In view of the carrying away of portion of the Richmond Bridge by recent flood, will he expedite the erection at once of the high-level bridge promised by him on the 2nd December, 1899?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I am now arranging to refer the proposal to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, this being the first step necessary to carry out any work costing over £20,000.

(25.) Commission respecting Crown Lands in the Western District:—Sir Joseph Abbott asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he lay upon the Table of the House a copy of the Commission in reference to the Crown lands in the west?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Yes, when the Commission is issued.

2. CLAIM OF MR. J. L. DAVIDSON, PADDINGTON:—Mr. Neild presented a Petition from J. L. Davidson, of 9, Castlereagh-street, Sydney, stating that a Select Committee had been appointed by the House to inquire into and report upon the claim of Mr. J. L. Davidson, Paddington; 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.

Petition received.

Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.

3. EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Reid presented two Petitions from certain shopkeepers and tradespeople and members of the Sydney and Suburban Reform League of the City of Sydney and the adjacent Municipalities, representing that they were in accord with the objects of the Early Closing Act so far as regards the limitation of working hours of shop employees; that the compulsory closing of their shops at the hours fixed by law is an infringement of their rights as British subjects, and an interference with their liberties of action in carrying on their business; and praying that the House will insert in the Early Closing Act Amendment Bill such amendments and modifications as will affect the desired relief.

At the request of Mr. Norton the Petition, first presented, was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker.

Petitions received.

18th July, 1900.

4. **INEBRIATES BILL**:—Dr. Graham presented a Petition from Elizabeth Renwick, Vice-President, presiding at a meeting of the executive of the National Council of Women held on the 27th June, 1900, praying that the Inebriates Bill as passed by the Council and sent to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence may be passed into law as early as practicable.
Petition received.

5. **SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST BILL**:—Sir William Lyne, pursuant to leave granted on 11th July, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

6. **PAPERS**:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—

(1.) 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 section 7, Public Trusts Act, 1897.

(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.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Conference of Premiers, held in Sydney, January, 1900.

(2.) Report of the Conference of Premiers, held in Melbourne, April, 1900.

(3.) Mr. R. E. O'Connor's opinion respecting the legality of any place outside New South Wales being the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth.

(4.) Papers relating to the Federation of the Australian Colonies, presented to both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, April, 1900.

(5.) Further papers relating to the Federation of the Australian Colonies, presented to both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, May, 1900.

(6.) Return respecting the number of Aliens admitted into New South Wales since the passing of the Immigration Restriction Act, 1898.

(7.) Statement showing remuneration paid to each Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works during the present Parliament.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Report of the Government Astronomer respecting the recent snow storm.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. **CASE OF THE BISHOP OF GOULBURN v. THE COMTE DE ROSSI** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Haynes 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 the papers in the case of the Bishop of Goulburn v. the Comte de Rossi.
Question put and passed.

8. **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council,—

(1.) **Stanford Coal-mine Railway Bill**:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable Samuel Clift, of East Maitland, in the Colony of New South Wales, Henry John Adams, of Oxford Downs, in the Colony of Queensland, and Henry Trenchard, of Sydney, in the said Colony of New South Wales, to construct a railway from the Heddon and Stanford Greta Coal-mines to a line constructed by the East Greta Coal-mining Company (Limited), under the provisions of the Silkstone Coal-mine Railway Act of 1889 and the Silkstone Coal-mine Railway Act Amending Act of 1892*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 18th July, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(2.) **Newcastle Episcopal Residence Leasing Bill**:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the trustees of Church property for the Diocese of Newcastle to lease certain lands granted by the Crown as a site for an episcopal residence for the Bishop of Newcastle, and to provide for the application of the income thereof*,"—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, 18th July, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.

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

9.

18th July, 1900.

9. METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. Norton 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 4," 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, 61.

Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. See,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Crick,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. T. H. Griffith,
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. W. W. Young,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Reymond,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Dight,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Alleck,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Piddington,
Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Cruickshank.
Mr. Sawers,	
Mr. Wilson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Archer,	

Noes, 25.

Mr. Lee,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Bruncker,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. Watkins,
Sir Matthew Harris,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Lees,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Price,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Samuel Smith.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Holman.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. See, *passed*.

Mr. See then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make better provision for the regulation of traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; to repeal certain Acts; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those 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 make better provision for the regulation of traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; to repeal certain Acts; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th July, 1900.*

10. BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL:—Mr. Cann, 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 19th June, 1900; together with a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Cann then moved, That the Bill be read a second time on Tuesday, 16th October.
Question put and passed.
11. DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Norton 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 5, 13, and 14," 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 passed.
Original Question again proposed.
Debate continued.
Original Question,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.

Bill

18th July, 1900.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for other appropriations, and resumptions and purchases, for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made, or to be made, for those purposes; and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations.*"

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 validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for other appropriations and resumptions and purchases for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made or to be made for those purposes, and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th July, 1900.*

12. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill postponed until To-morrow.
13. **LIMITATION OF DEBATE**:—Mr. Crick moved, pursuant to Notice, "That" the following Standing Order be adopted by this House, and presented by Mr. Speaker to His Excellency the Governor for "approval":—

Unless, as hereafter provided, no Member shall speak—

(a) In the House for more than forty minutes on any question submitted from the Chair, except—

1. In the Debate on the Address-in-Reply.
2. On the Financial Statement or Appropriation Bill.
3. On a Motion of Censure.
4. In moving the second reading of a Bill,

when the limit shall not exceed one hour.

(b) In Committees of the Whole House more than twice on any question submitted from the Chair. Any Member being called a second time shall not exceed ten minutes. Provided that this rule shall not apply to any Member in charge of a Bill or on consideration of the Estimates or a Supply Bill.

Provided, also, that in any case arising under this Standing Order the Member speaking may ask the indulgence of the House or Committee, and the Speaker or Chairman, as the case may be, shall take the sense of the House or Committee, and shall declare on the voices "Aye" or "No," and such decision shall be final.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,

THURSDAY, 19 JULY, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Dick moved, That the Question be amended by inserting after the first word "That" the words "after a call of the House upon due notice given."

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

Point of Order:—Mr. Crick submitted that the proposed amendment was out of order, as being irrelevant.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker decided that the amendment could be admitted.

Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words after the first word "That" to and inclusive of the word "approval," and inserting the words "it be referred to the Standing Orders Committee to consider and report upon the following proposed Standing Order:—" 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 it be referred to the Standing Orders Committee to consider and report upon the following proposed Standing Order:—

Unless, as hereinafter provided, no Member shall speak—

(a) In the House for more than forty minutes on any question submitted from the Chair, except—

1. In the Debate on the Address-in-Reply.
2. On the Financial Statement or Appropriation Bill.
3. On a Motion of Censure.
4. In moving the second reading of a Bill,

when the limit shall not exceed one hour.

(b)

18th July, 1900.

(b) In Committee of the Whole House more than twice on any question submitted from the Chair. Any Member being called a second time shall not exceed ten minutes. Provided that this rule shall not apply to any Member in charge of a Bill or on consideration of the Estimates or a Supply Bill.

Provided, also, that in any case arising under this Standing Order the Member speaking may ask the indulgence of the House or Committee, and the Speaker or Chairman, as the case may be, shall take the sense of the House or Committee, and shall declare on the voices "Aye" or "No," and such decision shall be final,—put and passed.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at ten minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 18.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 19 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Tenandra Artesian Bore Reserve :—Mr. Macdonald asked the Secretary for Lands,—
 (1.) Does he intend to throw open the land on the Tenandra Artesian Bore Reserve for public occupation; if so, when?
 (2.) Is he aware that there is a public demand for this land?
 (3.) What wages per week are paid to the caretaker at this bore, and how long has he been employed there?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1 and 2.) The question of throwing the land open for occupation has been under consideration in connection with a scheme of irrigation, the expense of which appeared to go much beyond the possibilities of remunerative occupation of the land, for which, I have been led to think, there is no very great demand.

(3.) The caretaker receives 7s. per diem, and has been employed since 18th August, 1896.

- (2.) Railway from Grafton to Casino :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) On what date was the question of constructing a railway from Grafton to Casino referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?
 (2.) On what date was the inquiry begun; and on what date is it likely to be closed?
 (3.) How many persons have been examined at this inquiry, and the average number at each meeting?
 (4.) The reason for the prolongation of this inquiry?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) 22nd December, 1899.

(2.) Inquiry commenced 22nd February, 1900. The evidence is closed.

(3.) Seventeen in Sydney and forty-five in the country. From one to two were examined at each sitting in Sydney, and from one to nine in the country. At most of the sittings in Sydney the inquiries relating to other Public Works proposals were also proceeded with.

(4.) Pressing representations on the part of the Grafton Chamber of Commerce, and others interested in Grafton and the district, to have certain witnesses examined.

- (3.) Fruit supplied to the Quarantine Station :—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—What amount of fruit outside that scheduled in the 1899-1900 contract has been supplied during the last six months to the Quarantine Station; by whom, and at what rate per pound?

Sir William Lyne answered,—From 1st January to 30th May Mr. A. Kidman, Government contractor, supplied to Quarantine outside schedule rates, and charged for as being not under contract, 4,640 lb. of fruit at 9½d. per lb. From 1st to 30th June Mr. Piggot supplied thirty-six cases not mentioned in schedule of prices, averaging 6s. 9d. per case (about 2d. per lb.) The fruit, I am informed, was ordered by Mr. Vincent, superintendent of the station. The discrepancy struck me as extraordinary.

- (4.) Leave of Absence in the Public Service :—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Quinn, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that certain officers employed in the various Departments of the Public Service, who had served for periods of more than twenty years, and therefore due for the usual statutory privilege of six months' leave of absence on full pay, were retired by the Public Service Board, and arbitrarily refused that concession after application, which was, and is, the uniform recognised custom of the Service, and included in the Public Service Regulations?

(2.) Will he take into consideration the pecuniary loss these officers have sustained, and grant them compensation for the loss of full salary for six months' leave of absence, which amount they consider themselves morally and equitably entitled to?

Sir

19th July, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is a fact that, in connection with the reorganisation of the various Departments in the Public Service, a number of officers were retired who had the requisite length of service to entitle them to apply for extended leave under the provisions of section 40 of the Civil Service Act of 1884. That section provided that extended leave might be granted by the Governor to officers with a specified length of service, but the privilege was a permissive one only and not a right. The Public Service Board considered that it would be almost impossible to carry out any scheme of reorganisation had such leave been granted in the case of the officers who were retired at the grading of the Departments.

- (5.) Premises occupied by the Pharmacy Board:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales is now occupying premises, the property of the Government, rent free; and, if so, by what authority?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that such premises are also used for the private business of members of the Board; and, if so, why is such allowed?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that, under the provisions of the Pharmacy Act of 1897, it is provided that the Board shall administer the Act by fees and penalties, and that no provision is made in it for any State aid, either in money or by the free use of Government property?
 - (4.) Will he take steps to obtain rent for any property occupied by this Board?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) Yes, together with the Medical Board of New South Wales, with the sanction of that Board, and by permission of the Superintendent of Government Buildings.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4.) The matter will receive attention.
- (6.) Cooking Classes in Metropolitan Districts:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) In what schools or districts of the metropolis are cookery classes established in connection with his Department?
 - (2.) Has he refused to establish a central cookery class in connection with the North Sydney and district Public Schools; and, if so, why?
 - (3.) Has he any knowledge of the population and area of North Sydney and district, and compared such with other favoured localities in arriving at such decision?
 - (4.) Will he, under all the circumstances of the importance and extent of the northern suburbs district, consider the expediency of establishing a class convenient to the number of young girls who may be students of cookery there, instead of compelling them to go in some instances miles to Fort-street school for instruction?
- Mr. Perry answered,—
- (1.) Fort-street, Paddington, Petersham, and Redfern.
 - (2.) (a) Yes. (b) Because of the expense involved. A building would have to be erected and equipped, and a special teacher appointed. The funds at the disposal of the Department do not admit of this expenditure. A central School of Cookery, fully equipped, is established at Fort-street for the reception of pupils from all schools within a reasonable distance. A class of girls from St. Leonards, taken in rotation, has attended there for the past three and a half years, without inconvenience, as proved by the regularity of their attendance on the one day per week set apart for them.
 - (3.) North Sydney is, in this respect, equally favoured with other localities, and more so than some to which cookery instruction has not yet been extended.
 - (4.) North Sydney will receive consideration in common with other localities similarly placed.
- (7.) Refund of Moieties of Fines by the Pharmacy Board:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer.—
- (1.) Has it been brought under his notice that the Pharmacy Board has refused to refund moieties of fines imposed upon certain storekeepers which were recommended to be so refunded by His Excellency the Governor?
 - (2.) What reasons were given by the Board for its refusal to so comply courteously with His Excellency's decision?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that one of the reasons given by the Board for its refusal to refund the fines in the cases of two storekeepers named Radford and Leafé was that the moneys had been paid to an informer?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that these moneys were not paid to an informer, and that he was only paid a weekly salary?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The following replies have been received from the Secretary, Board of Pharmacy:—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) The solicitors of the Board advise that the Board have no legal right to refund the money.
 - (3.) Yes, excepting that the money was not paid to an informer, but to an inspector appointed by the Board under the Pharmacy Act, and who took proceedings under the authority of the Board.
 - (4.) No.
- (8.) Meteorological Disturbances:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Will he obtain from the Government Astronomer and Meteorologist a report as to the probable cause of the excessive heat that has of late prevailed in the Northern hemisphere at Paris, London, New York, &c., compared with the unprecedented prevalence of cold weather and fall of snow that has lately occurred in these Colonies in the Southern hemisphere?
 - (2.) Will the Government Meteorologist explain (meteorologically or otherwise) the reason why, when excessive heat prevails in the Northern hemisphere, the opposite state of atmosphere perturbations exists in these Colonies in the shape of excessive cold, and *vice-versa*?

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th July, 1900.

- (3.) Does the Government Meteorologist, when publishing his daily forecast of weather, take into consideration the peculiar meteorological phases and vicissitudes of weather that are continually occurring in the Northern and Southern hemispheres; or does he rely for the accuracy of his weather forecasts entirely on local atmospheric changes and meteorological perturbations?
- (4.) Is it not a fact, ascertained by long observation by the highest meteorological authorities in England, &c., that when the weather happens to be very severe in the Northern hemisphere that the opposite extreme of weather exists in these Colonies in the Southern hemisphere?
- Mr. Perry answered,—The Government Astronomer has furnished a report, which I will lay upon the Table of the House.
- (9.) Miners of the Hunter River District:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has he initiated any steps to prevent the apprehended disagreement between the miners of the Hunter River District and their employers on the subject of increased wages?
- (2.) In any steps that he may take, will he proceed under the provisions of the existing Conciliation and Arbitration Act?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I have taken such steps as I can to remove differences which exist between the employers and the miners, and I am still in communication with both parties.
- (10.) Department of Labour and Industry:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that the Department of Labour and Industry has been transferred from the control of the Minister of Public Instruction to the Minister for Works; if not, is it contemplated by the Government to effect such transference?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—No, but I think this change will be effected.
- (11.) St. George's Rifles:—Mr. Watson asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Will he lay upon the Table of the House the papers in connection with the inquiry into the conduct of the St. George's Rifles?
- (2.) If not, will he refrain from increasing the number of men, or taking other steps in connection with the regiment, until members have had an opportunity of perusing the papers?
- Mr. See answered,—This matter is engaging the attention of the Government, and will be dealt with in a few days.
- (12.) Penitentiary and Prison for Females at Randwick:—Mr. Watson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware of the necessity, in view of the disgraceful condition of Biloela Gaol, for the erection of the proposed Penitentiary and Prison for Females at Randwick?
- (2.) If so, is it his intention to proceed with this work, as unanimously recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware.
- (2.) The Committee's recommendation is under consideration.
- (13.) Amendment of the Fisheries Bill:—Mr. Garland asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it his intention to introduce an amending Fisheries Bill during the present Session?
- Mr. See answered,—Yes; if the public business will admit of it—if Honorable Members do not move the adjournment of the House every night.
- (14.) District Road Contracts:—Mr. Donaldson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that about £1,800 out of less than £6,000 available to be spent on the Tumut district roads, 1899-1900, have lapsed through the vouchers being detained in the Works Office in Sydney a most unwarrantable time?
- (2.) Will he take steps to have this money re-voted for the respective roads?
- (3.) Will he instruct road superintendents to get out their contracts at once, basing their expenditure on last year's votes, so as to prevent a recurrence of above through delaying road work until the Estimates are passed?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) I am aware that a sum of about £1,600 lapsed on the 30th of June out of the Scheduled Roads Vote for last year owing to the necessity of utilising portion of the General Roads Vote to meet the abnormally heavy expenses incurred by the Department with regard to repairs to public buildings, the unemployed, and to men working double shifts on dredges, &c.
- (2.) I cannot promise to get the money re-voted, but, as I have already stated, I intend asking the Cabinet to submit to Parliament a largely increased Roads Vote for the current year, and the Honorable Member will then get a full share thereof for his electorate.
- (3.) Yes; but generally the Road Superintendents had too much work to let out in the time, and were hurried in the operations in the last half of the year.
- (15.) Renewal of Electors' Rights:—Mr. Lee asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to the *Gazette* notice of the 13th July, relating to the mode of renewing electors' rights, viz., either on personal application or by statutory declaration,—
- (1.) Is he aware that adherence to that course will disfranchise a considerable number of electors in country districts?
- (2.) Is it the intention of the Government to at once amend the Parliamentary Elections Act in the direction of more effectively enrolling and enfranchising the whole of the electors?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) It is open to all the electors to renew their rights. If they neglect to do so it will be their own fault if they are disfranchised.
- (2.) The matter is under consideration.

19th July, 1900.

- (16.) Model Farm at Bathurst:—Mr. W. W. Young asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Why are the employees on the Model Farm at Bathurst sometimes not paid their wages until the middle of the following month after being due?
 - (2.) Will he take steps to have the men paid on a set date early in each month?
 - (3.) What was the profit or loss (if any) on the Bathurst Model Farm for the last twelve months?
 - (4.) Does the minimum wage apply to employees on the Model Farm at Bathurst; if not, why not?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—
- (1.) The monthly wages sheets are received from the farm manager at the beginning of each month, and are, as a rule, paid within a week of being rendered. On two occasions during the current year the wages were not paid till 13th and 14th of ensuing months, as it was necessary to refer these claims for further information.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) The expenditure, which included works of a permanent nature, amounted to £3,694, and the revenue £726. It may be explained that the Experimental Farms are more for educational than commercial purposes.
 - (4.) The amount is in excess of that usually paid for this class of work, and is the same as that paid since the farm was established.
- (17.) Secretary to the Public Works Tender Board:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What was the name and the salary of the Secretary to the Public Works Tender Board for 1899?
 - (2.) The like information for 1900?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) W. F. Mitchell, £300.
 - (2.) W. F. Mitchell, £300. This officer only devotes a portion of his time to this duty.
- (18.) Police Superannuation Fund:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware of the fact that a considerable number of officers in the Police Force, at present qualified by age and length of service to receive pensions, are prevented from retiring by reason of the insolvent condition of the Police Superannuation Fund?
 - (2.) Will he inform the House as to how many officers in the Service are so situated?
 - (3.) When does he intend to introduce legislation of the character needed to place the Police Superannuation Fund on a sound financial basis?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Thirty-seven.
 - (3.) This matter is under consideration.
- (19.) Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware of the circumstance that, whilst the receipts in connection with the Civil Service Superannuation Fund last year amounted to £44,833, the disbursements totalled £103,711 for the same period?
 - (2.) Is he cognisant of the fact that on 31st December, 1897, the Fund was estimated to last, unaided, only for a period of seven years?
 - (3.) Will he, during the progress of the present Session, take such steps as may be rendered necessary to so strengthen this Fund that it will be able to bear any legitimate strain placed upon it?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) I will probably deal with this matter in my Financial Statement.
- (20.) Cost of the Pymont Bridge:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Samuel Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What is the total estimated cost of the Pymont new bridge?
 - (2.) What is the estimated cost of that portion of the bridge already constructed?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) £94,000.
 - (2.) Cost in the Colony about £30,000; cost in England not exactly known, but, approximately, £10,000; approximate total value to date, £40,000. The liabilities entered into amount to nearly the whole sum named in No. 1.
- (21.) Capitation for Companies of the 8th Regiment:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Did not Parliament last Session vote the sum of £300 to provide capitation for two companies of the 8th Regiment, such companies "to be raised in Illawarra District," being at the rate of 30s. per man?
 - (2.) Has one of such companies been formed in the Illawarra district, viz., at Bulli?
 - (3.) Has not the other company been formed in the suburb of Kogarah?
 - (4.) Was Ministerial sanction given to this diversion of the Parliamentary grant?
 - (5.) If not, who is responsible for the setting aside of the will of Parliament in this manner?
 - (6.) Has not the expenditure on these companies exceeded the sum voted?
 - (7.) What amount was expended on these two companies during the year ending 30th June last?
 - (8.) Has the Auditor-General taken exception to the outlay on the company at Kogarah in contravention to the terms of the Parliamentary grant?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) Yes.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th July, 1900.

- (4.) There was no such diversion. Kogarah is within the district notified in the *Government Gazette* Notice No. 538, of the 28th June, 1899.
- (5.) Ministerial sanction was not necessary.
- (6.) No.
- (7.) £207 3s. 5d.
- (8.) I am informed by the Auditor-General that the sum of £300 referred to was paid over as capitulation for two companies, Illawarra District, on the 1st March last to the credit of the Military Clothing Account—a trust account—under the control of the Central Military Clothing Board, which is responsible for its administration under the Military Regulations.

(22.) Officers in the Land Tax Office:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) If he is aware that the officers in the Land Tax Office are not allowed fires in their rooms during winter months?
- (2.) If so, why is a distinction drawn between these officers and Civil Servants in other public Departments?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Fires are allowed in all rooms which possess fireplaces.

(23.) Inspector on the Spit Road Tram-work:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) If the inspector employed on the Spit Road tram-work also keeps a boarding-house, where certain men employed on that work are boarders?
- (2.) If so, do these men's names always appear on the pay-sheet as having put in full time?
- (3.) Is the inspector's son, who is under 21 years of age, entered in the pay-sheet as a platelayer, but never performs that kind of work?
- (4.) Does the name of Peter Fitzpatrick appear in the pay-sheet for 9th May; and was he discharged on 2nd May?
- (5.) Was this man working on the works on Easter Tuesday; and was he paid his wages for that day?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will postpone this Question until Tuesday.

(24.) Members of the Federal Parliament:—Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he introduce a Bill to prevent Members of the New South Wales Parliament also occupying Seats in the Federal Parliament?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter will probably be dealt with during this Session.

(25.) Hawkesbury River Flood Relief Fund:—Mr. Morgan asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Can he say what has become of the fund subscribed some thirty years ago on behalf of the sufferers of the Hawkesbury who were rendered homeless through the disastrous flood during the year 1867?
- (2.) What amount still remains of that fund, and in whose hands is it?

Mr. See answered,—This is purely a private matter, and one in which the Government is in no way concerned. I remember that the late Mr. Piddington, Mr. Charles Moore, and others were associated with a fund of this kind. I am inclined to think that the whole of the fund was disbursed.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Fegan presented the following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—

- (1.) From John S. Austin, Chairman of the Quarterly Meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Newcastle Circuit.
- (2.) From certain members and adherents of the Wesleyan Church in Newcastle and District.

Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 5th July, 1900,—“Vineyards condemned under Vine Diseases Act.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 12th July, 1900,—“Applications for Exchanges of Land.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the Inspector-General of the Insane for the year 1899.
- (2.) Report of the Goulburn Fire Brigades Board for the year 1899.
- (3.) Report of the Wollongong Fire Brigades Board for the year ended 31st March, 1900.
- (4.) Regulations under the Friendly Societies Act, 1899.
- (5.) By-law of the Municipal District of Cudal.
- (6.) Regulations under the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Acts.
- (7.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”
- (8.) Return showing the amounts paid to persons not under the Military for work in connection with the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Report by the Government Astronomer respecting meteorological disturbances.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fifth Report from the Printing Committee.

19th July, 1900.

5. CASINO TO LISMORE RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
6. KOORAWATHA TO GRENFELL RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway (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 next.
7. THE ROCK TO GREEN'S GUNYAH RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That The Rock to Green's Gunyah Railway (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 next.
8. BYROCK TO BREWARRINA RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Byrock to Brewarrina Railway (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 next.
9. PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to Patents for Inventions and the Registration of Trade Marks.
Question put and passed.
10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Newcastle Episcopal Residence Leasing Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 7th August.
(2.) Agricultural Leases Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 30th October.
11. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, "That" this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Meagher moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That" and inserting the words "this Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report."
" (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Crick, Dr. Graham, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Garland, Mr. Samuel Smith, Mr. Spruson, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Cohen, 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, 20 JULY, 1900, A.M.

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

The House divided.

Ayes, 37.

Mr. Cann,	Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Watkins,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Kidd,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. Fee,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. Archer,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. McGowan,
Mr. Richards,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Cruickshank.
Mr. Holman,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hassall,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Bennett.
Mr. Phillips,	

Noes, 14.

Mr. Lees,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Brunner,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Samuel Smith,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Ashton.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Millard.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th July, 1900.

Original Question,—That this Bill be now read a second time,—put and passed.
Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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.

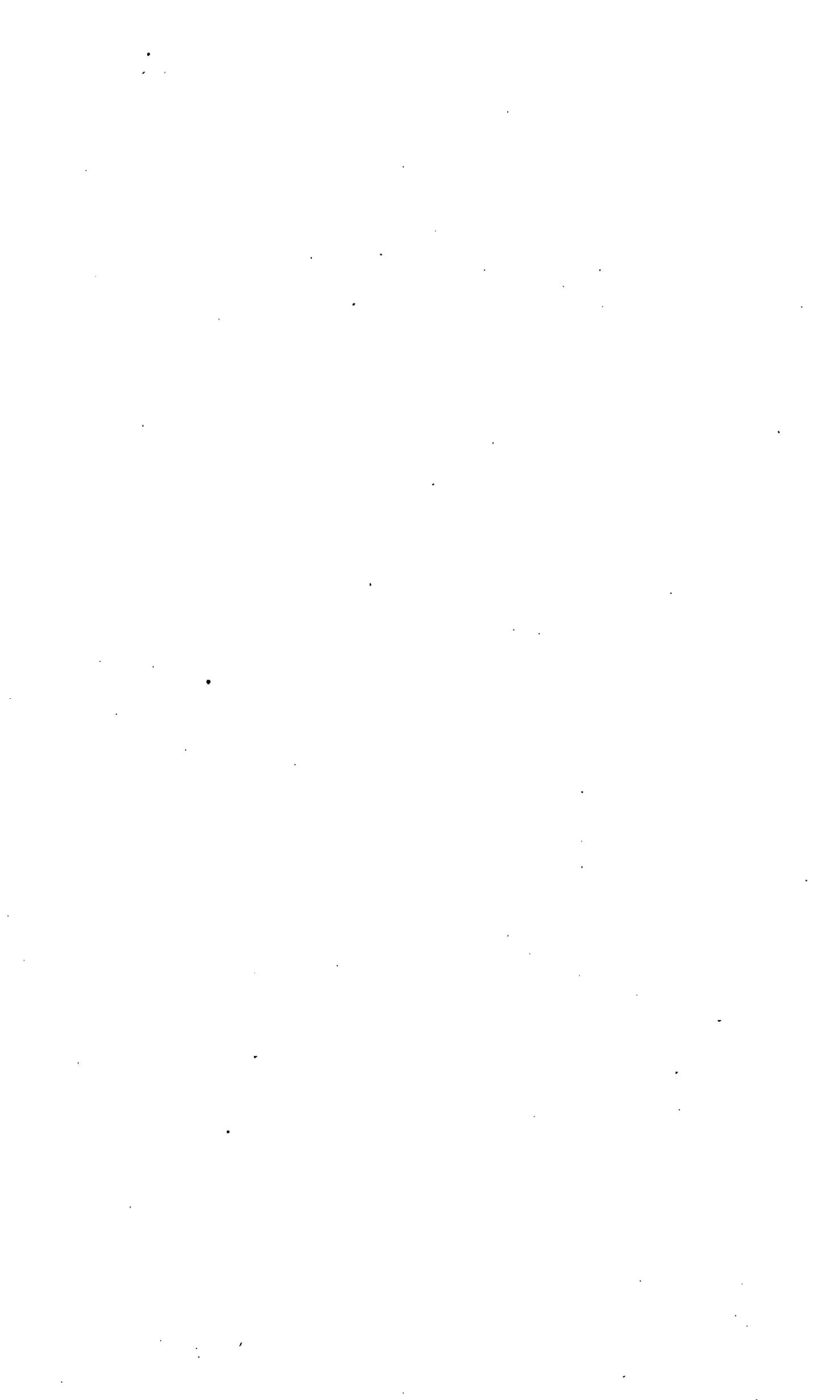
12. PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS BILL:—Mr. Arthur Griffith, pursuant to leave granted this day, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the law relating to Patents for Inventions and the Registration of Trade Marks*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 30th October.

13. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 19.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 24 JULY, 1900.

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

LIMITATION OF DEBATE—PROPOSED STANDING ORDER:—Mr. Cann, on behalf of the Chairman, brought up from the Standing Orders Committee the following Report, with the proposed Standing Order prepared by that Committee, pursuant to the reference from the House on the 18th July instant:—

“The Standing Orders Committee, to whom it was referred to consider and report upon a proposed Standing Order to deal with Limitation of Debate (see Votes and Proceedings, No. 17, 18th July, 1900),—have agreed to the following Report:—

“Your Committee having carefully considered the subject referred, have now the honor to present to your Honorable House the following Standing Order:—

“Mr. Speaker’s Room, Legislative Assembly,
“Sydney, 24th July, 1900.

“WILLIAM McCOURT,
“Chairman.

“*Limitation of Debate—Proposed Standing Order.*

“Unless, as hereinafter provided, no Member shall speak—

“*(a) In the House* for more than thirty minutes on any question submitted from the Chair,
“except

“In the Debate on the Address-in-Reply, or

“In a Debate on a motion of Censure, or ‘No Confidence,’ or

“In moving the second reading of a Bill,

“when a Member shall be at liberty to speak for one hour.

“*(b) In Committee of the Whole House* more than twice on any question submitted from the Chair of the Committee; any Member called, for the first time, to speak, shall not speak for more than thirty minutes; when called a second time he shall not speak for more than ten minutes: Provided that so much of this Standing Order as relates to speaking not more than twice shall not apply to a Member in charge of a Bill, nor to the consideration of the Estimates, or a Supply Bill, but any Member speaking more than once shall be restricted to ten minutes for each speech after the first.

“Provided that in any case arising under this Standing Order the Member speaking, and desiring an extension of time; may ask the indulgence of the House or Committee, and the Speaker or Chairman, as the case may be, shall, without debate, take the sense of the House or Committee.

“The Debate on the Financial Statement shall be exempt from the restrictions of this Standing Order.”

The Report and Proposed Standing Order were read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. INDECENT PUBLICATIONS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 48.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to suppress indecent and obscene publications,*”—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, 1900

24th July, 1900.

3. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Railway from Werris Creek to Wellington:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) On what date was the question of constructing a railway from Werris Creek to Wellington referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?
 - (2.) On what date was the inquiry begun; and on what date is it likely to be closed?
 - (3.) The total number of persons examined at this inquiry, and the average number at each meeting?
 - (4.) Is it possible that the report of the Committee may be presented to the House this week?
 - (5.) The reason for the prolongation of the inquiry?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) 13th December, 1899.
 - (2.) Inquiry was commenced on 13th April, 1900. The evidence is closed.
 - (3.) 144; 16 of the number in Sydney, from 1 to 2 being examined at each meeting, and 128 in the country, where the number examined at each meeting ranged from 2 to 15.
 - (4.) The report cannot be presented this week, as a portion of the Committee are in the country further inspecting the route for the proposed railway from Grenfell to Wyalong.
 - (5.) The inquiry has not been prolonged. The people of several districts being deeply interested in the proposed work, and there being more than one rival route, the witnesses examined have been more numerous than usual.
- (2.) Demise of the Crown:—Mr. Norton asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) In the event of the demise of the Crown, would the dissolution of this House at once ensue?
 - (2.) If not, by what Imperial Act of Parliament applying to this Colony would the existence of this House be preserved when the demise of the Crown takes place?
- Mr. See answered,—No. This matter is provided for by the latter portion of section 33 of the Constitution Act, 18 and 19 Vic., chap. 54.

- (3.) Examinations for Promotion in the Public Service:—Mr. Moore asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) Is it not a fact that he has repeatedly declared that test examinations for promotion as regards officers in the Public Service prior to 23rd December, 1895, are illegal, and that the regulations providing for the holding of same were *ultra vires*?
 - (2.) If so, how does he reconcile the recently-published regulations (*Gazette* No. 639) providing (*inter alia*) for the holding of test examinations for all officers on maximum salary of the lower grades, and approved by himself as Ministerial head, with his previous declarations of the illegality of any such test being enforced?
 - (3.) Does he now hold that the Public Service Board has the power to formulate, and he to approve, regulations compelling the old and experienced officers in question to submit themselves to test examination for promotion, under penalty in default of never getting an increase of salary, seeing that Parliament expressly exempted such officers from the necessity of so submitting themselves?
 - (4.) Is he aware that, in consequence of test examinations for promotion of the officers referred to being now persisted in, there is great disappointment and dissatisfaction in the Service?

Mr. See answered,—My honorable colleague has always considered that the regulations in question are *ultra vires*, and he inserted a clause in the amending Bill which was before the House last year to allow regulations of this character being made. The Attorney-General intends to place a similar clause in the amending Bill which will be brought forward early this Session. In the meantime, however, he has found that it would be impracticable to abolish these regulations, as it would lead to a complete disorganisation of the Service. At his instance, the Public Service Board have come to the following determination, namely, that in the case of officers who are over 30 years of age, and who entered the Service before the passing of the Public Service Act, to allow a *post mortem* examination of a more practical kind in Departmental work where there has been a failure to pass the examination. He has only continued the practice which had been in existence before he took office.

- (4.) Inspector on the Spit Road Tram-work:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) If the inspector employed on the Spit Road tram-work also keeps a boarding-house, where certain men employed on that work are boarders?
 - (2.) If so, do these men's names always appear on the pay-sheet as having put in full time?
 - (3.) Is the inspector's son, who is under 21 years of age, entered in the pay-sheet as a platelayer, but never performs that kind of work?
 - (4.) Does the name of Peter Fitzpatrick appear in the pay-sheet for 9th May; and was he discharged on 2nd May?
 - (5.) Was this man working on the works on Easter Tuesday; and was he paid his wages for that day?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1 and 2.) No.
- (3.) A son of Inspector Hollis has been employed as a platelayer at 7s. 6d. per diem; the rate for first-class platelayers is 9s.
- (4.) Yes; Fitzpatrick was paid up to 7th May, when, I understand, he left of his own accord to take up work at a higher rate of pay in the Existing Lines Branch.
- (5.) No.

- (5.) Crown-street Trams:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) With the view of giving the residents of Surry Hills and the eastern portion of Redfern an improved time-table on the Crown-street trams, will he confer with the tramway authorities with the view of having the double line continued in Crown-street from Collins-street to Oxford-street, thus saving the frequent delays through not having this section of the line completed?

(2.)

24th July, 1900.

(2.) In view of the near approach of the extension of the electric system on this line, will he consider the equity of having the fares reduced from Cleveland-street to Bridge-street to 1d., so as to remove the disparity that now exists on this short run, which is charged 2d., as against, for instance, the fare charged from Bridge-street to Waverley Tea Gardens, which is 2d.; Circular Quay to Enmore terminus, 2d.; or Bridge-street to Centennial Park Road, past the Racecourse on the Randwick line, 2d.?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that the existing time-table on the Crown-street line is considered to meet the present requirements of the traffic, and that delays rarely occur. The single line between Foveaux-street and the junction at Oxford-street is only 33 chains long. It was relaid about four years ago, and has therefore considerable life yet.

(2.) It is not proposed to make any further revision of the tramway fares at present.

(6.) Fees Paid in connection with City Railway Extension:—*Mr. Howarth* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the total amount of fees paid to Royal Commissioners and members of Public Works Committees in connection with the various reports on city Railway extension and harbour bridge and tunnel schemes?

(2.) The cost of all clerical work, and the cost of publishing the reports?

Sir William Lyne answered,—An effort will be made to obtain the required information, which, when received, will be laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(7.) Resumptions at Woolloomooloo and Lavender Bays:—*Mr. Howarth* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What was the total cost of resumptions at Woolloomooloo and at Lavender Bay respectively?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The cost of resumption of the water frontage and adjacent land between Milson's Point and Cavill's Baths was £106,023 9s. 4d., inclusive of interest. Cost of Woolloomooloo Bay resumptions, from Challis' Estate to McQuade's property, both inclusive, was £221,529 2s.

(8.) Long-service Pay to Members of Police Force:—*Mr. Hurley*, for *Mr. Byrne*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he introduce a short Bill to provide long-service pay to the Police Force, as is in operation in one or more of the other Colonies?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police:—Many years ago an additional 6d. per diem was allowed to constables for long service. It was deemed advisable to replace this by instituting a new rank, that of 1st class constable, carrying with it a stripe and 6d. per diem increase. This arrangement in my judgment is a better method of recognising long service combined with efficiency than the other system. Another rank was also created, a probationary constable, who receives an increase of 1s. per diem after serving at least one year and on certificate of efficiency.

(9.) Holdings in the Central Division:—*Mr. Hurley*, for *Mr. Byrne*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he state whether he is in favour of allowing selectors to extend their holdings from the falling in leases in the Central Division in cases where their holdings abut on to such land?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I am in favour of allowing selectors already on the land to increase their holdings, and I endeavour to avoid selectors being prevented from doing so.

(10.) Land Available for Settlement:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Does he propose to make the 1,700,000 acres referred to last week available for settlement by *Gazette* notice that will exclude conditional purchase in favour of homestead selection and settlement lease?

(2.) Is it not a fact that the 1895 Act both provides for a conditional purchase applicant only having granted to him sufficient land to support his family, as well as preventing him obtaining any fresh area, if he holds already a freehold of the maximum acreage allowed?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) I do not propose to exclude conditional purchasers already on the land from extending their holdings, but in any case where lands are set apart for homestead selection or settlement lease they thereby become excluded from original though not from additional conditional purchase.

(2.) Section 12 of the Act of 1899 provides as follows in connection with additional conditional purchases or conditional leases in classified areas:—“(4) The area which may be added to any series by the taking of any additional conditional purchases and conditional leases in any area set apart by any such notification shall not, together with any land held by the applicant under conditional purchase or conditional lease, exceed the area sufficient in the opinion of the local land board to enable the holder thereof by agriculture, or by agriculture combined with any other ordinary pursuits, to maintain his home thereon, and shall not, in any case, exceed the area which may be taken under the Crown Lands Acts and Acts amending the same.” Section 41 of the Act of 1895 provides that no person shall be competent to apply for an original conditional purchase of an area which, taken with what he holds in fee simple or under conditional purchase or conditional lease, already exceeds the maximum area of a conditional purchase.

(11.) The Financial Statement:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Can he inform the House on what date he will make his Financial Statement, and lay the Estimates upon the Table of the House?

(2.) If he cannot state the definite day, will he give the House an idea of the time (say) within one week?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have not yet decided upon what date I will make my Financial Statement. I have not yet had time to consider the Report of the Finance Commission, and there is a great deal of other work to be done before I can make the Statement, but it will not be unnecessarily delayed.

(12.)

24th July, 1900.

- (12.) Site of the Federal Capital:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is there any truth in the statement made in the *Telegraph*, of 18th instant, that the Government is having surveys made in some places for the site of the Federal city; if so, will he state in what particular places these surveys are being made?
 - (2.) If such is being done, if Yass is not included in the places already thought of, will the Government authorise the same kind of a survey to be made at Yass as the site for the Federal city?
 - (3.) Is the Government aware that Yass has every requirement necessary for the site of the Federal city?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1 and 2.) No surveys of places for sites for the Federal Capital are being made under directions from the Government, but at the request of Mr. Alexander Oliver, the Federal Capital Site Commissioner, an officer of the Department of Public Works has examined the catchments and other sources of water supply for a number of places, among them Goulburn, Bathurst, Queanbeyan, Braidwood, Bombala, Albury, Wagga Wagga, Cootamundra, Orange, and Yass. A further examination has been made for Yass and Bathurst, and has been recommended to be made for Millthorpe (Forest Reefs).

(3.) In the opinion of Mr. Oliver, the site selected by the Yass League, if it does not possess every requirement for the site of the Federal Capital, possesses many of the most important; but the report of Mr. Seaver, who very recently examined some of the tributaries to the south of the Murrumbidgee, has yet to be considered, and estimates of probable cost of his proposed pipe-line and reservoirs obtained. Mr. Seaver's investigations were for the purpose of ascertaining whether a sufficient gravitation water supply could be procured for the proposed Federal city site within reasonable limits of distance and costs.

- (13.) Forage Allowance to Maintenance Men:—Mr. Hurley, for Mr. Richards, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he cause instructions to issue to all District Roads officers to favourably consider the requests of road maintenance men for forage allowance, especially in cases where the length of road supervision necessitates the use of horse or horse and vehicle?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I can make no definite promise until I ascertain the views of my responsible officers upon this suggestion, which shall be obtained. I will then communicate with the Honorable Member.

- (14.) Experiments at the Coast Hospital, Little Bay:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it true that the Board of Health has recently been carrying on a series of experiments on patients suffering from leprosy at the Little Bay or Coast Hospital, and subjecting them to a series of inoculations by a leprosy serum method devised by one Dr. Juan de Dios Carrasquilla, of Bogota, and said by him to have proved successful in a number of cases; if so, what has been the result of such experiments, and will he cause a report of the same to be laid upon the Table of this House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The serum treatment referred to was commenced in November, 1897, and concluded in July, 1898; it had no effect either on the disease or the general health of the patients. It was described in an Appendix to the Annual Report on Leprosy in New South Wales, dated 14th August, 1899, which has been printed, but not as a Parliamentary paper.

- (15.) Services of Railway Officials during recent Snowstorm:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Railway Commissioners to in any way reward the valuable and heroic services rendered to the travelling public by the respective railway officials on the Western line during the recent heavy fall of snow that occurred between Wallerawang, Bathurst, and George's Plains, more particularly the man who was twelve hours travelling on foot through the deep snow, at the peril of his life, between Tarana and Locksley, and also the man who on horseback went from Bathurst to George's Plains?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the Commissioners have already acknowledged the exceptional services of one of the fitters, who has been rewarded by a donation of £5, accompanied by a letter of commendation; and although a number of employees and others rendered valuable service under trying circumstances, they are unaware of any other case which merits special treatment such as that referred to.

- (16.) Report of Deputation on Effective Voting for the Federal Senate:—Mr. Mcagher asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table the report of the recent deputation that waited on him concerning the adoption of effective voting for the Federal Senate?

Mr. See answered.—I will presently lay upon the Table a copy of the report of the deputation referred to.

- (17.) Committee on Claims:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. Holman, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he bring in a Bill during this Session to establish a permanent Committee on claims, thereby avoiding the need for appointing Select Committees?

Sir William Lyne answered,—If the Honorable Member intends that the permanent Committee referred to should be composed of Members of the House, it could be appointed as a Sessional Committee on motion; but if it is the intention to establish a tribunal outside Parliament, to which claims against the Government must be remitted, an Act of Parliament will be required.

24th July, 1900.

(18.) The Unemployed :—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Arthur Griffith*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his present intention to send any portion of the Sydney unemployed to Newcastle? *Mr. O'Sullivan* answered,—It was my intention to send some of the Sydney unemployed to the locality referred to, but, having received information that there are many unemployed in the Newcastle District, I will not now send unemployed from Sydney, unless it is shown that a sufficiency of labour cannot be obtained in the Newcastle District. I am endeavouring to assist the electors of New South Wales who are in need of employment without regard to their place of abode.

(19.) Issue of Oyster Leases :—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that friction exists between the officers of the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the Works Department and the Fisheries Commissioners over the issue of oyster leases in positions where such leases interfere with harbour and river works?
 (2.) Is it true that the Fisheries Board forwarded an insulting minute to the officer in charge of the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the Works Department; if so, what is the nature of such minute?
 (3.) Is he aware that it is estimated that compensation to the amount of £500,000 will be claimed by the holders of oyster leases for areas required in connection with harbour and river improvements; if not, what is the estimated amount of compensation which will be required?
 (4.) Is it intended to take steps to prevent friction between the two Departments; if so, what steps does he intend to take?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—There has been correspondence between the Fisheries Commissioners and the Works Department, and a difference of opinion undoubtedly exists regarding the issue of oyster leases which would interfere with the progress of works for harbour and river improvements, and if the Honorable Member will move for the production of the papers they can be laid upon the Table of the House in the usual manner. As compensation would inevitably have to be paid to the oyster lessees if any existing lease were cancelled, so as to admit of harbour and river improvements being effectively carried out, the only way out of the difficulty seems to me to be for my honorable colleague, the Chief Secretary, to introduce a Bill to amend the Act under which these leases are granted.

4. EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—*Mr. Hogue* presented a Petition from certain residents of the Colony of New South Wales, praying that the Early Closing Act be so amended that news agents may keep open until a later hour—say, until 8 o'clock p.m., during which time they be permitted to sell household stationery, school requisites, and cheap literature.
 Petition received.

5. MR. PETER BEHRENDT, CIVIL ENGINEER :—*Mr. Garland* presented a Petition from *Peter Behrendt*, Civil Engineer and Architect, Edgecliff Road, Woollahra, representing that, on the 14th June last, the Prime Minister communicated to the House the contents of a Minute said to have been furnished to him by *Mr. George McCredie*, in charge of the disinfecting operations carried on by the Government in connection with the plague, in which the following statement was made in reference to Petitioner, viz. :—" *Mr. Berrendt*, an inspector, was found incapable of carrying out his duties the first day he was appointed, and was then placed in charge of the disinfectants, where he also proved incapable, and was consequently dismissed"; that the allegation that Petitioner, having been appointed to the position of inspector on the said works, was removed from that position for incompetency is a false and libellous aspersion; and praying the House will take such steps as may seem fit to inquire into the premises, and enable him to clear his professional reputation from the charges made against him.
 Petition received.

6. LIQUOR ACT :—*Mr. W. W. Young* presented a Petition from *Geo. S. Raidon*, Chairman of a meeting of the Phoenix Lodge of Independent Order of Good Templars, held at Bathurst, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
 Petition received.

7. FISHERIES ACT :—*Mr. Norton* presented two Petitions from certain licensed fishermen and oystermen of the Hawkesbury River, Double Bay, and Sydney, stating that the law under which Petitioners pursue their calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds in the Petitions set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
 Petitions received.

8. PAPERS :—*Mr. See* laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Deputation that waited on the Colonial Secretary concerning the adoption of effective voting for the Federal Senate.

(2.) Report of the Board of Inquiry into certain charges made against *Miss M. A. Fairbairn*, Matron of the Hospital for the Insane, Callan Park, together with Minutes of Evidence and Exhibits, &c.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

9. MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF INVERELL REDUCED AREA BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—*Mr. Cruickshank* moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That the Municipal District of Inverell Reduced Area Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of *Mr. See*, *Mr. Spence*, *Mr. Byrne*, *Mr. Austin Chapman*, *Mr. Holman*, *Mr. Moore*, *Mr. Neild*, *Mr. Pyers*, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

24th July, 1900.

10. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—

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

Vote of Credit:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.*Message No. 49.*

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 and August, or following month, of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, for the advance to the Colonial Treasurer, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

*Government House,
Sydney, 24th July, 1900.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

- (2.) The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Port Kembla Harbour Act Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
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 Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898.

*Government House,
Sydney, 24th July, 1900.*

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

- (2.) Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway Act Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.*Message No. 51.*

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 Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888.

*Government House,
Sydney, 21st July, 1900.*

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

- (3.) The Rock to Green's Gonyah Railway Act Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.*Message No. 52.*

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 Rock to Green's Gonyah Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888.

*Government House,
Sydney, 21st July, 1900.*

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

- (4.) Byrock to Brewarrina Railway Act Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.*Message No. 53.*

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 Byrock to Brewarrina Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888.

*Government House,
Sydney, 21st July, 1900.*

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

11. MINES ENGINEERS HOURS REGULATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Edden 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. Edden, 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. Edden, the report was adopted.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th July, 1900.

12. 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.

The House divided.

Ayes, 15.

Mr. Cook,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Newman,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Haynes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Austin Chapman.
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Samuel Smith,	
Mr. W. W. Young,	

Noes, 18.

Mr. Garland,	Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Lees,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Hurley.
Mr. See,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Terry,	Mr. Waddell.
Mr. Goodwin,	

And so it passed in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Haynes, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered that the Bill be withdrawn.

13. SEAMEN ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Samuel 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 the Seamen Act of 1898.

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 Seamen Act of 1898.

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 the Seamen Act of 1898*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 13th November.

14. MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF 1897 AMENDING 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 the motion of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, the report was adopted.

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

15. SAYWELL'S TRAMWAY AND ELECTRIC LIGHTING BILL:—The Order of the Day for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill be now read a second time,"—postponed until Tuesday, 7th August.

16. ART UNIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

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 the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.

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

17. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 20.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 25 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Shelter-sheds for Unemployed:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Have the shelter-sheds for the unemployed been commenced yet?

(2.) If so, when will they be completed?

(3.) If not commenced, what is the cause of the delay, and are they intended for the winter or summer season?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—A recommendation for the work to be done has only just reached me, and I have given instructions for the sheds to be erected without a day's delay.

(2.) Shelter-boxes for Tramway Flagmen:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he consider the necessity for providing shelter-boxes for the flagmen on the tramway, especially in such exposed places as Hunter-street, Campbell-street, and Devonshire-street Railway Yards, where these men have to stand in the soaking rain for many hours a day, having no shelter whatever?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners have furnished the following information:—Flagmen are placed at certain street intersections and crossings for the purpose of protecting vehicular and other traffic. They could not properly perform their duties from shelter-boxes. They are no more exposed than many other public employees, and are supplied with waterproof clothing.

(3.) Adult Suffrage Bill:—Mr. Wilks asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the action of the Secretary for Lands, the Minister of Public Instruction, and the Postmaster-General voting for the Member for Argyle's motion *re* womanhood suffrage on 17th July, will he at an early date have the Adult Suffrage Bill introduced, to dissipate any suspicion of this great question being shelved this Session?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I will answer the Honorable Member's Question, although I think it scarcely a proper Question to ask me. The fact of the Ministers mentioned having voted for the motion stated is no reason why the Government arrangements for the conduct of business should be altered, nor should the fact that I am unable to specify the exact date on which the measure will be introduced arouse any suspicion in the minds of Honorable Members that the question will be shelved. The Bill will be introduced this Session.

(4.) Medals for Officers of Volunteer Forces:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware of the fact that officers of the Volunteer Forces entitled to V.D. medals, and men entitled to long-service medals, have not received same?

(2.) Will he institute inquiries with the effect of discovering the cause for delay in their issue?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces reports as follows:—

(1.) The V.D. cannot now be earned unless an officer has at least twenty years' Volunteer Service, ten of which must be spent in the Volunteer Service of Great Britain; but a "Colonial Auxiliary Forces Officers Decoration" has been substituted in lieu, and when the Home Authorities approve of the regulation governing the issue of this decoration, same will be awarded. The regulations to govern the "Colonial Auxiliary Forces Long Service Medal" are also awaiting approval of the Home Authorities. The proposed regulations for both cases were sent to the Principal Under Secretary, on 15th December, 1899, and on the 6th instant I asked that the Agent-General be instructed to obtain and forward a number of medals and decorations, and that he inquire as to reason of delay in approving regulations.

(2.) Answered by (1).

(5.)

25th July, 1900.

- (5.) Early Closing Act :—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Is it any part of the duty of female inspectors under the Early Closing Act to interfere with domestic servants engaged in restaurants in the city, &c., by advising them to give up their situations in order to go to other places that they may choose to recommend?

Mr. Perry answered,—As domestic servants do not come within the provisions of the Early Closing Act, the inspectors under that Act do not, nor have they any power to, advise them as suggested.

- (6.) Unemployed :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) The number of men now on the list of the unemployed who have served an apprenticeship to any particular trade?

(2.) The number of men who have never been apprenticed or served an apprenticeship to any particular trade, or, in other words, the number of skilled compared with unskilled labour seeking for employment?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I have ascertained from the Superintendent of the Labour Bureau that there are at present 81,000 names registered in the books, 75 per cent. of which represent unskilled men, labourers, miners, &c., and the remaining 25 per cent. consist of tradesmen, mechanical, professional, and clerical men.

- (7.) Banking work done by School Teachers :—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

Will he see that steps are taken to abolish the system and loss of time incurred by the respective teachers throughout the Colony acting in the capacity of bankers or savings bank collectors, with the view that the teachers may devote the whole of their time in carrying on the duties, properly speaking, belonging to the school, in place of being compelled to transact a lot of petty clerical work that should come under the jurisdiction of the Post Office Savings Bank?

Mr. Perry answered,—I am not prepared to do so. School Savings Banks serve the useful purpose of inculcating habits of thrift, and their management does not interfere with the performance of school work on the part of the teachers.

- (8.) J. Barry's Contract for Railway Fencing :—Mr. Edden asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did the Railway Commissioners, in March, 1899, accept the tender of Mr. J. Barry, of Merewether, to "repair the fence between 123 and 130 miles north, down side," at rates estimated to amount to about £10 per mile, or £70 for the total mileage to be dealt with?

(2.) Did J. Barry complete the above contract?

(3.) What amount has Barry received on the above contract?

(4.) What amount is still due to Barry for the above contract?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners have supplied me with the following reply :—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The fence was repaired where necessary between 126 miles 60 chains and 129 miles 7 chains?

(3.) £39 7s. 6d., less £3 18s. 9d. paid to George Broadbent on a Magistrate's order.

(4.) Nil.

- (9.) Greater Sydney Conference :—Mr. Meagher asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What are the details of the item—£50, expenses in connection with the Greater Sydney Conference, appearing in the Treasurer's Advance Account for May, 1900?

(2.) Is he aware that the so-called report of the Greater Sydney Conference, which was sent to Members of this House, has not been accepted by the Greater Sydney Conference?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) A sum of £50 was paid from the Treasurer's Advance Account on 3rd May, 1900, as a special grant towards meeting the expenses of the Conference. Sir Matthew Harris explained that there would be a difficulty in allocating these expenses among the Councils interested, and also that it would be unfair to saddle the whole cost on the City Council.

(2.) I am not aware.

- (10.) Hansard :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Can he see his way to publishing *Hansard* daily, with reports of speeches up to 12 at night, the same being done without additional cost?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have ascertained that *Hansard* could be published daily, with reports of speeches up to midnight, without much additional cost as to composition, but, of course, there would be extra deliveries to arrange and additional sets of machining and binding for the more frequent issue. The extra cost—the bulk of which would be overtime, which I understand the House has recently strongly objected to—may be fairly assessed at about £600 per average Session of 120 days.

- (11.) Historical Records of New South Wales :—Mr. Meagher asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) What sum of money has been paid by the Government in connection with the compilation of the Historical Records of New South Wales?

(2.) Who were the individuals employed on the work, and what amounts respectively have been paid to each since the inception of the work?

(3.) What is the approximate time likely to elapse before the completion of the work, and the approximate amount it will cost?

(4.) What financial arrangement exists with the Government and the present compiler?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It will take some time to prepare this information, which, when completed, will be laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(12.)

25th July, 1900.

(12.) Clerk of Petty Sessions, Gulgong:—Mr. Richards asked the Minister of Justice,—In view of the fact that the duties of Clerk of Petty Sessions at Gulgong are carried out by the Sergeant of Police, have steps been taken to supply an officer during the absence of the Sergeant of Police in pursuit of the Breelong murderers?

Mr. Wood answered,—The police remaining on the station will attend to pressing matters. The duties of the Clerk of Petty Sessions at this place are, however, very light, but, if it be found necessary, extra assistance will be sent.

(13.) Mining Registrar and Warden's Clerk, Gulgong:—Mr. Richards asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he take steps to have an officer sent to Gulgong to carry out the duties of Mining Registrar and Warden's Clerk during the absence of the police officer entrusted with this responsible duty, such officer being now engaged in the hunt for the Breelong murderers, and so guard against probable serious public inconvenience?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Arrangements have already been made whereby the constable in charge of the station will attend to any urgent mining business that may require attention during the absence of Sergeant Steele. If the sergeant is likely to be away from the station for any lengthened period, it is probable that the Justice Department will send an officer to transact Petty Sessions business, in which case that officer would also attend to the mining work.

(14.) Tests of Black-trackers:—Mr. Richards asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Regarding the conditions provided for testing the tracking capabilities of black-trackers engaged in connection with the Police Force of the Colony, and in the case of long-service, at what intervals are such tests repeated?

(2.) In the case of candidates for the Mounted Police Force, is the question of qualification in tracking set out in the conditions of candidature?

Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police,—

(1.) The only test applied is to judge of capabilities in tracking when out on service.

(2.) No; but experienced bushmen are selected as far as practicable.

(15.) Breelong Aboriginal Murderers:—Mr. Richards asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the dangerous character of the Breelong aboriginal murderers, and the fact of their having been traced to the Wollar District, near Mudgee, will he consider the advisability of swearing in a number of special police to guard women and children in the unprotected locality, and to accept the service of expert bushmen resident in the locality who may offer to engage in the hunt, and who may possess intimate knowledge of the haunts of the Wollar tribe of blacks?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police:—Many private individuals have voluntarily given their services. A large reward is being offered by the Government for the capture of the offenders, and all available police are concentrated in the district. It would not be practicable to provide special protection to every settler in the district. I may add that upwards of 100 police are now on duty in connection with this unfortunate case.

(16.) Railways and Tramways of the Colony:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was approximately the total capital cost of the railways and the tramways of the Colony when the Railway Commissioners were appointed in 1888?

(2.) What was approximately the average interest chargeable on loans negotiated in connection therewith up to that date?

(3.) How many miles of tramway were open at that time?

(4.) How many miles of tramway are open at the present time?

(5.) How many miles of railway were open in 1888?

(6.) How many miles of railway are there at the present date?

(7.) What was the total cost to the State for compensation, litigation, &c., in connection with accidents on the tramways of the Colony from the year 1888 up to the 31st December, 1899?

(8.) How many fatal accidents were there in connection with the tramways from the year 1888 to the 31st December, 1899?

(9.) What has been the total cost to date for litigation, compensation, &c., in connection with accidents on our tramway system to date for the current year?

(10.) How many accidents have occurred since the advent of the electric system, and what is the number that proved fatal?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that the information asked for would involve considerable labour to prepare, and would be a voluminous return. Further, the information is already submitted in detail to Parliament in the reports and returns submitted by the Railway Commissioners. If the Honorable Member wishes for the information to be collated, he should move for it in the usual way in the form of a return. If he will take that course, I shall offer no objection to the production of the return.

(17.) Tram Accident to Officer of "Europa":—Mr. Haynes, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact, as stated in a metropolitan newspaper, that an accident happened recently whereby an officer of the visiting ship "Europa" was mangled by an electric tram at the Circular Quay?

(2.) Was any compensation paid the victim of this accident; and, if so, what was the amount of such compensation?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that,—

(1.) A petty officer of H.M.S. "Katoomba" was injured by falling from a tram in George-street on the 14th April last; such injuries resulted in the loss of his foot, unfitting him for further active service, and causing him to lose pension rights, &c., to which he otherwise would have been entitled.

(2.) A writ for £1,500 was served on the Railway Commissioners, but settlement was made for £600.

(18.)

25th July, 1900.

- (18.) Roads Votes:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What amount of money voted for the roads for last financial year was transferred for expenditure to dredge and other services of his Department?
 - (2.) What amount of same vote remained unexpended on the 30th June?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) £15,044 18s. 2d. This amount was subsequently recouped for road expenditure from the Treasurer's Advance Account.
 - (2.) £1,643 3s. 9d.
- (19.) Railway from Gregra to Cudal:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he yet arrived at any decision in regard to carrying out the extension of the railway from Gregra to Cudal; if so, when, and why is the matter being delayed?
 - (2.) Does he intend to refer the matter to the Public Works Committee; if so, when?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Since answering the Honorable Member's Question, on the 14th December last, I caused an experienced and capable officer of the Department to make an exhaustive report on this proposal, and he came to the conclusion that the expenditure in constructing a line of railway from Gregra to Cudal cannot be justified on either national or commercial grounds. Notwithstanding all this, if the Honorable Member can supply me with information which will controvert these views, I will consider the desirableness of submitting the proposed railway to the Public Works Committee.
- (20.) Railway from Woodstock or Cowra to Canowindra:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he yet arrived at any decision in regard to the extension of the railway from Woodstock or Cowra to Canowindra; if so, when, and why is the matter being delayed?
 - (2.) Does he intend to refer the matter to the Public Works Committee; if so, when?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The matter is at present under consideration.
- (21.) Conciliation and Arbitration Act:—Mr. J. H. Young, for Mr. Hogue, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) How many cases of dispute between employers and employed have been dealt with under the existing Conciliation and Arbitration Act since it came into operation?
 - (2.) What were the particular cases so dealt with, and what was the result in each case?
- Mr. Perry answered,—
- (1.) This Act came into force on the 1st May, 1899, since when four cases have been dealt with under its provisions.
 - (2.) (a) In the Lithgow Collieries dispute a conference was held, but without resulting in any immediate settlement. (b) In the Pacific Co-operative Colliery dispute a public inquiry was held; the strife terminated some time after the conclusions of the Court were published. (c) In the Bulli Colliery dispute the matters of difference were referred to arbitration, and the mine reopened on the terms of the arbitrator's award. (d) In the South Bulli Colliery dispute the matters of difference were referred to arbitration, the miners meantime returning to work, and they now continue at work under the terms of the arbitrator's award.
- (22.) Lane Cove Ferry Service:—Mr. J. H. Young, for Mr. Hogue, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- Whether, in consideration of its convenience to passengers, he will permit the Lane Cove Ferry Service to continue permanently to make Circular Quay its point of arrival and departure?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter has almost constantly been urged by Mr. Howarth and Mr. E. M. Clark, but the several reports which I have obtained in the matter are so emphatic as to the danger of a catastrophe occurring in the Quay, should the question be decided in the affirmative, that I am reluctantly compelled to refuse my sanction.
- (23.) Transfer of Public Officers to Federal Service:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he kindly inform the House what steps he has taken, or proposes taking, with a view of ensuring that a fair proportion of the Public Officers who will be needed to form the staffs of the Federal Ministerial Departments (*i.e.*, Departments other than the transferred Services—such as Customs, Telegraphs, &c.), shall be selected from among the Public Servants of this Colony?
 - (2.) Will he make public, as early as is conveniently possible, the method of procedure which should be adopted by New South Wales Public Servants desirous of offering their services to the Federal Government?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am at present in consultation with the Law Officers of the Crown on this matter.
- (24.) Dismissal of Officers by Public Service Board:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- Referring to the following extract from the last Annual Report of the Public Service Board, *viz.*:—
- “The Board may, perhaps, be permitted to express their satisfaction that the Legislature has seen fit to pass the Public Service (Superannuation) Act of 1899, by which many ex-Civil Servants, who were debarred by the terms of the Civil Service Act of 1884 and the Public Service Act of 1895 from obtaining a pension, have now acquired that right. By this means cases of hardship which were caused by the operation of the Public Service Act of 1895 have been relieved.”—will he indicate what obligation, either legal or moral, the Board were under to dismiss officers of long service, with clean records, and in many cases but little under 60 years of age, during the first year of the operation of the Public Service Act, when such officers must thereby be deprived of their pensions?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Public Service Board:—There seems to be some misconception on the part of the Honorable Member as to the objects contemplated by the Public Service Act. Section 9 of that Act provides, *inter alia*, that
- “if

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th July, 1900.

"if the Board shall at any time find that a greater number of persons is employed in any Department than it may determine to be necessary for the efficient working thereof, such persons as are in excess may (if practicable) be transferred to any other Department which in the opinion of the Board requires additional assistance, and if the persons so found to be in excess cannot be usefully and profitably employed in any other Department, their services shall be dispensed with, subject to the provisions of section 60 hereof." It, therefore, does not follow that, because the services of any officer were dispensed with in accordance with the provisions of the section quoted, anything could be urged against his character or record. It simply indicated that his services were not at the time required, or, in other words, that in the interests of the State the number of persons employed could safely be curtailed. As vacancies subsequently occurred, advantage was taken by the Public Service Board of the powers contained in section 72 to recommend the reappointment of many of those whose services had been previously dispensed with.

- (25.) Adult Suffrage Bill:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that South Australia, New Zealand, and Western Australia have adopted adult suffrage, that the Legislative Assembly of Victoria has passed an Adult Suffrage Bill, and that the Premier of Queensland has given a definite promise to introduce an Adult Suffrage Bill in that Colony at once, will he say definitely when he will introduce a Bill to confer the franchise upon the women of New South Wales, so that this, the Mother Colony, may not be altogether behind the neighbouring Colonies in this most important reform?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is impossible to state the exact date, as that must depend upon the progress of other measures; but the Bill will be introduced this Session.

- (26.) Painting of Public Buildings by Day-labour:—Mr. Neild asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it intended that the painting of the large public buildings shall be executed by contract or by day-labour?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the necessary plant for the execution of the work by day-labour is in the hands of the Government Architect's Department?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) This has not yet been decided, but I will determine the matter so soon as funds have been provided for the purpose.
- (2.) There is sufficient plant available to carry out existing works, but if it be determined to execute all the painting required by day labour further plant will have to be procured.

- (27.) Amendment of Civil Service Act, 1884, and Public Service Act, 1895:—Mr. Kidd asked the Attorney-General,—Is it his intention to redeem his promise to bring in a Bill to amend the Civil Service Act of 1884 and the Public Service Act of 1895, for the purpose of enabling retired Public Servants, as well as those who may be retired, with broken periods of service, to claim gratuity or pension on account of service rendered prior to break, as was done in the cases of some Public Servants who had been retired before the opinion was given against such practice by the then Attorney-General, Mr. Want?

Mr. Wood answered,—My honorable colleague proposes to introduce an amending Public Service Bill this Session which will contain a provision dealing with this matter.

- (28.) Wharf, Woolloomooloo Bay:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) On what date was the question of erecting a new wharf in Woolloomooloo Bay referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?
- (2.) On what date was the inquiry begun, and on what date was it closed?
- (3.) On what date was the report of the Committee presented to this House?
- (4.) The total number of witnesses examined at the inquiry, and the average number at each meeting?
- (5.) The reason for the prolongation of the inquiry?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) 22nd December, 1899.
- (2.) The inquiry was opened on 19th January, 1900, and closed on 27th April, 1900, but no evidence was taken after the 2nd February, 1900.
- (3.) 12th June, 1900, the date of the opening of the present Session.
- (4.) Thirteen witnesses; on an average, two witnesses were examined at each meeting.
- (5.) The inquiry was not unduly prolonged. The taking of evidence was concluded on 2nd February, 1900, but as a report could not be presented to Parliament until the opening of the Session (12th June, 1900), the consideration of the report was postponed, and the consideration of other works proceeded with.

- (29.) Governor of New South Wales:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has any communication been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies regarding the present or future Governor of New South Wales after the Commonwealth of Australia is established; and, if so, when is it intended to present to this House a copy of such communication, together with the reply thereto, and the correspondence arising thereon?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A communication was received sometime since; but it is of a confidential nature?

- (30.) Evidence of Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—After all the witnesses have been examined on a proposed public work by the Public Works Committee, what is the course of procedure followed by that body before the report is ready for presentation to this House?

Mr.

25th July, 1900.

Mr. See answered,—At the close of the evidence in an inquiry notice is given that on a future day, the day being stated in the notice, the evidence shall be considered by the Committee with a view to reporting on the subject of the inquiry to the Legislative Assembly; and the evidence having been considered accordingly, a resolution is adopted that it is expedient or, as the case may be, inexpedient that the proposed work be carried out. The report is then framed on the basis of that resolution, and subsequently submitted to the Committee, by whom the clauses are considered *seriatim*. After the report is adopted, the Chairman is authorised to sign it for presentation to the Legislative Assembly.

- (31.) Bulli and Kogarah Companies of the 8th Regiment:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) How many of the members of the Bulli and Kogarah Companies of the 8th Regiment have been supplied with uniforms?
 - (2.) What contractor supplied the uniforms?
 - (3.) What was the contract price of each uniform?
 - (4.) Of what articles do the uniform consist?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) 141 suits of uniform have been supplied to date.
- (2.) Mr. C. Anderson, 30, Oxford-street.
- (3.) £2 11s. 9d.
- (4.) Field-service jacket, field-service trousers, field-service hat, field-service cap.

- (32.) Lieutenants James and Saunders, Kogarah Company, 8th Regiment:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it not true that Lieutenants James and Saunders, of the Kogarah Company of the 8th Regiment—Irish Rifles—have openly quarrelled before the men at drill?
- (2.) Is it not true that one or both of these lieutenants have asked the police to take the other in charge for using violent or offensive language?
- (3.) Have not the quarrels of these two lieutenants been frequently referred to in the local papers?
- (4.) Will he take steps to terminate the scandal caused by the misconduct of these two lieutenants?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1 and 2.) No report to this effect has been received.
- (3.) Not aware of any reference having been made in local papers regarding these officers.
- (4.) No misconduct on the part of these officers has been reported.

- (33.) Machinists' Assistants, Government Printing Office:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that there are men employed in the Government Printing Office, classed as machinists' assistants, who have been working there during the past four years, and yet are only receiving wages at the rate of £1 per week?
- (2.) If so, are not these men performing skilled labour for which 7s. per day is the usual rate of pay?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) There is only one machine assistant with four years' service who is paid at the rate of £1 per week, viz., Robert Myles, aged 22; entered the office 30th October, 1893, as fced boy, at 2s. per diem, subsequently increased to 20s. per week in his present position on 22nd February, 1897; recommended on 21st May last for an increase of 5s. per week, to date from 1st January of this year—not yet approved.
- (2.) No.

- (34.) Placemen in Parliament:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the leading article on "Placemen in Parliament," that was printed in the *Sydney Daily Telegraph* last week, so that it may be in the possession of every Honorable Member when considering a proposal to amend the law on the subject?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I hardly think it is necessary to lay a copy of the article referred to upon the Table, as the newspapers are filed in the House for the convenience of Honorable Members.

- (35.) Inquiry by Local Land Boards:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that considerable dissatisfaction exists amongst the numerous applicants for homestead selections, &c., at the inquisitorial method of inquiry adopted by Land Boards?
- (2.) Have any specific instructions been issued by his Department to the various Land Boards as to the mode of inquiry, or as to the questions they ask applicants in public court as to their financial positions?
- (3.) If so, will he lay a copy of such upon the Table of the House?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) I am not aware that considerable dissatisfaction exists; but probably some dissatisfaction does exist. It should not, however, be overlooked that those who object to inquiry are sometimes those in connection with whom inquiry is most expedient. Applications from about 300 persons were recently successfully dealt with by the Wagga Wagga Land Board, and, judging from articles in the *Wagga Wagga Advertiser* of the 23rd and 30th of last month, the new arrangements were accepted as much in advance of the previous ballot system. A communication was made to the Chairman of the Land Board in connection with this matter, and I have had a copy made of his reply for the Honorable Member's perusal.

(2 and 3.)

25th July, 1900.

(2 and 3.) No. The Department would not have been warranted in directing the Land Boards; but, with a view to some uniformity of action, it was arranged that as many of the Chairmen as possible should meet together in the Department, and exchange views before the new regulations were introduced. The following resolutions were adopted by the Conference, and all Chairmen placed in possession of them:—1. That the primary object is to place upon the land the applicant most qualified to use the land to the best advantage. 2. The person able to proceed with the conversion of the land into a state of productiveness shall be considered more eligible than one who cannot. 3. That other qualifications being equal, the applicant who does not possess pastoral or agricultural lands shall have priority over an applicant who possesses pastoral or agricultural lands. 4. Applicants who have made conditional purchases or conditional leases, and have disposed themselves of the same, shall be generally considered less eligible than applicants who have not done so. 5. That, being equal in other respects, the claims of applicants who are married, and especially those who have families, shall be deemed more eligible. 6. That unmarried women be considered less eligible than male persons or widows. 7. An applicant who, having been successful at a former ballot, subsequently withdraws his application, to be deemed less eligible. 8. An applicant whose previous application was disallowed, because the Board was not satisfied with the *bona fides*, to be deemed less eligible. 9. An alien who declares his intention to become a naturalized British subject shall be considered less eligible than a British born or naturalized applicant. 10. Youths and aged persons, as well as those least physically capable of using the land, should be considered less eligible than more capable persons.

(36.) J. Harrison's Contract for Railway Sleepers:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Did a person named J. Harrison obtain a contract for the supply of sleepers for the Dubbo-Coonamble railway line?
- (2.) If so, is Harrison's contract completed, and the money paid over?
- (3.) Is it true that the Government has deposited £1,250 at the Bank of New South Wales to the credit of the contractor; and is it true that a letter, addressed to Harrison (presumably notifying him to this effect), is lying unclaimed at Dubbo Post Office?
- (4.) Is he aware that J. Harrison is identical with a person named W. Handover; and has he any knowledge that Handover belongs to the firm of Ewers and Handover?
- (5.) Is it true that a number of sleeper-getters complain that they cannot get a settlement of their wages for labour done from this firm?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The contract has been completed, and the final voucher was sent to the Treasury for payment on 22nd June.
- (3.) £1,250 have been paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank, Dubbo. I am not aware of any letter addressed to J. Harrison lying unclaimed at Dubbo Post Office.
- (4.) I am not aware that Harrison is identical with W. Handover, but I believe W. Handover belongs to the firm of Ewers and Handover.
- (5.) Statements to that effect were made to me by a deputation of sleeper-getters, and I at once informed them that if they would organise themselves into a society and appoint a representative I would give them contracts which would make them independent of the middle-men.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Dick presented a Petition from Richard Morrison Bowles, Chairman, and J. Downey, Secretary, of the Ministers' Association of Newcastle, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petition received.

3. SUNDAY TRADING:—Mr. Dick presented a Petition from certain members and adherents of Hunter-street Presbyterian Church, Newcastle, praying that the laws with regard to the observance of the Sabbath be enforced, and more stringent legislation passed, if necessary, to cope with the existing evils and minimise the danger to the rising generation.
Petition received.

4. FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Norton presented a Petition from certain licensed fishermen and oystermen of Coogee, Waverley, Rushcutter's Bay, and Randwick, stating that the law under which Petitioners pursue their calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds, in the Petition set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
Petition received.

5. PAPERS:—Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Minute by the Chairman of the Wagga Wagga Land Board respecting the applications for the Sandy Creek Homestead Selections.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return showing annual cost of maintenance and total earnings of Gaols of the Colony.
- (2.) Return respecting the Professional Staff, Lands and Works Departments.
- (3.) Extract from a memorandum communicated to the Premier of New South Wales, after the Conference with the Colonial Premiers assembled in London in July, 1897, respecting clause 75 of the Draft Australian Commonwealth Bill, Adelaide, 1897.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the Fire Brigades Board, Sydney, for the year 1899.
- (2.) By-laws of the Borough of Jamberoo.
- (3.) Reply of the Hospital Committee to the Official Report on the Management of the Molong Hospital.
- (4.) List of Subscribers to the Molong Hospital during the year 1899.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

25th July, 1900.

6. MINES ENGINEERS HOURS REGULATION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Edden, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Edden then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to regulate the hours of labour for Hoisting-Engineers in the Colony of New South Wales.*"

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 regulate the hours of labour for Hoisting-Engineers in the Colony of New South Wales,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th July, 1900.*

7. PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS UNDER EARLY CLOSING ACT (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The number of prosecutions and convictions that have taken place up to the present date under the Early Closing Act.

(2.) The clauses under which the respective prosecutions and convictions took place.

(3.) The amount of fines inflicted in each case respectively, distinguishing defended from undefended cases.

(4.) The number of inspectors (male and female) appointed under the Early Closing Act in Sydney and suburbs and in country districts, and the amount of salary paid to each respectively.

Question put and passed.

8. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday, 2nd October:—

(1.) Medical Practitioners Amendment Bill; second reading.

(2.) Fire Insurance Policies Bill; second reading.

(3.) Licensed Tied Houses Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill dealing with principles of freedom of trade and contract in respect of bonds taken by brewers over the licensees of public-houses.

9. STANFORD COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 54.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable Samuel Clift, of East Maitland, in the Colony of New South Wales, Henry John Adams, of Oxford Downs, in the Colony of Queensland, and Henry Trenchard, of Sydney, in the said Colony of New South Wales, to construct a railway from the Heddon and Stanford Greta Coal-mines to a line constructed by the East Greta Coal-mining Company (Limited), under the provisions of the Silkestone Coal-mine Railway Act of 1889 and the Silkestone Coal-mine Railway Act Amending 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 forwarded to the proper Officer for enrolment, in the manner required by law.

Government House,

Sydney, 25th July, 1900.

10. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—

(1.) Sir William Lyne moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity that the House should forthwith consider the expediency of equipping and despatching a Military Force for service with the Imperial Army in China.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing and Sessional Orders be suspended as would preclude the consideration and passing, without Notice, of a resolution respecting the expediency of equipping and despatching a Military Force for service with the Imperial Army in China.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 59.

Mr. Reid,	Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Piddington,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Hassall,
Mr. See,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Samuel Smith,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Dight,	Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Quinn,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Garland,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. F. M. Clark,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. W. W. Young,	
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Nielsen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Cunn,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Reynolds,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Austin Chapman.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. J. H. Young,	
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	

Noes, 5.

Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. Wright.
Tellers,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Miller.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

11.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th July, 1900.

11. **MILITARY FORCE FOR SERVICE IN CHINA:**—Sir William Lyne moved, "That" this House is of opinion that New South Wales should equip and despatch a Military Force for service with the Imperial Army in China.

Mr. Carruthers moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the first word "That" and inserting the words "whilst loyally in sympathy and accord with the action of " the Imperial Authorities in protecting Imperial interests in China with the Naval and Military " Forces of the Empire, this House is of opinion that, at the present juncture, no emergency has " arisen to warrant the despatch of any portion of the Forces of this Colony to China."—instead thereof.

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

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 26 JULY, 1900, A.M.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and passed.
Original Question put,—That this House is of opinion that New South Wales should equip and despatch a Military Force for service with the Imperial Army in China.

The House divided.

Ayes, 56.

Mr. Wise,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Law,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. See,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Wilson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Dight,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Samuel Smith,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Garland,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Wood,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Sawers,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Ferguson,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Barnes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Richards,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Meagher.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Sleath,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Cann,	

Noes, 7

Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Henry Chapman.

Tellers,

Mr. Miller,
Mr. Haynes

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

12. **COBAR TO WILCANNIA RAILWAY BILL:**—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 sanction the construction of a line of railway from Cobar to Wilcannia, to authorise the transfer of certain Crown lands revenue to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

13. **POSTPONEMENTS:**—

- (1.) The remaining Government Business on the Paper, until To-morrow.
(2.) The Order of the Day of General Business for the third reading of the Municipalities Act of 1897 Amending Bill, until To-morrow.

14. **ART UNIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, *passed.*

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to Amend the Art Unions Act of 1850.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Art Unions Act of 1850.*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th July, 1900, a.m.

15. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at seventeen minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 21.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 26 JULY, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Reduction of certain Salaries under the Constitution Act:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) On what date were the salaries solemnly secured by the Constitution Act, as a consideration for the grant of self-government to the Colony, to the holders of certain Ministerial offices and to the Auditor-General reduced?

(2.) Was such reduction made by Orders-in-Council; and, if so, are the reduced salaries still being paid?

(3.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of all minutes, reports, and other papers relating to this interference with the Constitution Act by Executive Authority?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1 and 2.) Some years back, when the salaries of all public officers in receipt of over £200 per annum were reduced by 10 per cent. of the amount in excess of £200 per annum, the Ministry of the day agreed to their own salaries being similarly treated, the reductions taking effect as from 1st January, 1893. The salaries of subsequent Ministries have been paid at the reduced rates.

(3.) No papers having reference to the agreement arrived at by the Ministry in power in 1893 to accept reduced salaries can be traced; but a copy of a minute raising the question of the rates of Ministerial salaries when the next Government (that formed by Mr.—afterwards the Right Honorable—G. H. Reid) came into office will be laid upon the Table presently.

- (2.) Scheme for Coastal Defence by Major-General French:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Macdonald, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any sum been paid by either the late or the present Government to Major-General French on account of his scheme for coastal defence?

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

(3.) Was the sum charged against the Consolidated Revenue Fund or against the Loan Vote?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No.

(2 and 3.) Answered by No. 1.

- (3.) Lee-Enfield Rifles:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Macdonald, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is approximately the number of Lee-Enfield rifles and carbines now in the Colony?

(2.) How many of these have been issued to the Defence Force?

(3.) What is approximately the number of rounds of .303 ball cartridges now in the Colony?

Mr. See answered,—It is not usual to answer Questions of this description; but in this particular case I have no objection to do so:—

(1.) 5,949.

(2.) Practically all.

(3.) 3,452,389, exclusive of what is in charge of regiments.

- (4.) South Bulli Arbitration Case:—*Mr. Nicholson* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Having in view the recent award given by Judge Murray in the South Bulli arbitration case, does he intend to submit section 38 of the Coal-mines Regulation Act to counsel for interpretation?

(2.) If not, what course does he intend to pursue?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Judge Murray's finding is only the opinion of an arbitrator, and is therefore not binding in law, so far as the weighing clause of the Coal-mines Act is concerned. The matter will, however, be submitted to the legal advisers of the Crown as to whether they agree with Judge Murray's interpretation of the clause.

26th July, 1900.

- (5.) Funeral Trains to Sutherland Cemetery:—Mr. Nicholson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Why do the Railway Commissioners refuse to allow funeral trains to run directly into the General Cemetery at Sutherland?
 (2.) Was not this siding constructed for the express purpose of running funeral corteges into the cemetery?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the Railway Commissioners have not refused to allow funeral trains to run into the Sutherland Cemetery. The initiation of the train service has been waiting the completion of the siding and necessary building. It was arranged yesterday for the train service to come into operation at once.

- (6.) Site of the Federal Capital:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) If the opinion be sustained that the Federal Executive must transact Federal business, prior to the opening of the Parliament in Melbourne, "at the seat of Government, distant not less than 100 miles from Sydney," does he propose to ask the New South Wales Parliament, upon the completion of Mr. Oliver's report, to recommend to the Federal Executive a site for such seat of Government?
 (2.) If so, and should the nomination be a Government measure, will he consider the advisableness of arriving at a selection by an exhaustive ballot?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I intend to refer Mr. Oliver's report, when received, to Parliament, but I cannot, until I receive the report, say what course the Government will ask Parliament to take.

- (7.) Erection of Dwellings, New South Head Road:—Mr. Edden asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 In view of the fact that the Public Health Act gives power to prevent the erection of dwellings upon insanitary areas, will the Government take steps to delay the proposed erection of dwellings upon certain ground alongside the New South Head Road, near Double Bay, which was formerly a Chinaman's garden, and which is practically a swamp, until the land in question has been properly drained and prepared for building purposes?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Building on the land referred to has been prevented, in accordance with the Public Health Act, by a proclamation dated 24th November, 1899, except under compliance with conditions which, in the opinion of the Board of Health, will render such building unobjectionable.

- (8.) Shipment of Coal at Newcastle:—Mr. Dick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) What was the total number of tons of coal shipped at Newcastle during the last five years?
 (2.) What was the total net profit which accrued to the Railway Department thereon?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that the coal shipped at Newcastle and amounts received by the Railway Commissioners for the past five years were:—

						Tons.	Freight.
1895	...	...	...	...	...	1,948,653	£85,292
1896	...	...	...	...	...	1,899,107	78,824
1897	...	...	...	...	...	2,352,563	98,627
1898	...	...	...	...	...	2,375,959	101,683
1899	...	...	...	...	...	2,520,126	110,734

Railway accounts are not prepared to show separately the loss or profit on each description of goods carried, but it may be pointed out the average amount per ton received for the carriage of the coal was 10d., and as this covers the cost of terminals and shipment, as well as running full and empty an average of 17 miles, the rates ruling must be considered to be most reasonable, and they compare most favourably with rates under similar conditions in England, where the circumstances such as the volume of traffic, cost of handling, &c., would appear to warrant lower rates. A substantial reduction was made in the Newcastle District operating from the beginning of the present year, the reductions during the past ten years equalling over £20,000 per annum on the present business.

- (9.) Rifle Range at Forbes:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Reymond, asked the Colonial Secretary,—When will the Rifle Range at Forbes be ready for use?

Mr. See answered,—It cannot at present be stated. The Military authorities have been communicating with officers concerned in the matter.

- (10.) Men Employed on Relief Works:—Mr. Ewing asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) What is the number of men employed on relief works in the Colony?
 (2.) Upon what works are they employed?
 (3.) How many registered at the Bureau are awaiting employment?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—This information can be prepared in the form of a return, and laid upon the Table of the House, if moved for in the usual way. In the meantime I may say that the unemployed are only engaged on useful, substantial, and durable work.

- (11.) Employees on the Pymont Bridge:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Samuel Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the employees on the Pymont Bridge are required to work seventy hours per week for four weeks, and eighty-four hours per week for two weeks?
 (2.) Will he make such arrangements for the employment of extra workmen so that the maximum number of hours of any employee on the bridge shall not exceed sixty hours per week on the night or day shift?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) Four of the men employed on the Pymont Bridge are on day-duty sixty hours a week for four weeks, and two of them are required alternately with the other two to open the bridge on Sunday if necessary. As few openings occur on Sundays, seventy hours a week are rarely worked
 by

26th July, 1900.

by any of the men. When on night-duty, for two weeks out of every six, the men are in readiness to open the bridge from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., or eighty-four hours per week, but they are not called upon to work, their duties at night being more of the nature of watchmen. These men are allowed a fortnight's holiday on full pay yearly.

(2.) I regret that, for the reasons stated in answer to No. 1, this will not be practicable with the men now employed, but I promise the Honorable Member to make inquiries with a view of ascertaining whether additional hands cannot be engaged, so as to reduce the number of hours these men are required to be in attendance.

(12.) Citizens Vigilance Committee:—Sir Matthew Harris asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he granted cash assistance to the Citizens Vigilance Committee?

(2.) Has he paid or is he at present paying inspectors to be employed by this body?

(3.) What powers have these inspectors?

(4.) If Government-paid inspectors are being employed, will he please supply the name of each male and female, and the remuneration received by each?

(5.) Is the Citizens Vigilance Committee allowed to have its printing done at the Government Printing Office free of cost, or at less than usual rates; if so, what is the value of the work that has been done for them?

(6.) Was a telephone furnished to this Committee free of cost?

(7.) Was the Citizens Vigilance Committee allowed to send telegrams or letters through Post Office channels free of cost?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) They act entirely under the direction of the Citizens Vigilance Committee, and are employed to verify and report on complaints made by different citizens to the Committee before such complaints are sent on to the proper authorities to be dealt with.

(4.) The male inspector is Mr. James S. Bray; the female inspector is Mrs. Hawley-Wilson. They are paid 10s. per day and train fares, and are giving every satisfaction.

(5.) Yes; but every item has to be approved by me, and such printing has been chiefly confined to official forms and envelopes. Other printing, such as bills, circulars, &c., is not done at the Government Printing Office, nor paid for by the Government. The total cost of the work executed at the Government Printing Office for the Committee to date, including material, is £87 0s. 2d.

(6.) Yes.

(7.) Yes; on official business only.

(13.) Differential Railway Rates:—Mr. Bruncker asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that in a table of goods rates recently established by the Railway Commissioners differential charges have been made which promise to seriously prejudice the business interests of consignors of goods from Newcastle to the Northern interior?

(2.) What is the difference in the cost of carriage per truck-load of 6 tons of general goods to stations on the Northern line north of Newcastle in favour of Sydney, as compared with a similar consignment from Newcastle?

(3.) If it is ascertained that the rates are unequal in their incidence, will he take steps to ensure a readjustment on such a basis that consignors from Sydney and Newcastle will be placed on comparatively equal terms?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the attention of the Railway Commissioners has been drawn to the fact that the rates referred to operate unevenly in certain localities, and pending further consideration of the question—the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce having asked the Commissioners to see them on the subject—the Commissioners have given directions that the rates should for the present be inoperative.

(14.) Electoral Registrars:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Electoral Registrars, who are also Postmasters, have been directed to revise the Electoral Rolls by removing the names of persons who have left their districts?

(2.) Is not such revision an arduous duty, and is it considered possible for the Postmasters in question to satisfactorily discharge the work?

(3.) Are Electoral Registrars, who are also Postmasters, receiving any remuneration for acting in the former capacity?

(4.) If so, what is allowed to them?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Chief Electoral Officer:—

(1.) Electoral Registrars, who are also Postmasters, have been instructed to mark on the General Lists for the year 1900 the names of all persons whom they are aware have permanently removed from their districts, in order that such names may be objected to at the yearly Revision Courts. The information obtainable in the course of their duties as Postmasters will greatly facilitate this work.

(2.) Deputy Electoral Registrars, who are Postmasters, have also been instructed to mark the lists for the Divisions for which they act in a similar manner; and as in the majority of cases there are a number of Divisions in each Electoral District, the work will be distributed. The work cannot, therefore, generally be considered of an arduous character.

(3 and 4.) As the work forms part of the duties of Electoral Registrars under the present Act, the payment of any additional remuneration is not contemplated in connection therewith.

(15.) The First Australian Horse:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Nielsen, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

In view of the fact that numerous applications have been sent in for the establishment of squadrons of the First Australian Horse, will he consider the advisability of increasing the strength of that regiment to 1,000?

Mr. See answered,—The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces reports as follows:—Such a strength for one mounted regiment would be excessive, and is not recommended.

26th July, 1900.

- (16.) Police Officer, King and Elizabeth Streets :—Mr. Meagher asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the police officer on duty at the tram corner, King and Elizabeth Streets, is compelled to practically stand at that spot from 5 o'clock in the afternoon till 2 o'clock next morning?
 - (2.) Will he make arrangements for an hour off for dinner, as has been customary for many years, or make some provision for such officer having his meals?
- Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police :—
- (1.) His hours of duty are eight, the same as those of other constables, *i.e.*, from 6 p.m. to 2 a.m. The men on day and night duty are changed occasionally.
 - (2.) Police on night beats have their meal before going on duty ; some take food to eat during their tour of duty.
- (17.) Officers of the Taxation Department :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he place upon the Table a return showing what officers of the Taxation Department have worked overtime since the 1st January, 1900, showing the dates on which the respective officers have worked and the amount of remuneration paid to each officer in respect of such overtime service?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—A return will be laid upon the Table as soon as the information has been prepared.
- (18.) Australian Agricultural Company's Estate :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to give effect to the promise made by him last Session of Parliament to the following effect, *viz.*, that during this Session of Parliament he would either introduce a measure dealing with the proposed resumption of the Australian Agricultural Company's Estate, or, failing that, that he would give the Honorable Member for Gloucester an opportunity of dealing with the question this Session?
 - (2.) If so, when will he give effect to his promise?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will give me a reference to the promise to which he refers.
- (19.) Death of John Lombard, at Armidale Railway Station :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In regard to the promise given last evening by him to the Honorable Member for Tamworth, that he would cause an inquiry to be made into the circumstances surrounding the death of John Lombard on the premises of the Armidale Railway Station, on the night of Tuesday, 17th instant, will he also cause inquiries to be made as to why fellow-passengers of the deceased, including three students of the Armidale Proprietary School and an official of the Armidale Survey Office, who had been travelling in the same compartment with the deceased for some time, were not called, and their evidence taken at the inquest?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes.
- (20.) Release of Murray Prior :—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Murray Prior, who was sentenced in June, 1898, for seduction and abduction, to three years' imprisonment, was released from prison on Saturday last, after serving two years of that term?
 - (2.) Is he aware that this man, Murray Prior, during his incarceration, was punished by having his sentence increased for conspiring with and bribing the gaol warders to convey letters out of gaol from him to the girl McDonald, for seducing and abducting whom he was imprisoned?
- Mr. Wood answered,—
- (1.) Yes, after serving his sentence, less remissions as provided for by regulations.
 - (2.) The prisoner's sentence was not increased. He lost two days of his remission for misconduct.
- (21.) Colonel Spalding :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Colonel Spalding, formerly Resident Magistrate of Norfolk Island, who was compelled to resign that position owing to official and personal irregularities, is still allowed to remain on the island?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that he has been given a free grant or free lease of 25 acres of the land on Norfolk Island, which he had appropriated to his own use during his tenure of the office which he was compelled to resign?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—As Norfolk Island matters have not for some considerable time past been dealt with in the Lands Department, I have to refer the Honorable Member to my honorable colleague the Premier and Colonial Treasurer.
- (22.) Legislation on Invalid and Old-Age Pensions :—*Mr. Cann*, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Attorney-General,—Will he communicate to the House his opinion as to,—
- (1.) Whether the Parliament of New South Wales will have power to legislate on the subject of Invalid and Old-age Pensions after the establishment of the Commonwealth?
 - (2.) What matters are within the "exclusive" power of the Federal Parliament?
- Mr. Wood* answered,—It has never been the custom of the Attorney-General to give legal opinions on Questions asked in the House, but, as the Federal Constitution involves several novel points, my honorable colleague has decided to depart from this rule in this case only :—
- (1.) Yes, so far as the law of the State is not in conflict with the law passed by the Commonwealth.
 - (2.) Those matters which by the Constitution are declared to be within the exclusive power of the Commonwealth.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th July, 1900.

(23.) Appointment of Deputy Governor-General:—Mr. Norton asked the Attorney-General,—Will he communicate to the House his opinion on the following:—

(1.) Assuming that section 125 of the Commonwealth of Australia Act applies to the temporary as well as the permanent seat of Government, does not section 4 of the Act enable the Governor-General, in any part of the Commonwealth, to perform the duties of his office?

(2.) Assuming that Sydney is selected as the temporary seat of the Federal Government, and that the Federal Parliament is in Session in Melbourne, does not section 126 of the Act enable the Governor-General, at Sydney, to appoint a deputy to exercise, at Melbourne, the powers and functions of His Excellency?

Mr. Wood answered,—My honorable and learned colleague refers the Honorable Member to his reply to Question No. 22:—

(1.) He does not think that section 4 has the effect suggested by the Honorable Member.

(2.) It is impossible to say until the Governor-General's instructions have been issued.

(24.) Amendment of the Constitution Act:—Mr. Norton asked the Attorney-General,—Will he communicate to the House his opinion on the following:—

(1.) Is the right of amending the Constitution of either the Legislative Council or the Assembly or of both Houses vested in the Parliament of New South Wales, provided that the amending Bill shall be reserved for the Queen's assent?

(2.) If so, would it be necessary to pass a constitutional amendment before it would be lawful for this Parliament to consider, much less to pass, a Bill to remodel the Constitution of either or both of the Houses thereof?

Mr. Wood answered,—My honorable and learned colleague refers the Honorable Member to his reply to Question No. 22:—

(1.) Yes; but it is not necessary to reserve all Bills.

(2.) No.

2. CONDITIONAL PURCHASE OF GEORGE HUMPHRIES COWLED:—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 3rd July, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Sixth Report from the Printing Committee.

4. PAPERS:—Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Report of Military Authorities regarding Equipment of the Contingents sent to South Africa.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Memorandum by the Treasury Examiner, dated 23rd August, 1894, respecting Ministerial Salaries.

(2.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended 30th June, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Despatch respecting Extradition of Fugitive Criminals.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Sir William Lyne 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 1900-1901, 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.

6. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council,—

(1.) Forfeiture of Leases Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act for granting relief against forfeiture of leases and for otherwise amending the law as to property*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th July, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.

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

(2.) Interest on Judgments Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the law with respect to the rate of interest on verdicts and judgments in the Supreme Court*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th July, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

26th July, 1900.

7. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898. Question put and passed.
8. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, 27 JULY, 1900, A.M.

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 there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £2,207,000: being £1,051,000 to defray the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the months of July and August, or following month of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, to be expended at the rates which have been sanctioned for the financial year ended 30th June, 1900, subject to the rate of any reduction that may hereafter be made in the expenditure of the year 1900-1901.

For Services of the year 1900-1901—£570,000 for Public Works and Services: being £500,000 for Roads and Bridges; £20,000 for Harbours and Rivers; £30,000 for Dredge Service; and £20,000 for Government Architect.

For Treasurer's Advance Account, £60,000, the whole amount to be adjusted not later than the 30th June, 1902.

And in anticipation of Loan Votes—

For Public Works—£50,000, for Railway Construction—Dubbo to Coonamble Railway.

For Railways, £250,000: being £100,000 towards Additions to Railway Lines, Stations, Buildings, Workshops, and for other purposes, including Safety Appliances and Grain Sheds, and £150,000 for Rolling Stock to meet Additional Traffic and Equipment of New Lines.

And for Tramways £226,000 towards additions to Power House, Steam and Electrical Machinery, and provision of Sub-electrical Stations, Overhead Wiring, Feeders, Rail Bonding, Additional Cars and Car-sheds, &c.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

9. WAYS AND MEANS.—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 1900-1901, the sum of £2,207,000 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

10. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 2):—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 1900-1901, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

(2.) Sir William Lyne 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 1900-1901, 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 Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

(4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne 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 1900-1901, 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 1900-1901, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan*,"—presents the same, to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 27th July, 1900, a.m.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th July, 1900.

11. COBAR TO WILCANNIA RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 sanction the construction of a line of railway from Cobar to Wilcannia, to authorise the transfer of certain Crown lands revenue to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 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 Cobar to Wilcannia; to authorise the transfer of certain Crown lands revenue to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Cobar to Wilcannia; to authorise to transfer of certain Crown lands revenue to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

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

12. CASINO TO LISMORE RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 sanction the construction of a line of railway from Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on 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 Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

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

13. POSTPONEMENTS:—

(1.) The remaining Government Business on the Paper, until Tuesday next.

(2.) Orders of the Day Nos. 1 to 4 of General Business, until Tuesday next.

14. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT:—Mr. Sleath moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the general administration of the Military Department and despatch of troops to South Africa.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Piddington, Mr. Hurley, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Cook, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Garland, Mr. See, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at ten minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 22.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 31 JULY, 1900.

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

ELECTORATE OF CANTERBURY:—Mr. Speaker reported that the Writ issued by him on the 18th instant for the election of a Member to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the Electoral District for Canterbury, in room of the Honorable Sydney Smith, whose election had been declared by the Committee of Elections and Qualifications to have been wholly void, had been duly returned, with a certificate endorsed thereon of the election of Thomas Whitford Taylor, Esquire, to serve as such Member.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) **Country Female School Teachers:**—*Mr. Brunker*, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Having regard to the danger that female teachers are often exposed to through being placed in schools in sparsely-populated districts, as evidenced by the recent case of indecent assault, and the more terrible murder of Miss Kerz at Gilgandra, will he confer with the officers of his Department with the view of seeing that, as far as possible, male teachers are sent to these districts, thus saving the risk to female teachers?

Mr. Wood answered—My honorable colleague will confer with his officers upon the matter.

(2.) **Colonial Stocks Investment Bill:**—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any despatch by mail or cable been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies relative to the enactment of a Colonial Stocks Investment Bill by the Imperial Parliament?

(2.) If so, what reply (if any) was made on behalf of the Government of New South Wales?

(3.) Have the despatches yet been laid before Parliament; and, if not, will he kindly submit a copy of them to this House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) A cable despatch has been received.

(2.) No reply was made pending receipt of the despatch by mail.

(3.) No, not yet laid before Parliament, as the matter is in abeyance.

(3.) **Companies Death Duties Act:**—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Have any despatches by mail or cable been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies relative to any provision in the Companies Death Duties Act of New South Wales?

(2.) If so, when is it intended to submit to this House a copy of these despatches and other representations to the Government on the subject?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes, one was received a few days ago.

(2.) As soon as the Government has had an opportunity of considering the representations made.

(4.) **Glebe Island Improvements:**—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) On what date was the question of cutting down Glebe Island, reclaiming land, and erecting wharfs referred by this House last Session to the Public Works Committee?

(2.) On what date was the inquiry begun; and on what date was it closed?

(3.) On what date was the report of the Committee presented to this House?

(4.) The number of witnesses examined during the inquiry, and the average number examined at each meeting?

(5.) The reason for the prolongation of the inquiry?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) 28th November, 1899.

(2.) The inquiry was opened on 13th December, 1899, and closed on 27th April, 1900; but no evidence was taken after the 31st January, 1900.

(3.)

31st July, 1900.

- (3.) 12th June, 1900, the date of the opening of the present Session.
 (4.) Twenty-eight witnesses; from one to three being examined at each meeting.
 (5.) The inquiry was not prolonged. The taking of evidence was concluded on 31st January, 1900; but, as the report could not be presented to Parliament until the opening of the Session (12th June, 1900), its consideration was postponed, and the consideration of other works proceeded with.

(5.) Fees Paid to Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The total sum paid for fees and allowances to the members of the various Public Works Committees to date?
 (2.) The total cost of all work done at the Government Printing Office for and in connection with the various Public Works Committees to the last date to which it has been computed?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.
 (2.) From the commencing period—27th August, 1888, to the 30th June, 1900—£13,380 2s. 9d.

(6.) Telephone Bureau:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Will he lay upon the Table copies of the Report of and Minutes of Evidence taken by the Board of Inquiry into the Telephone Bureau?
 (2.) Who were the tenderers for the present switchboard, and was the lowest tender accepted; if not, for what reason?
 (3.) Is it a fact that the contractor has only had his so-called "expert" and a message boy employed in fitting up the new switchboard, and that the work has been done by the fitters of the Department nominally in their overtime?
 (4.) Were the Department's fitters paid for this work by the contractor or by the Department?
 (5.) Is it true that no proper tests were made by officers of the Department before bringing the new switchboard into use?
 (6.) Is it a fact that operators were instructed to neglect the "engaged test," because the new board would not work properly?
 (7.) Is it true that, upon taking the new board into use, no tests were made as to the voltage required to restore the drop-shutter, and for other purposes, until such tests were made by members of the Board of Inquiry, and that the battery power provided was quite insufficient?
 (8.) (a) How many of the recommendations of the Inquiry Board have been already adopted; and (b) were any of these recommendations declared by officers of the Department to be impossible?
 (9.) Is it true that the Department are selling instruments to private individuals in competition with local traders, and attempting to undersell them?

Mr. Crick answered,—I must ask the Honorable Member to move for this information in the shape of a return.

(7.) S.S. "Moorabool" and s.s. "Undaunted":—Mr. Samuel Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the s.s. "Moorabool" and s.s. "Undaunted" left the port of Newcastle with their load-lines submerged?
 (2.) Is it a fact that the Marine Board authorities contemplate prosecuting the owners and captains of the abovenamed steamers for having arrived in Port Adelaide without the amount of freeboard required by the Merchant Shipping and South Australian Acts?
 (3.) Will he instruct the Customs Officers to refrain from issuing clearance papers to all vessels leaving our ports until they (the Customs Officers) receive an intimation from the Navigation Departmental Officers that the requirements of the Shipping and Navigation Acts have been complied with?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) The Deputy Superintendent of Navigation at Newcastle reports that s.s. "Moorabool" and "Undaunted" did not leave Newcastle with their load-lines submerged.
 (2.) The Superintendent of Navigation has no information upon this point.
 (3.) The Customs authorities are of opinion that the adoption of the course suggested by the Honorable Member would dislocate the trade of the port very considerably.

(8.) Military Forces:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are any steps being taken to place the Military Forces of New South Wales on a more satisfactory footing?
 (2.) If yes, would he be good enough to state the nature of the proposal?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter has not yet engaged the attention of the Government.

(9.) Australian Cattle Landed in South Africa:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is the Government aware that nearly 50 per cent. of cattle landed in South Africa from Queensland and New South Wales have been found diseased?
 (2.) Is the Government aware that these cattle were certified as being sound and healthy by stock inspectors?
 (3.) Is the Government aware that the authorities in South Africa have boycotted the Queensland and New South Wales cattle from being sent to Africa?
 (4.) Will the Government appoint competent veterinary surgeons to examine cattle leaving our shores, as a guarantee that they are in a sound and healthy condition?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1 and 2.) The Honorable Member has been misinformed, so far as this Colony is concerned. No cattle whatever, which were certified by an inspector of stock as sound and healthy, have been shipped from New South Wales, and found on being landed in South Africa to be diseased.

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

31st July, 1900.

(3.) I am not aware that the authorities in South Africa have boycotted New South Wales cattle, but, on the contrary, the Government of Natal and the Chartered Company of Rhodesia are making inquiry as to the price at which cattle can be bought, and the cost of freight, with a view to purchasing in this Colony.

(4.) The present system of inspection is practical and effective, and there is no good reason why any change should be made.

(10.) Post and Telegraph Messengers:—Mr. Cohen asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that messengers at the Post and Telegraph Department have no time set apart for luncheon; if so, will he see that they are allowed at least half an hour a day?

(2.) Are there any lockers provided where the lads may safely leave their overcoats when not in use?

(3.) What holidays do those lads receive?

(4.) Are they required to work on Sunday?

(5.) Is it not possible to arrange for some of them to be off duty every afternoon, so that each may have a half-holiday a week?

Mr. Crick answered,—Presuming Telegraph messengers are referred to, the replies are as follows:—

(1.) They have ample time between their runs to eat their lunches.

(2.) Not at present, as during the temporary alterations in the building there is no room available. In fitting up the new Despatch Branch this has been arranged for.

(3.) Two weeks annually.

(4.) Some of them are, for which they are allowed a day in lieu.

(5.) No. Their work is of a comparatively light nature, and it would mean a very heavy increase in the staff, which is not justifiable.

(11.) Salaries of Unclassified Public School Teachers:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it proposed to increase the salaries of unclassified Public School teachers of the lower grades?

(2.) If so, will he see that a similar step is taken in regard to the case of many of the duly qualified 3rd class teachers who have been in receipt of lower salaries than those associated with the certificates which they have gained by examination?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The matter will receive consideration.

(12.) Public Works Committee Meetings *in Camera*:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact, as reported in the *Daily Telegraph* of 14th July, that the Public Works Committee on the previous day "dealt *in camera* with the report on the Central Railway Station and Administrative Offices in Devonshire-street, Sydney"?

(2.) If so, was it not done in violation of the provision in section 7 of the Public Works Act that "such Committee shall sit in open court"?

(3.) Is an attendance fee payable in respect of any meeting held *in camera*, absolutely or virtually?

(4.) How often has the present Public Works Committee sat absolutely *in camera*, or virtually with closed doors?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) The report on the Central Railway Station and Administration Offices, Devonshire-street, was considered by the Committee privately.

(2.) The practice of sitting with closed doors when considering a report to the Legislative Assembly on any proposed work, or the General Report to the Governor, has existed from the time of the appointment of the first Committee in 1888, and is in accordance with the practice of Select Committees. The Committee are enjoined by the Act to report to the Legislative Assembly, and the reports are regarded as confidential until laid before Parliament. Sitting "in open court" is considered by the Committee to refer to sittings when witnesses are under examination.

(3.) An attendance fee is payable under the Public Works (Committees' Remuneration) Act, and the Public Works Acts Further Amendment Act of 1897.

(4.) On the occasions when a report, or the evidence upon which it is based, has been under consideration.

(13.) Regulations under Public Works Act:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has the present Public Works Committee framed any regulations in terms of section 17 of the Public Works Act?

(2.) If so, on what date were such regulations gazetted and laid before this House?

(3.) If not, why not?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) Gazetted 6th June, 1893. Laid upon the Table of the Legislative Assembly and ordered to be printed 7th June, 1893.

(14.) Attendance Fees Paid to Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The amount of the attendance fee now paid to the members of the Public Works Committee?

(2.) Under what authority is such amount being paid by the Treasury and approved by the Auditor-General?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Chairman, £3 3s.; other members, £2 2s.

(2.) The Public Works (Committees' Remuneration) Act of 1880, 53 Vic. No. 11, and the Public Works Acts Further Amendment Act of 1897, 61 Vic. No. 6.

(15.)

31st July, 1900.

- (15.) Regulations under Public Works Act:—Mr. Norton asked the Attorney-General,—Are regulations framed by the Governor, on the recommendation of one Public Works Committee, under section 17 of the Public Works Act, lawfully applicable to a Public Works Committee appointed in a later Parliament?

Mr. Wood answered,—My honourable colleague states:—I mentioned in answering a Question last Thursday that the Crown Law Officers did not advise on legal questions except at the request of a Government Department; and, though I departed from this rule under the special circumstances then mentioned, I must now adhere to the old practice, departure from which is calculated to cause inconvenience.

- (16.) Tramway Lines Construction:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) What lines of tramway has he authorised the construction of since his accession to office?
 (2.) The estimated cost of each?
 (3.) Which of them (if any) had the Railway Commissioners reported favourably on as regards the probability of their being remunerative investments?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1 and 2.) Spit Road tramway, £15,940; Kensington and Rifle Range tramway, £13,000; Rose Bay to Dover Road tramway, £7,345; St. Peters to Cook's River tramway, £16,350; *George-street North to Dawes Point tramway, £18,000; *Balmain to Drummoyne tramway, £12,000; *Enfield to Mortlake tramway, £17,000; Newcastle-Adamstown tramway, £6,000; Newcastle-Waratah tramway, £5,700; *Broken Hill tramways, £18,000.

* The construction of these lines has not yet been commenced.

(3.) Spit Road—The Commissioners in November, 1897, reported against the proposal; Kensington—The Commissioners recommended the proposal in January, 1898; Dover Road—The Commissioners in July, 1899, reported favourably on certain conditions as to provision of park and land; St. Peters to Cook's River—The Commissioners in January, 1899, recommended the construction; Dawes Point Extension—On the 16th March, 1899, the Commissioners reported in favour of the extension; Balmain to Drummoyne—No report received; Enfield to Mortlake—On the 3rd August, 1899, the Commissioners reported against the proposal; Newcastle tramways to Adamstown and Waratah—On the 4th May, 1899, the Commissioners recommended that the matter be allowed to stand over until rolling stock became available; Broken Hill tramways—No report has been received.

- (17.) Allowances to Road Superintendents:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
 (1.) What fees or travelling allowance (if any) do road superintendents in country districts receive?
 (2.) Will he lay upon the Table a list of road superintendents, and the amount of travelling allowance each received respectively during the last two years?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) No fees. A daily allowance when absent from headquarters. In the the Western Districts, 12s. 6d.; Eastern Districts, 10s. Equipment allowance from £125 to £175 per annum, according to Districts.

(2.) Yes, if moved for in the usual way.

3. EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. McGowen presented a Petition from certain residents of Sydney and Suburbs, representing that, whilst under the Early Closing Act all shop-keepers are compelled to reduce the hours of labour, those employed in confectioners', fruiterers', and tobacconists' shops have to work on Sundays; and praying that in the Early Closing Act Amendment Bill provision may be made to compel such shops to close on the Sabbath Day.
 Petition received.
4. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL:—Mr. Lees presented a Petition from certain employers of labour in all the principal branches of industry in this Colony, praying that the House may be pleased to refrain from passing the Industrial Arbitration Bill into law at the present juncture, or taking any steps to change the law relating to industrial conditions until the whole question can be remitted to the Federal Parliament for consideration.
 Petition received.
5. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named,—
 (1.) By Mr. See—From certain residents of Grafton.
 (2.) By Mr. Dacey—From certain residents of Botany and North Botany.
 (3.) By Mr. Lees—From certain residents of St. Mary's and District.
 Petitions received.
6. FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Norton presented two Petitions, from certain licensed fishermen and oyster-men of Richmond River and Shoalhaven River, stating that the law under which Petitioners pursue their calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds in the Petitions set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
 Petitions received.
7. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, 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 Central Railway Station and Administrative Offices, Devonshire-street.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

31st July, 1900.

8. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Consolidated Revenue Fund Bill (No. 2):—

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 1900-1901, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 31st July, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

(2.) Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to abolish Attachment of Wages,*" 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, 31st July, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

ATTACHMENT OF WAGES ABOLITION BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 31st July, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, Title. Omit "abolish" insert "limit the"
Page 1, clause 1, line 5. Before "No" insert "After the commencement of this Act"
Page 1, clause 1, lines 6 and 7. Omit "whose wages or salary are at the rate of three pounds per week or under"
Page 1, clause 1, line 8. After "Magistrate" insert "in any case where such wage or salary does not exceed the rate of two pounds per week"
Page 1, clause 1, lines 8 and 9. Omit "the wages or salary of any servant or employee are" insert "such wage or salary is"
Page 1, clause 1, line 9. Omit "three" insert "two"
Page 1, clause 2, line 14. Omit "Abolition Act, 1898" insert "Limitation Act, 1900"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

(3.) Metropolitan Traffic Bill:—

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 traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; to repeal certain Acts; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those 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, 31st July, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 31st July, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 3, clause 6, line 15. Omit "Chief" insert "Colonial"
Page 3, clause 6, line 25. After "Act" insert "1899"
Page 3, clause 6, line 30. After "1899" omit remainder of clause.
Page 6, clause 9, line 23. After "or" insert "a"
Page 6, clause 11, line 32. After "force" insert "in the execution of his duty under this Act or the Regulations"
Page 7, clause 15, line 20. After "may" insert "at any time between sunrise and sunset"
Page 7, clause 15, line 22. After "equipment" omit remainder of clause.
Page 7, clause 16, line 25. Omit "inspector-general of police" insert "superintendent"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

9. PAPER:—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Public Accounts, together with the Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, &c. (appointed 2nd April, 1900). Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

31st July, 1900.

10. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** (*Railway from Gundagai to Tumut—Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the line of Railway from Gundagai to Tumut, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.
Question put and passed.
11. **EXCHANGES UNDER THE CROWN LANDS ACT**:—Mr. Hayes moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, no exchange of land, under the 47th section of the Crown Lands Act, should "be" agreed to, unless for other lands on the holding, and in no case for lands outside unless adjoining or in the immediate vicinity of the nearest town.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Moore moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be" and inserting the words "entertained—except in very special cases—pending an amendment of the law on the subject, which this House deems to be urgently necessary,"—instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate continued.
Mr. Thomas Brown moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Motion for the adjournment of the Debate, by leave, withdrawn.
Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
Original Question, by leave, withdrawn.
12. **MEMBER SWORN**:—Thomas Whitford Taylor, 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 Canterbury.
13. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
The House adjourned accordingly, at fourteen minutes before Twelve o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 23.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 1 AUGUST, 1900.

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

DEATH OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SAXE COBURG AND GOTHA:—Sir William Lyne informed the House that the sad news of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe Coburg and Gotha had reached this Colony; and, *by consent*, moved without Notice,—

- (1.) That in view of the intelligence just received of the decease of His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, second son of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen, the following Address of Condolence with Her Majesty be adopted:—

TO THE QUEEN'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—

We, Your Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, in Parliament assembled, having heard with unfeigned sorrow of the decease of Your Majesty's son, His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe Coburg and Gotha, desire humbly to approach Your Majesty with an expression of our heartfelt sympathy, and the hope that the Almighty may, in His omnipotence, enable you fittingly to bear your great affliction.

- (2.) That His Excellency the Governor be requested to forward the above Address to Her Majesty.

And the motion, having been seconded by Mr. Reid, was put and carried unanimously.

2. [ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.]

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 59.

Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Carroll,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Wise,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. See,	Mr. Dight,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Smith,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Lees,	Mr. Reid,
Mr. Brunner,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Garland,	Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Wood,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Dick.]
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Wilson,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. McGowen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Richards,	Mr. Wright,	Mr. Macdonald.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Nobbs,	
Mr. Archer,	Mr. Howarth,	

Noes, 7.

Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Dacey.

Tellers,

Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Thomas

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 24.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 2 AUGUST, 1900.

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

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 2).—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 55.

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 1900-1901, 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, 1900.

2. PAPER:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copy of a Minute of His Excellency the Governor and Executive Council authorising the transfer of amounts from the Votes "Marine Board, Sydney"; "Local Marine Board, Newcastle"; "Harbour Masters"; "Colonial Lighthouses"; "Sea and River Pilots"; "Boatmen"; and "Telegraph Stations," respectively, to supplement the Vote "Marine Board of New South Wales—Miscellaneous."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Inquiry on the Extension of the Railway into the City:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—In the inquiry on the extension of the railway into the city, how many days were severally occupied by the Public Works Committee on—(a) a motion to close the inquiry and to proceed to consider the evidence; (b) the resolution for considering the evidence; (c) a motion that it is expedient or inexpedient to carry out the work; (d) the clauses of the draft report; (e) a motion to adopt the report?

Mr. See answered,—(a and b) A motion to consider the evidence taken in an inquiry is generally taken as a formal one, but in this case, with a view to arriving at a general agreement as to the points in the evidence necessary to be considered before coming to a decision, the evidence in the two inquiries—that relating to the proposed extension of the railway into the city of Sydney, and that respecting the proposed Central Railway Station, Devonshire-street—was informally discussed, the discussion occupying the most of one sitting; (c) most of one sitting; (d) three sittings, and a small portion of a fourth; (e) the motion for the adoption of the report was a formal one.

(2.) Reform of the Constitution:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the fact that the Government of South Australia are promoting a Bill to provide for the selection of a State Convention by the electors, to be invested with the power of remodelling the Constitution of the two Houses of the State Parliament?

(2.) Has he considered whether it would be necessary to get an Enabling Act from the Imperial Parliament to enable the Legislature of New South Wales to pass a measure for that purpose?

(3.) Has he decided yet to adopt the constitutional course of inviting the Legislature to consider a Bill for the reform of the Constitution of each House of the Legislature, if in the opinion of the Government any such reform is necessary?

(4.) Has he obtained any opinions yet from the Attorney-General on these questions?

Sir

2nd August, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I have seen statements in the newspapers to that effect.
- (2.) I do not favour the adoption of such a course for making what changes may be found necessary in the Legislative Houses of the State.
- (3.) The matter will be considered.
- (4.) No, not specially.

(3.) Unclaimed Moneys in Banks:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that there is no law in New South Wales compelling banks to hand over unclaimed balances to the heirs of the late depositor, or, in the event of such heirs not being known, to the State, or even to reveal the existence of such balances?
- (2.) Is it not the custom under such circumstances for the banks to retain possession of such balances?
- (3.) Is it possible to secure particulars as to the total amount of moneys so held by the several banks doing business in the Colony?
- (4.) Is he favourable to the proposal that legislation should be enacted for the purpose of compelling banks to hand over to the State from year to year moneys so remaining unclaimed, the State on its part guaranteeing to make payment in the event of persons proving their title at any subsequent period?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes; there is no such law.
- (2.) Certainly, until claimed by the legal representatives of deceased persons.
- (3.) This information can only be supplied by the banks; but I believe the amount involved is small, and principally represents moneys unclaimed since the fifties, when the settlement of the country was not so far advanced and travelling facilities were not so safe as at present.
- (4.) There is no such law in the United Kingdom or the United States of America, and although there is an Act of the kind referred to both in New Zealand and in South Australia, and, I believe, in Victoria as well, yet I do not feel disposed to bring forward a similar measure in this Colony at the present time, in view of the facts that—first, the banks, notwithstanding the Statute of Limitations, recognise all claims which may be satisfactorily established; and, second, it is probable that the Federal Government will seize an early opportunity to take power to bring forward a uniform and up-to-date banking law for Australia.

(4.) Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) On how many days in July, 1900, did the Public Works Committee hold a meeting in Sydney?
- (2.) The total sum payable by law by the Treasury in respect of such meetings?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) Twenty-two.
- (2.) £310 16s.

(5.) Public Works Committee:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Referring to the inquiry by the Public Works Committee on the extension of the railway into the city, were the witnesses examined by the Chairman in conformity with subclause (d) of section 10 of the Public Works Act?
- (2.) If not, how many questions were asked by each member of the Committee other than the Chairman for the time being; and how many questions in all were asked at the inquiry?
- (3.) The reason for non-compliance (if any) with the provision in section 10 defining the powers of the Committee?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1 and 3.) The witnesses were examined in conformity with what the Committee believe to be the meaning of the subclause referred to, and with the custom of previous Committees, the Chairman practically controlling the examination by himself questioning the witnesses, or inviting other members of the Committee to do so.
- (2.) This information is given in the Committee's report upon the extension of the railway into the city of Sydney.

(6.) Navigation (Amendment) Act:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of all documents relating to the giving of the Royal assent to the Navigation (Amendment) Bill?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I will peruse the papers, and see whether there is any objection to the course suggested by the Honorable Member being adopted.

(7.) Compilers of Historical Records:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will he lay the return upon the Table, promised by the Colonial Secretary on the 24th October last, in reference to the Questions asked respecting the Historical Records?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is anticipated that this return, the preparation of which has involved considerable labour, will be ready by the 15th instant.

(8.) Postmasters acting as Electoral Registrars:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that Postmasters who are also Electoral Registrars are compelled to remain at work, after the Post Offices close at 8 p.m., until midnight, revising the Electoral Rolls?
- (2.) Is he aware that this is of frequent occurrence?
- (3.) Is he aware that members of the Postal Staff are frequently required to remain also and assist the Postmasters?
- (4.) Is he aware that some of these unfortunate Postmasters have informed the Chief Electoral Officer that they are unable to perform these extra duties?
- (5.) Is he aware that it is impossible for these Postmasters to deal with electoral work during the ordinary hours of the Postal Department without seriously neglecting their duties therein?

(6.)

2nd August, 1900.

(6.) Do Postmasters employed as Electoral Registrars receive any remuneration for acting in the latter capacity?

(7.) How is it that some Postmasters are saddled with electoral registry work, while others are not?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Chief Electoral Officer:—

(1.) A number of Electoral Registrars, who are also Postmasters, have reported that the work of preparing the General List from the butts of electors' rights (the first so prepared under the Act) has necessitated their working overtime for several nights.

(2.) No; the General List is only made out once a year, namely, during the week ending the first day of August.

(3.) No; but Assistant Postmasters are in some electorates acting as Deputy Registrars.

(4.) In one instance a Registrar communicated by telephone that he would be unable to prepare the List as required by the Act without assistance. He was asked to forward a report on the matter, but has not yet done so.

(5.) The work of Electoral Registrars will, during the remainder of the current year, be heavier than usual owing to the provisions of the Act relating to the renewal of electors' rights by stamping having to be given effect to.

(6.) Yes; the salary received being for the combined duties which these officers are required to carry out.

(7.) The Electoral Act provides for the appointment of one Registrar for each electorate, and one Deputy Registrar for each division thereof. Clerks of Petty Sessions are appointed in many districts.

(9.) Employees in Institutions for the Insane:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Dr. Sinclair, Inspector-General of Insane, recently called the attendants, nurses, &c., of the various institutions together, and forbade them to take any part whatever in the doings of the Public Service Association?

(2.) If so, will he give instructions to have this restriction at once removed?

(3.) Will he also see that the attendants, nurses, &c., in the various institutions for the insane are placed under the control of the Public Service Board?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of the Insane:—

(1 and 2.) This is not the case; no exception has been taken to members of the staff joining the Association.

(3.) The Public Service and Lunacy Acts prevent this action being taken.

(10.) Site for Hospital for Infectious Fevers:—Dr. Graham asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it true that plans and specifications were prepared some years ago and a site selected for the erection of a hospital for the reception and treatment of patients suffering from infectious fevers?

(2.) Are any practical steps being taken to furnish the community with so necessary an institution?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) I have directed that a sum of money be placed on the draft Loan Estimates for an Infectious Diseases Hospital for Sydney, and one for Newcastle.

(11.) Site for Drill-shed:—Dr. Graham asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it true that a portion of Phillip Park, to the extent of 1 acre, is to be set apart for the erection of a drill-shed?

(2.) Have the Military authorities considered whether the Exhibition Building, at Prince Alfred Park, which is nearly always empty, is or is not well suited for such a purpose?

(3.) Will he see that so important an open space in the locality of Woolloomooloo is not filched away from the people when many less important places are available?

Mr. See answered,—

(1 and 3.) The matter is still under consideration.

(2.) The Military authorities were unsuccessful in their endeavours to get this building.

(12.) Police Employed in connection with Breelong Murders:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—Do the members of the Police Force who have been called away on special duties, in consequence of the recent atrocious murders that have occurred in the interior, receive any extra pay or allowance; if so, how much?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that the fixed travelling allowance is 5s. per diem, and exceptional expenditure would be specially considered.

(13.) Hand-books on Rudiments of Agricultural Chemistry, &c.:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) In order to popularise and foster the development of a taste for the occupation of farming, dairying, &c., in the rising generation, will he see that steps are taken to have a cheap and suitable hand-book printed of the Rudiments of Agricultural Chemistry, to be taught in the higher Public Schools throughout the Colony?

(2.) Also a similar text or hand book on Animal Physiology, Sanitation, and Public Health?

(3.) Also a similar text or hand book on the outlines or Rudiments of Botany?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) A text-book upon Australian agriculture, embracing agricultural chemistry, is already in the hands of teachers.

(2 and 3.) There are so many useful hand-books upon these subjects that the publication of special hand-books is not deemed necessary. Systematic instruction in the subjects mentioned is given in Public Schools.

2nd August, 1900.

- (14.) Appointment of a Commercial Agent in London :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Referring to the published remarks of the Agent-General on the appointment of a Commercial Agent, was not the eligibility of the present occupant for the office largely based on his practical commercial knowledge?
 - (2.) Is it not a fact that, upon the consummation of Federation, the appointment of an Agent-General for Australia will follow as a matter of course?
 - (3.) When such a position is filled, is it not compulsory that the status of the present Agent-General will be reduced to that of a Commercial Agent?
 - (4.) Is it the intention of the Government, when introducing a Bill to reduce the Governor's salary, to provide for a similar reduction in that of the Agent-General?
 - (5.) In the meantime, will the Government issue instructions for some member of the Agent-General's staff to interview visitors, with the view of securing the Agent-General sufficient time to devote to the commercial requirements of New South Wales?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) No, this was only one factor in causing his selection?
 - (2.) It is probable that the Federal Government will be represented in London by a High Commissioner?
 - (3.) Not altogether.
 - (4.) Not necessarily.
 - (5.) The Agent-General is the proper person to decide whether he will give a portion of his time to interviews.
- (15.) Chainmen and others employed in Surveyors' Camps :—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Secretary for Lands,—With reference to a Question asked some time back concerning the wages paid to chainmen and others engaged in surveyors' camps,—
- (1.) Has any increase been made?
 - (2.) If not, what is the reason for not increasing the wages?
 - (3.) What is the present wage paid to chainmen employed by surveyors?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that these men are struck off the pay-sheet during the time the surveyor is away on his annual leave?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1, 2, and 3.) I have to explain that chainmen and labourers are not Government employees, but are engaged and paid by the surveyors whose expenses are subsequently defrayed by the Department. The maximum wages are 6s. per diem for chainmen, and 5s. per diem for labourers; and, as seven instead of six days per week are paid for, it has generally been understood that their receipts about equal the wages paid by some other Departments.
 - (4.) The Department cannot pay for labourers whose services are not required, but when a surveyor is on leave he is granted the necessary labour to keep his camp and equipment in order.
- (16.) Penny-postage System :—Mr. Affleck asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Was a motion passed by this House on the 11th August, 1896, viz., that the present postal radius of 13 miles was inequitable, and that it should be abolished for a penny-postage system all over the Colony?
 - (2.) Did he, on the 31st October, 1899, in reply to a Question by the Honorable Member for Bingera, state that he was not in favour of the motion adopted by the House, as the revenue would lose about £60,000?
 - (3.) Is he in favour of continuing the extension of this 13-mile radius for a penny postage?
 - (4.) What is the qualification for an office to secure this 13-mile penny-postage concession?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) What I stated in regard to the Question referred to was as follows :—"I will give this matter further consideration, but in view of the large loss of revenue, amounting to about £60,000, as far as I am able to see, I am not favourable to carrying out the Honorable Member's desire."
 - (3 and 4.) Only by considering each case submitted on its merits.
- (17.) Delivery of "Chain Letters" :—Mr. Neild, for Mr. Carruthers, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) How many letters, approximately, are lying in the General Post Office, or any local Post Office, in connection with the chain letter, and addressed to Miss Griffin?
 - (2.) What is the postage due (if any) on these letters?
 - (3.) Have any of the accumulations of letters been sold to any person; if so, to whom, and for what price?
 - (4.) Is there any objection to the St. George Hospital authorities obtaining possession of these letters, and upon what terms?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1.) Forty-six.
 - (2.) 8s. 4½d.
 - (3.) No.
 - (4.) No objection, provided that the necessary authority be obtained from the addressee, and that the deficient postage be paid.
- (18.) Stock Inspectors and the Superannuation Fund :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Were stock inspectors compelled to accede to a deduction of 4 per cent. from their salaries since 1884 to the Superannuation Fund under the Civil Service Act, which the late Attorney-General Want ruled was illegal, and recommended a discontinuance of and a refund of the amounts deducted without interest?
 - (2.) Will the necessary steps be taken to pay to such officers the same rate of interest on such deductions and refunds as is paid by the Government for moneys deposited with them by any other section of the public since the refunds referred to were made in 1893?
 - (3.) As these officers are appointed by the Governor and Executive Council, on the recommendations of the Minister, will he take the necessary steps to establish their proper status in the Service?

Mr.

2nd August, 1900.

Mr. Orick answered,—

- (1.) Yes, except that no mention was made of interest.
- (2.) I would refer the Honorable Member to a reply made to a similar Question on the 22nd November, 1898, in which it was stated that it was not the intention to pay interest on the amount refunded.
- (3.) As the late Attorney-General advised that these officers do not come within the provisions of the Public Service Act, they reverted to their previous status, and there is no intention to make any alteration in their present positions.

(19.) Navigation Department Regulations :—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Navigation Department's regulation *re* spreading of safety-nets under gangways is still in force; if so, has any one in authority given instructions that the above regulation should not be enforced?
- (2.) Do any regulations of the Wharfs Department conflict with the regulations of the Navigation Department; if so, will he have such regulations harmonised?
- (3.) Is it a fact that a fireman named Robert Martin lost his life by falling overboard from the s.s. "Colac" owing to the absence of safety-nets?
- (4.) Does he intend to have the Navigation Department Regulations strictly enforced?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The regulations of the Department of Navigation *re* spreading of safety-nets under gangways is still in force. During the plague epidemic it was, however, found necessary to suspend its operation, in order that a regulation made at the instance of the Department of Public Health, prohibiting the use of nets between ships and wharfs, for the purpose of preventing rats and other vermin finding their way to or from vessels, might be carried into effect. This regulation having served the purpose intended, instructions for its immediate rescission will be given, so that the regulations of the Department of Navigation can be enforced.

(20.) Hay District Reappraisal Cases :—Mr. Byrne asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) When does he intend dealing with the Hay District reappraisal cases?
- (2.) Will the appraiser for the settlers be appointed by the Minister or by the Local Land Board?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) I have already decided to have the work of appraisal pushed on. The only difficulty is in connection with appraisers; but I hope the necessary arrangements will be made in a few days, so far as the Hay Land District is concerned. I may mention that about 130 applications have been received for this district, while in other adjoining districts they are comparatively few, viz.: Balranald, 33; Deniliquin, 4; Hillston, 15; Narrandera, 10; and Wentworth, 13.

(2.) The Honorable Member will notice that the Act of 1899 provides that the appraisements shall be made under the provisions of section 6 of the Act of 1889. This means that the Land Board must deal with the matter in open court on evidence, and that both the applicant and the Crown will have to appear, or be represented before the Land Board as in ordinary cases where the rents or values of Crown lands or improvements are under consideration. Any appraisers appointed by the Minister will not, therefore, be appointed on the settlers' behalf.

(21.) Allowances to Country Railway Employees :—Mr. Byrne asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he extend the provisions of the allowance for extra cost of living to railway employees as is allowed to other Departments of the Public Service?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is understood the Honorable Member refers to an extra allowance to Public Servants living in remote districts. I have referred this matter to the Railway Commissioners, who point out that railway employees are more favourably situated than Public Servants generally. The railway brings them in closer touch with trading centres, and they are allowed privileges which do not apply to Civil Servants.

(22.) Purchase of the Walmer Estate for the purpose of Closer Settlement :—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is he aware that the Victorian Government has provisionally purchased the Walmer estate of 13,769 acres at 65s. per acre, and purpose dividing the same into blocks of 350 acres each for closer settlement?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Neither my honorable colleague the Secretary for Lands nor myself have any information upon the subject.

(23.) Military Officials contributing to the Press :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has he observed that Major-General French is reported to have become a contributor to the *London Times*?
- (2.) Has he any objection to other officers under his Ministerial direction contributing to the British and Australian Press articles on military and civil subjects?

Mr. See answered,—Major-General French has written one letter to the *London Times*, over his own signature, with reference to War Reserves for Colonies generally, and without any special reference to this Colony in particular.

(24.) Executive Functions of the Governor-General :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has he obtained an opinion yet from the Attorney-General on the question of the legality of the Governor-General and his Ministers of State at any time discharging executive functions outside New South Wales; and, if so, will he lay the opinion upon the Table of this House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—No; I cannot say when I will lay it upon the Table of the House.

(25.) Salaries of certain Officers under the Constitution Act :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are the Auditor-General and certain Ministers of the Crown now receiving the salaries appropriated to their respective offices by the terms of the Constitution Act?
- (2.) If not, why not?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes, with the exception of the Honorable the Colonial Secretary. The salary attached to the office of Colonial Secretary was, in common with the emoluments of other Ministers, reduced in 1893 by the then Administration.

2nd August, 1900.

- (26.) Delay in Printing Parliamentary Papers:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—The reasons for the delay in the printing of the papers ordered to be printed for the information of the Members of both Houses of Parliament?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Government Printer reports that, with the exception of two large Departmental reports—Agriculture and Public Instruction—only recently received from the House for printing, there have been no inquiries for documents not already in type. If the Honorable Member will state what particular ones he is interested in, an effort will be made to meet his requirements.

- (27.) Officers of the Commonwealth Government:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) What steps are being taken by the Government to secure that officers of the Customs, Post and Telegraph, and other transferable Departments shall be given a status in the service of the Commonwealth Government equal to that of officers now performing similar duties in the other federating Colonies?

(2.) Has that question been considered in preparing the rough draft of the Estimates of Expenditure?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Constitution Act gives the Federal Government absolute control over the officers of the Departments referred to as soon as they have become transferred to the Commonwealth. Their services may be retained or dispensed with, as may be found necessary; but the men have secured to them the present and accruing rights in regard to pensions or retiring allowances which they now enjoy under the laws of New South Wales. It is not necessary to take such action as the Honorable Member indicates. Speaking generally, it is, I believe, a fact that the Public Servants of New South Wales are paid at higher rates than those in the other Colonies; and Federation will probably mean either a levelling-up of the salaries of the officers transferred from the Service of the other States, or a levelling-down of the salaries of those transferred by New South Wales.

(2.) No.

- (28.) Employees of the Post and Telegraph Department:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Victorian Railway authorities issue to employees of the Post and Telegraph Department there on leave a pass to travel at excursion rates during such leave?

(2.) In view of the early inauguration of Federation, will he confer with the Railway Commissioners, and take steps to place the employees of our own Postal and Telegraph Department upon the same footing as those in Victoria?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am not aware that any special privileges are given on the Victorian railways to the postal employees of that colony.

(2.) I will be glad to refer the matter to the Railway Commissioners; but it would appear to be invidious to grant privileges to one Department of the Public Service which cannot be extended to them all.

- (29.) Naval Forces of the Colony:—Mr. Dick asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the fact that the numbers of the Naval Forces of the Colony have been greatly reduced by the sending of a Naval Contingent to China, and that their military equipment has also from the same cause been rendered entirely inadequate, will he make provision on the forthcoming Estimates for—

(1) increasing the local strength of the Forces both at Sydney and Newcastle; (2) fully equipping the Force with modern weapons?

Mr. See answered,—This matter will receive due consideration.

- (30.) Erection of a Bridge at Goolagong:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he yet received any report, or arrived at any decision, in regard to the erection of a bridge at Goolagong, on the Lachlan River; if so, will he state what that decision is, or lay a copy of the report upon the Table of this House?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Yes, a report has been received upon this application; but the papers were forwarded to the local officer, on the 27th ultimo, for further information to be furnished before a decision can be arrived at.

- (31.) Amendment of the Mining on Private Property Act:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Mines,—Does he propose during the present Session to introduce a Bill to amend the Mining on Private Property Bill, to enable persons to mine for other minerals than gold?

Mr. Crick answered,—Yes; and a notice is on the Business Paper asking leave to reintroduce the measure at the stage it had reached when interrupted by the close of Parliament last Session.

- (32.) Carcoar to Flyer's Creek Road:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Referring to expenditure on Carcoar to Flyer's Creek Road during last financial year, and his answer to Questions *re* this matter in the House lately, is he aware that the local residents declare that no such amount of money as was stated has been spent on this road, and that he has been quite misled on the matter?

(2.) Will he demand from the local officer a satisfactory explanation of the matter?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) I am aware that there has been correspondence lately about the expenditure on this road, but I have not been misled on the matter, although I admit the explanations are rather indefinite.

(2.) Yes.

(33.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd August, 1900.

(33.) Free Postage to Members of the Water and Sewerage Department:—Mr. Haynes asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that free postage has been extended to members of the Water and Sewerage Department?

(2.) If so, by whose authority, and to what extent?

Mr. Crick answered,—The Water and Sewerage Board, being a public Department, is entitled to use "O.H.M.S." envelopes for official documents.

(34.) Site for Governor-General's Residence:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the statements that the Government are seeking a site for the Governor-General's residence in New South Wales, will he consider the fact that North Sydney and district is acknowledged as the residential city of Sydney, and secure a site at Cremorne Point, or in some other advantageous position there for such residence?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Governor-General will, in all probability, reside at the present Government House.

(35.) Post and Telegraph Master at Laurieton:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Post and Telegraph Master at Laurieton is engaged in the business of a saw-mill and store proprietor in the district?

(2.) Have representations been made by a gentleman, employed in a similar business, that he has to employ a special telegraphic code to protect him in his business?

(3.) Has a request been made to remove this Post and Telegraph Master to another district, allowing him to retain his business interests; and, if so, what objection has he to comply with such request?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) No. The whole facts of the case having been submitted to the Crown Solicitor, that officer's opinion—which is endorsed by the Attorney-General—is that the official named has not infringed the 64th section of the Public Service Act, which provides that no public officer shall engage in any other business.

(2.) No; but an unsigned statement was presented to me by the Honorable Member to the effect that, as the Postmaster had an interest in the saw-mill, it was undesirable that he, as Telegraph Master, should have the means of becoming acquainted with the business of other saw-mill proprietors.

(3.) Yes; I am now considering this question.

(36.) Naval Contingent for China:—Mr. Holman asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many members of the Naval Contingent were members of the Naval Brigade at the time of volunteering?

(2.) How many of them, not members of the Naval Brigade, described themselves as having Royal Naval Reserve experience?

(3.) What steps (if any) were taken to test these descriptions?

(4.) Is it a fact that, of the list of officers now under consideration by the Cabinet, only five have volunteered personally?

(5.) Will the Government assure the House that no pressure shall be placed on any officer to induce him to volunteer?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) 101 men of the Naval Contingent were either members of the Naval Brigade or had served therein. Fifty-six men of the Naval Contingent were either members of the Naval Volunteer Artillery or had served therein.

(2.) Twenty-two—either ex-Royal Navy or Royal Naval Reserve.

(3.) The production of books and discharges.

(4.) No.

(5.) Yes.

4. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. E. M. Clark—From George Lane, Chairman, and Margaret Greenwood, Secretary of a public meeting held at North Sydney, under the auspices of the Women's Christian Temperance Union.

(2.) By Mr. Gillies—From certain residents of West Maitland.

Petitions received.

5. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL:—Mr. Cann presented a Petition from certain residents of the Barrier Electorates of Brcken Hill, Sturt, and Alma, praying the House to pass into law, with the least possible delay, the Industrial Arbitration Bill.

Petition received.

6. PAPERS:—

Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulations under the Electric Telegraph Act.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return to an Order, made on 5th July, 1900,—“Compensation in connection with Plague Outbreak.”

(2.) Return respecting Officers of the Taxation Department.

(3.) Report of the Board of Health for the year 1898.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

2nd August, 1900.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Extract from Report of Comptroller-General of Prisons, and Report of Deputy-Comptroller, respecting certain statements made by Mr. Gillies, M.P., in the Legislative Assembly on 18th July, 1900, *re* Gaol at East Maitland.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for a Pumping Station in connection with the Annandale Low-Level Drainage.

(2.) By-laws in connection with the Forbes Water Supply.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Seventh Report from the Printing Committee.
8. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments in the Attachment of Wages Abolition Bill, postponed until Tuesday next.
9. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Wise, "That this Bill be now read a second time, — And the Question being again proposed,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
Mr. Reid moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.
10. METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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, 3 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. See, 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 make better provision for the regulation of traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; to repeal certain Acts; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 3rd August, 1900, a.m.

11. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—
- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898.
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 Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
12. COBAR TO WILCANNIA RAILWAY 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 and passed.
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 the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd August, 1900.

13. CASINO TO LISMORE RAILWAY 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 and passed.
 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 the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
14. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—
 (1.) *Railway from Broken Hill to Menindie*:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Broken Hill to Menindie.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) *Railway from Carlingford to Dural*:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Carlingford to Dural.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
15. POSTPONEMENTS:—
 (1.) The remaining Orders of the Day of Government Business, until Tuesday next.
 (2.) The remaining Orders of the Day of General Business, until Tuesday next.
16. CLAIM BY MESSRS. MADDISON AND EWING, CONTRACTORS:—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon a claim for law costs in connection with Contract No. 127, Sewerage Construction Branch of the Public Works Department, by Messrs. Maddison and Ewing, contractors.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Garland, Dr. Graham, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Rigg, Mr. W. W. Davis, Mr. F. Clarke, and the Mover.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
17. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 The House adjourned accordingly, at two minutes before Three o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



Act South Wales.

No. 25.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 7 AUGUST, 1900.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Interest on Judgments Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 56.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the law with respect to the rate of interest on verdicts and judgments in the Supreme Court*,"—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, 3rd August, 1900.

- (2.) Art Unions Act Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 57.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Art Unions Act of 1850*,"—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, 3rd August, 1900.

2. MINES INSPECTION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Fegan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
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 make better provision for the regulation and inspection of mines other than coal and shale mines; to regulate the treatment of the products of such mines; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 2nd August, 1900.

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

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) The First Australian Horse:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the fact that there has been a number of applications from the country districts for the establishment of squadrons of the First Australian Horse, that the men from that regiment have proved their efficiency and worth in South Africa, and that they are the least costly of the mounted troops to maintain, will he consider the advisability of establishing an additional regiment of that arm of the Service?

Mr. See answered,—A sum of money will be placed upon the Estimates for this purpose.

(2.)

7th August, 1900.

(2.) Road through James Ashcroft's Macquarie Fields Estate:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that in or about the year 1894 an application was made to the then Minister for Public Works to cause to be resumed certain land for the purpose of opening and making a road through James Ashcroft's Macquarie Fields Estate, from the Glenfield Station to the Liverpool-Campbelltown Road, at a point known as the Cross Roads?

(2.) Is he aware that the owner of Macquarie Fields objected to the opening of such a road, on the ground that there was no public necessity for the same, and that the opening thereof would be ruinous to the estate?

(3.) Is he aware that, in the year 1899, it was referred to the Land Board to inquire whether there was such public necessity for the opening of such a road, and that after an exhaustive inquiry the Land Board reported that no such public necessity for such a road existed?

(4.) Is it a fact that another application has been made to him to resume such land, and open such a road as aforesaid, and that the owner of Macquarie Fields has again objected to the opening of the same?

(5.) Is he aware that a parish road now exists from the said Cross Roads to Glenfield Station, almost parallel with the said proposed new road?

(6.) Is he aware that such parish road and such proposed new road are within the municipal district of Liverpool, which corporation has the sole control, care, construction, and maintenance of roads within its boundaries?

(7.) Will he cause to be laid upon the Table of the House the various applications for the opening of such road, and all petitions and letters in support of and in opposition thereto, and the various official reports, plans of surveyors and other officers with respect thereto, and the evidence and exhibits taken and produced at the said Land Board inquiry, and the decision of the said Board?

(8.) Will he state what action (if any) he has taken, or intends to take, with respect to the application for the opening of such road?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) Yes; and a promise was made by Mr. Young, M.P., when Minister for Works.

(2.) Yes; but the public thought differently.

(3.) I believe so, but that did not settle the matter.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) I am aware that an impassable track exists.

(6.) Yes; but it gives access to a railway station and proposed Public School.

(7.) Yes, if moved for in the usual way.

(8.) I have requested the Lands Department to establish the road.

(3.) Export of Flour to South Africa:—Mr. Anderson, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) When were Messrs. Shadler, White, and Woolf appointed experts to report upon flour shipped to South Africa; and by whom was the appointment made?

(2.) Was it an understanding that no fees were to be charged; and is it a fact that Mr. Shadler received fifteen guineas, and the other experts were paid ten guineas each?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) These gentlemen were selected by the Master Bakers' Association on the 3rd January last. The association proffered the services of experts for the purpose named, and they were accepted.

(2.) No fees were arranged for, and none have been paid.

(4.) Men Employed on the Ferry Services of the Harbour:—Mr. Anderson, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, in connection with the ferry services of the harbour, men are employed, even at a minimum, a greater number of hours than 70 per week?

(2.) Is it a fact that, in the Port Jackson Steam Ferry Company, the minimum hours worked are 90, while the maximum considerably exceeds 100 per week?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Sydney Ferries Company run several of their boats 17 hours per day for six days in the week, and that men are compelled to work those hours?

(4.) Is it a fact that in the Tug Services, inside and outside the harbour, the minimum hours worked by men are from 80 to 120 hours per week?

(5.) Does he consider that the travelling public are sufficiently safeguarded and protected by such excessive hours being worked; and, if not, will he take immediate steps to legislate in the direction of giving these men the advantage of some measure of legislation shortening their hours of labour the same as in other branches of industry?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Superintendent of Navigation is informed that the average number of hours spent by the men on board the ferry boats of the various ferry services in the harbour, with the exception of the Port Jackson Steam Ferry Company, is about 65 hours per week, a considerable portion of which time is spent at the wharfs?

(2.) He is also informed that the average number of hours spent by the men on board the ferry-boats of the Port Jackson Steam Ferry Company is 82 hours per week, of which time, on an average, 28 hours are spent by the boats at the wharfs, the average time the boats are under weigh during the week being 54 hours.

(3.) He is also informed that the Sydney Ferries run three boats for eighteen and three-quarter hours a day for six days, with double crews to each boat, each crew working every other day. He is also informed that this method is adopted by the express desire of the men, who are thus able to get every other day off instead of working 9 hours each day.

(4.) From inquiries the Superintendent is unable to say what hours are worked by men in the tug service, as their duties are of such an irregular nature.

(5.) The Superintendent is not aware that the interests of the travelling public are in any way jeopardised by the working of the various ferry services.

(5.)

7th August, 1900.

- (5.) Single-ended Boats:—*Mr. Anderson*, for *Mr. B. M. Clark*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that several steam ferry companies in the harbour are running single-ended boats; and has the Department of Navigation any power to prevent the building of such boats?
 - (2.) Was one of the reasons advanced in favour of the removal of the Lane Cove Ferry service from Circular Quay the fact that the boats used were single-headed?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the Sydney Ferries Company are running from the Circular Quay to Neutral Bay a single-headed boat, the "Lotus"; and, if so, will he take steps to also remove this boat, as a danger to the navigation of the Quay?
- Sir William Lync* answered,—
- (1.) Several single-ended boats are run in the harbour, but the Department of Navigation has no power to prevent the building of such boats nor the running of them.
 - (2.) The reason the Lane Cove Ferry service was removed from Circular Quay was on account of the congested state of the traffic in the Cove.
 - (3.) The Superintendent is informed that the single-ended boat the "Lotus" is only temporarily employed in the Neutral Bay service, and will be removed when two new double-ended boats, for which tenders are now being invited by the Sydney Ferries Company, are built.
- (6.) The Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Hurley*, for *Mr. Austin Chapman*, asked the Attorney-General,—In view of the recent decision of the Full Court in the test case, will there be a clause inserted in the amending Public Service Act enabling those who withdrew from the Superannuation Fund under misconception of the law to go back again if they so desire?
- Mr. See* answered,—As at present advised, my honorable colleague does not think that this would be desirable.
- (7.) Unclassified Roads in Agricultural Districts:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he see that better provision is made from the Vote of the present year for the improvement of unclassified roads in the agricultural districts?
- Mr. O'Sullivan* answered,—Yes; providing, of course, the annual vote is increased by a fair amount; but considering the disgraceful state in which the roads were left by the late Government it will take a large sum.
- (8.) Water Conservation:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it intended to have all branches of water conservation brought under one Department; and, if so, when?
 - (2.) Will he see that better provisions are made for watering places on stock routes?
- Sir William Lync* answered,—The transfer of all branches of the Water Conservation Department to the Department of Public Works has already been accomplished, and it is anticipated that a greatly improved administration will be the result.
- (9.) Pastoral Leases in the Central Division:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What number of pastoral leases in the Central Division have now terminated?
 - (2.) What area do such leases contain?
 - (3.) What provisions are being made to have those lands made available for settlement?
 - (4.) When are such lands likely to be open for application?
 - (5.) Will he see that sufficient areas are provided as will meet the demands of legitimate permanent settlement on one day, so that balloting may be avoided, and that all persons who desire may have an opportunity of establishing a home?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—
- (1, 2, 3, and 4.) Taking the whole of the central leases into question (*i.e.*, those which expired some time back, as well as those which expired recently), 659 have expired, comprising about 15,900,000 acres. Of these, 315, representing about 5,900,000 acres, have been set apart for new settlement, leaving 344 pastoral leases, containing about 10,000,000 acres to be yet disposed of. Deducting lands required for reserves, roads, possible claims by selectors for additional conditional purchases, and areas unfit for close settlement, about 6,000,000 acres would remain for close settlement. In anticipation of the termination of the pastoral leases, instructions were issued to the District Surveyors in all cases to report as to the best means of disposal, and, where lands were suitable, to prepare designs for subdivision for closer settlement. Designs have been approved and instructions for measurement of about 1,900,000 acres for close settlement up to date. About 63,000 acres are actually available at the present time for homestead selection, and further areas, amounting to 167,000 acres, have already been approved to be made available. Action has, however, been postponed until other lands come forward, as the blocks are scattered over different districts. Every endeavour is being made to make land available, but it will be understood that classification and survey occupies some amount of time. As soon, however, as sufficient lands are from time to time ready, they will be thrown open.
- (5.) Yes. I certainly will endeavour, as far as possible, to meet the demands of legitimate settlement, but, although it is of course desirable that the supply should equal the demand, it unfortunately does not follow that the throwing open of a large number of blocks on the same day in different districts would satisfy an equal, or smaller, number of applicants, as they cannot be made to each apply for a different portion; and there is always a tendency on the part of applicants to apply for as many blocks as possible (even although in different districts), as they like to increase their chances, and cannot know beforehand who, besides themselves, intend to apply.
- (10.) The First Australian Horse:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has an offer been made by a number of young men who reside in the town and district of Wagga to form a branch of the 1st Australian Horse; has the offer been accepted; and, if not, what has been the cause?
- Mr. See* answered,—There are about 120 similar applications, which will amount to something like 10,500 volunteers, now under consideration; and the recent request from Wagga Wagga will receive due attention with them.

7th August, 1900.

- (11.) Books Sold by the Government:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) How many books, being the property of the Government of New South Wales, have been sold during the last four years?
 - (2.) By whose order were they sold?
 - (3.) Was a list of such books kept?
 - (4.) Was cash paid for these books; and, if so, what amount; or, if other books were taken in exchange, has the Librarian a list of such other books?
 - (5.) What means were taken to obtain the best prices for the books sold?
 - (6.) Is it true that a certain firm of booksellers were allowed to remove a number of books from the shelves before other intending buyers had an opportunity of inspecting same?
 - (7.) What was the cost to the Library of the books sold?
 - (8.) Is it true that some of the books sold were presentation copies by the authors, others containing valuable autographs and printed notes, making the copies unique and extremely valuable?
 - (9.) Were the books inspected by any competent judge?
 - (10.) How many books has the Library repurchased bearing the Library stamp during the last four years; and what amount has been paid for same?
 - (11.) Is it a fact that it would be impossible to identify any Australian books now in possession of the Government if the said books were stolen and the title page removed; if so, how?
 - (12.) Are Library books sent to private people in the country in opposition to the Library by-laws; and to what account is the expense of carriage charged?
 - (13.) Is a list of books so lent kept, and the names of the borrowers?
 - (14.) What amount of money has been spent on novels and fiction during the last three years for the Lending Branch and the Library itself?
 - (15.) Did the Public Librarian offer £850 for Dr. Bennett's books; and when the same were purchased by a Sydney bookseller for £1,000, did the Public Librarian refuse to purchase any of the said books; and, if so, why?

Mr. Perry answered,—The Principal Librarian has furnished replies to these Questions, which I will lay upon the Table of the House.

- (12.) Military Central Clothing Board:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What are the names of the persons constituting the Military Central Clothing Board?
 - (2.) What salary or allowance is granted each member?
 - (3.) What is the total amount paid or allowed to the members since the establishment of the Board?
 - (4.) What is the amount paid or allowed annually to the secretary?
 - (5.) Who is the secretary; and does he hold any other military position carrying salary?
 - (6.) How many clerks, messengers, or other officials are wholly or partially employed by the Board?
 - (7.) What annual pay or allowances do they receive?
 - (8.) Does not this Board multiply correspondence, and occasion much delay in administrative work?
 - (9.) Have not numerous complaints been made with regard to the way in which the Board conducts its proceedings?
 - (10.) Did not the General Commanding direct the officers commanding the Unpaid Volunteer Regiments to consult with the Board as to the desirability of the Board ceasing to interfere with the affairs of such regiments?
 - (11.) Was it not recommended, as the result of this conference, that the regiments in question should be relieved of the interference of the Board?
 - (12.) Was this recommendation given effect to?
 - (13.) If not, why not?
 - (14.) Will he cause this Board to be abolished forthwith?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) President—Colonel Roberts, C.M.G., A.D.C. Members—Colonel Taunton, A.Q.M.G.; Major Boam, D.A.A.G.; Major Knight (absent in South Africa); Captain Legge (absent in South Africa); Captain King (acting during absence of officers in South Africa).
- (2.) Only the secretary.
- (3.) £188 13s. 4d. to the secretary since December, 1897.
- (4.) £52 per annum.
- (5.) Major Boam. Yes; Deputy-Assistant Adjutant-General.
- (6.) One clerk.
- (7.) £162 per annum.
- (8 and 9.) No.
- (10.) No, but the Board having made certain recommendations with reference to the unsatisfactory arrangements existing as regards the contracts in connection with the Unpaid Volunteer Regiments, and the system of checking their accounts, I directed the Board to consult with the various officers commanding, and to forward a report.
- (11, 12, and 13.) No. I do not think it desirable to make any change of system pending Federation.
- (14.) I wish to point out that the sums paid to secretary and clerk do not come from Public Revenue, but from the interest accruing from fixed deposits of Trust Funds of the Clothing Accounts.

7th August, 1900.

(13.) Section 125 of the Australasian Federation Enabling Act:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he obtain from the Attorney-General, and lay upon the Table of this House as early as possible, an opinion with reference to section 125 of the Australasian Federation Enabling Act, answering the following questions, viz.:—

(1.) What is the precise meaning of the expression "Seat of Government"?

(2.) Does the Act contemplate a temporary, as apart from a permanent, Seat of Government?

(3.) Can the Federal Executive be sworn in in any part of the Commonwealth, or must that function take place at the Seat of Government?

(4.) Is any part of the Commonwealth eligible in which to exercise the necessary legal actions prior to the assembling of the Federal Parliament?

(5.) Is not the territory in which are to be exercised the administrative functions of the Federal Government, prior to the assembling of Parliament, restricted to a certain part of the Colony of New South Wales, provided this Colony is an original State?

(6.) Can the necessary writs for the convening of the Federal Parliament issue from elsewhere than the Seat of Government in the restricted territory provided in the Act?

(7.) Is there a possibility of the election of persons to the Federal Parliament being voided by process of law, should the writs for the elections issue from any other place than the Seat of Government provided for in the Act?

(2.) Will he take all necessary steps to enable this Colony to tender to the first Federal Cabinet the choice of sites in the territory set apart for the same, one of which they may, subject to the determination of the Federal Parliament, appoint as the Commonwealth Seat of Government?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Attorney-General has already had occasion to point out that it is not customary for the Crown Law Officers to give opinions on legal questions except to a Government Department (see answer to Question No. 15, given on the 31st ultimo). The Questions asked, Nos. 1 to 7, are all matters which will have to be determined by the Federal Executive, upon which no opinion of the Attorney-General of this Colony would be binding.

(2.) Yes; if Parliament agrees.

(14.) 7th Volunteer Infantry Regiment (St. George's Rifles):—Mr. Cann, for Mr. Thomas, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the finding of the Military Court of Inquiry appointed to inquire into the affairs of the 7th Volunteer Infantry Regiment (St. George's Rifles) have been endorsed by the Major-General, and approved of by the Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Frederick Darley?

(2.) What were the findings?

(3.) Does the Government intend to act on the recommendations of the said Court of Inquiry?

(4.) Will he lay upon the Table of the House all the papers in connection with this matter?

Mr. See answered,—There is a Notice of Motion on the Business Paper for the 28th August to deal with this matter?

(15.) Colonial Timber:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Can he furnish any data or approximate information as to the quantity of colonial timber cut and made use of for building purposes and otherwise in the Colony during the last two or three years?

(2.) The same information with regard to the quantity of timber that has been imported during the same period?

Mr. Fegan answered,—The Forestry Branch is administered by my honorable colleague the Secretary for Lands; but I have been supplied with the following replies:—

(1.) It is impossible to state reliably; but an approximate estimate of about 80,000,000 superficial feet per annum would be somewhere near the mark.

(2.) In the year 1898 timber (rough and dressed) was imported to the extent of 73,000,000 superficial feet, valued at £367,700. In 1899 the timber (rough and dressed) reached 83,000,000 superficial feet, of the value of £429,800.

(16.) Wyndham Public School:—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) How many tenders were sent in for painting and repairs to the Wyndham Public School?

(2.) What was the amount of each tender, and what were the names of the tenderers?

(3.) Was the lowest tender accepted; if not, what was the difference between the lowest and the one accepted?

(4.) Why was the lowest tender in this instance not accepted?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) The school referred to is Wyndham, not Wyndon. Six tenders were received.

(2.) Thos. Waterson, £176 17s. 6d.; Thos. Waterson, £149 15s.; Job Kocher, £139; Thos. Madden, £135 15s.; Petersen and Wellings, £98; Matthews and Wright, £74 10s.

(3.) No. The difference between the lowest and that accepted is £23 10s.

(4.) On account of the unsatisfactory work done by one of the partners in connection with another contract.

(17.) Refund to Members of the Police Force:—Mr. Nobbs asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will the Government be disposed to immediately refund to members of the Police Force who have served ten years or more, and who wish to resign from the Service, the 3 per cent. deducted from their wages with 5 per cent. added?

(2.) What is the reason that the thirty-seven members of such Force, who have served thirty years, and are over 60 years of age, have not been allowed to retire upon pension?

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

(1.) This would not be legal under the provisions of the Act.

(2.) Awaiting legislation to place the funds upon a sound basis.

(18.)

7th August, 1900.

- (18.) Holidays to Maintenance Men :—Mr. Nobbs asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Are maintenance men who work on the public roads of the Colony allowed public holidays ?
 - (2.) Will the Government consider the advisableness of granting to these men twenty-one days per annum as leave on full pay, being the same as granted to other Public Servants ?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) They are allowed one week's leave yearly in addition to all public holidays. I will be glad to consider the point raised by the Honorable Member.
- (19.) Broken Hill and Balmain to Drummoyne Tramways :—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has he yet requested the Railway Commissioners to report on the proposed Broken Hill tramways and on the Balmain to Drummoyne tramway ?
 - (2.) Does he not consider it desirable to be in possession of such reports before proceeding with these works ?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I am not aware that it is necessary to do so. It is the Government, not the Railway Commissioners, who define the policy which affects these works ; yet, nevertheless, I will be glad to seek their advice before I start the works.
- (20.) Tramway Proposals :—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of the House copies of the most recent reports by the Railway Commissioners on the following tramway proposals :—The Spit-road tramway, the Kensington tramway, the Rose Bay and Dover Point tramway, the Dawes Point extension, the Enfield to Mortlake tramway, the Adamstown tramway, and the Waratah tramway ?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Honorable Member had better move for a report in the usual way.
- (21.) Men Employed at Gosford Nursery :—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that young men capable of performing the work of adults are employed at the Gosford Nursery at rates of 2s. per diem ?
 - (2.) If so, how does this accord with the Government's policy of paying a maximum rate of 7s. per diem for all unskilled labour ?
 - (3.) Will he furnish the names, positions, ages, and rates of pay of the staff employed there, and lay upon the Table of this House papers relating to their appointment and grading ?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—I find that it has been the practice to engage youths at the Gosford Nursery, and some were engaged some time back. The work is light, and they enter somewhat as apprentices, having practically everything to learn. The foreman of the nursery receives 8s. 4d. per diem, and the wages of the other employees range from 12s. to 25s. per week ; but, as the youngest employees are now 18 years of age, the question of granting increased remuneration is under consideration, my attention having already been drawn to the matter.
- (22.) Penitentiary and Prison for Women at Randwick :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) When the reference was made to the Public Works Committee, was it then considered that the erection of a penitentiary and prison for women at Randwick was urgently required ?
 - (2.) If so, is it still urgently required ?
 - (3.) If not, why was the matter ever referred to the Public Works Committee ?
 - (4.) Would not the erection of this building afford immediate employment to very many distressed workers in the community ?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I am not aware that it was stated to be urgently required.
 - (3.) The necessity of erecting such a building was urged by the officers of the Justice Department.
 - (4.) No doubt it would.
- (23.) Fees to Members of the Public Works Committee :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What are the provisions in the Public Works Committees Remuneration Act of 1889, and the Public Works Acts Further Amendment Act of 1897, which the Treasury and the Auditor-General consider fix the attendance fee of the Chairman of the Public Works Committee at the specific sum of £3 3s., and of other members thereof at the specific sum of £2 2s. each ?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—Section 2 of the Public Works Committees Remuneration Act as amended by section 4 of the Public Works Acts Further Amendment Act.
- (24.) Regulations under the Public Works Act :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—Was Mr. Norton's Question, "Has the present Public Works Committee framed any regulations in terms of section 17 of the Public Works Act," answered correctly in the affirmative ; and, if so, when were the regulations gazetted and laid before this House ?
- Mr. See answered,—In regard to the framing of regulations, the position is common to all Committees. The regulations framed were the work of the fourth Committee appointed under the Act ; but they have been followed by each succeeding Committee, and are considered to be the regulations of each.
- (25.) The Unemployed :—Mr. Neild asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it intended to utilise the unemployed in preparing any portion of the public estate for the plough ?
 - (2.) If so, will opportunity be offered to men engaged upon such work to settle upon the cleared land ?
 - (3.) If this is conceded, will the Government offer any assistance to such men, pending the harvesting of the first crop ?
 - (4.) If such clearing work is contemplated, when will the work be put in hand ?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—These suggestions will receive my best consideration ; but until the proposals are looked into I can make no definite promise to the Honorable Member.

7th August, 1900.

(26.) Civil Ambulance Brigade:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, on the 31st of July, the attention of the members of the Civil Ambulance Brigade was called to the condition of a man in a passing electric tram, and, finding him to be in a state of collapse, did the members of the Brigade carry him into the George-street institution, where he was identified as a master mariner named William George Carmichael?

(2.) After vain attempts to restore Carmichael were made, was he removed to the Sydney Hospital, where life was pronounced to be extinct?

(3.) Does it form any part of the duties of the Ambulance Brigade to attend cases of so serious a character; and why were not the services of a medical man immediately procured in place of those of unqualified men?

(4.) Will he see, where similar cases occur in future, that the police be informed and instructed to call in medical aid, so that valuable lives may not be jeopardised for want of proper medical assistance?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have obtained a report from the Police in this matter, from which it seems that the deceased was first noticed to be ill in a tram at Codrington-street, about 11.43 a.m., on the 31st ultimo. The guard, thinking he had a fit, attended to him, with the assistance of some passengers, until the ambulance station was reached, where he was handed over, the time then being 11.50 a.m. The deceased, on being taken into the ambulance station, was seen to be in a very bad state, and no time was therefore lost in endeavouring to restore him, but within five minutes of his arrival he was on his way to the Hospital in a stretcher. On arrival at the Hospital (12.15 p.m.) life was found to be extinct, and the corpse was handed over to the Police.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Report of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Return respecting the Sale of Books from the Public Library.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Statement showing the number of officers who will be transferred under the provisions of the Federal Enabling Act to the control of the Commonwealth, and the amount of the salaries.

(2.) Particulars showing the boundaries of the proposed Federal Electorates of New South Wales, together with three maps.

(3.) Copy of cablegram from the Secretary of State, for the Colonies, conveying Her Majesty's thanks for message of sympathy.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. DEATH OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SAXE COBURG AND GOTHA:—Sir William Lyne read to the House the following Minute from His Excellency the Governor:—

"The Governor has to submit to the Honorable the Prime Minister the subjoined copy of a telegraphic despatch which has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies:—

"Her Majesty commands me to convey warm thanks for kind message from yourself and your Ministers, and to express high appreciation of loyal and sympathetic resolution passed by Legislature of Colony under your Government."

"BEAUCHAMP,

"4th August, 1900."

"Governor."

6. ATTACHMENT OF WAGES LIMITATION BILL (*changed from*) ATTACHMENT OF WAGES ABOLITION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Arthur Griffith, 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 amendment in the Title.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, 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 abolish Attachment of Wages*,"—including the amendment in the Title.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th August, 1900.

7. MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF 1897 AMENDING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick 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 the Title, the Preamble, and clause 1,"—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 Title, the Preamble, and clause 1,—put and passed.

On motion of Mr. Fitzpatrick, 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° with further amendments, and an amended Title.

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

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

8.

7th August, 1900.

8. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Dr. Ross moved, That this "Bill" be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Watson 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 consideration and report."
" (2.) That such Committee consist of Dr. Ross, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Dight, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Reid, Mr. Crick, and the Mover,"—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 passed.
Original Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.
The House divided.

Ayes, 48.

Mr. Reid,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Holman,	Mr. Wright,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Smith,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Pycers,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Garland,	Mr. Waddell.
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Piddington,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Norton,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. Dight,	Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Cain,	Mr. Nobbs,	
Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. W. W. Young,	
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Spence,	
Mr. See,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,	

Noes, 4.

Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Quinn.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. FitzGerald.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Dr. Ross, 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.

9. PUBLIC SERVICE BOARD APPOINTMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Quinn moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Cook moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

10. TIED HOUSES BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Watson, 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 that certain covenants, agreements, conditions, provisos, and stipulations in restraint of liberty to purchase wines, spirits, or other fermented or spirituous liquors shall be void; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on that object.

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 provide that certain covenants, agreements, conditions, provisos, and stipulations in restraint of liberty to purchase beer, wines, spirits, or other fermented or spirituous liquors shall be void; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on that object.

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

- (2.) Mr. Watson then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide that certain covenants, agreements, conditions, provisos, and stipulations in restraint of liberty to purchase beer, wines, spirits, or other fermented or spirituous liquors shall be void; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on that object*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 16th October.

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

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

WILLIAM McCURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 26.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 8 AUGUST, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Time allowed for Sections of the Tramways:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the official time allowed for the trams to do the journey between Bridge-street and Johnston-street, on the Balmain line, the fare for which is 2d.?
 - (2.) What is the official time allowed for the trams to do the journey between Bridge-street and Johnston-street, on the Leichhardt line, the fare being 2d.?
 - (3.) What is the official time allowed for the trams to do the journey between Bridge-street and Centennial Park Road, on the Randwick line, the fare being 2d.?
 - (4.) What is the official time allowed for the trams to do the journey between Bridge-street and the Bondi Junction, on the Waverley line, the fare being 2d.?
 - (5.) What is the official time allowed for the trams to do the journey between Bridge-street and Dowling-street, on the Crown-street line, the fare for which is also 2d.?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners supply the following information :—

- (1.) Twenty-eight minutes.
 - (2.) Twenty-seven minutes.
 - (3.) Twenty-six minutes.
 - (4.) Thirty minutes.
 - (5.) Nineteen minutes.
- (2.) The Bubonic Plague:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Government intend at the public expense to send Dr. Tidswell, Assistant Medical Officer of Health, to India, China, &c., with the view of enabling him to investigate the etiology of bubonic plague and its endemic character?
 - (2.) Why is this course desirable in view of the fact that bubonic plague as alleged, in a virulent and malignant form, has been in existence in the Colony for the last seven or eight months, which has afforded the medical profession every opportunity of studying the nature and character of the disease of rat plague without going to India?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The question of the desirability of sending Dr. Tidswell abroad is under my consideration. The proposal is that Dr. Tidswell should make himself acquainted with recent advances in all branches of bacteriology, and for this purpose his destination, if he be sent, will be the great laboratories and schools of Europe, although he might possibly, in returning, visit Bombay, in order to gain experience of the method of preparing plague prophylactic.

- (3.) Burial of Paupers:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Who is the present Government contractor for the burial of paupers; and for how long a period has the contract been held?
 - (2.) Are any specifications made as to the quality and trimmings of coffins to be supplied; and, if so, what are they?
 - (3.) What prices are paid under such contract for coffins and interments for adults and for children?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that plain rough wood boxes, stuffed with rough sawdust, are provided, and the bodies so enclosed?
 - (5.) In the cause of humanity, and in conformity with the customs of society, will he take steps to have such a coffin specified as will at least give the semblance of decent Christian interment to paupers buried from our hospitals and other institutions?

Sir

8th August, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Elizabeth Kirby; since 1st July last.
- (2.) It is provided in the specification that the coffins are to be of good and workman-like description, 1-inch pine, with seams pitched, subject to the approval of the Government Architect.
- (3.) £1 1s., less 30 per cent., with 3s. 6d., less 30 per cent., if the coffin is planed and lamp-blackened.
- (4 and 5.) I will cause inquiry to be made.

(4.) Officials of the Postal and Electric Telegraph Department:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the whole of the officials of the Postal and Electric Telegraph Department are called upon to pay an annual fidelity guarantee premium?
- (2.) Is he aware that in other Departments only a comparatively few officials—those actually handling cash—are required to pay such premium?
- (3.) Will he take immediate action to prevent any further payment being demanded from officers not handling cash in his Department, and thus place them on the same footing as officers of all other Departments?

Mr. Wood answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) Under section 19 of the Public Service Act it rests with the Public Service Board to determine what officers shall give security. My honorable colleague placed before the Board applications from a number of officers in his Department who, not handling money, felt aggrieved, and he must say justly so, at having to pay the guarantee premium. In reply, the Board stated as follows:—"If, as appears probable, the Postal Service is shortly to be taken over by the Government of the Commonwealth, it would be undesirable to now revise the present system of fidelity guarantee. If the Service is not to be immediately transferred, the Board would be prepared to consider the matter later on."

(5.) Closer Settlement Bill:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to proceed with a Closer Settlement Bill during the present Session?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes, if possible.

(6.) Agricultural Societies:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Did he appoint a Board to report to him on the Agricultural Societies?
- (2.) Who comprised that Board?
- (3.) Have they reported?
- (4.) Will he lay a copy of the report upon the Table of the House?

Mr. Wood answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Mr. W. S. Campbell, Chief Inspector, Department of Agriculture; Mr. E. D. E. Van Weenen; and the late Mr. J. L. Thompson, Travelling Instructor in Agriculture, who was succeeded by Mr. George Valder, Principal of the Hawkesbury Agricultural College.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) My honorable colleague will presently do so.

(7.) Inspectors of Public Watering Places:—Mr. Byrne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he decided as to how the Inspectors of Public Watering Places displaced by District Road Engineers will be disposed of?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Not yet, nor can any decision be arrived at until I see how the rearrangement, which is only just being made, will work.

(8.) District Road Engineers:—Mr. Byrne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Whether, in view of the additional work and travelling imposed upon the District Road Engineers in having the inspection of Public Watering Places added to their existing duties, he will recommend them for increases of salary?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The suggestion of the Honorable Member must stand over till I am able to judge whether the Roads Officers will carry out these extra duties successfully; as a matter of fact, the instructions to the Roads Superintendents to this effect have not yet been issued, as the Public Watering Places were only taken over by this Department a week ago.

(9.) Stock Routes:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it his intention to introduce and pass into law during the present Session a measure for the purpose of withdrawing stock routes from lease or license, and placing the administration of same in the hands of Stock Boards, or some other responsible persons, who will see that they are used only for the agistment of travelling stock?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I am informed by my honorable colleague the Secretary for Mines, within whose province the matter comes, that a Bill dealing with the question is now in the hands of the Parliamentary Draftsman.

(10.) Penny Fares on the William-street Cable Tramway:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When is it intended to initiate the penny-fare system on the cable trams running from William-street to the city?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the introduction of the penny section depends upon the completion of the necessary appliances for working the increased business. The "Walker Drums" for the Power House are in the hands of the Clyde Engineering Co., who expect to have them completed so as to permit of the new system being brought into operation on the 20th instant.

8th August, 1900.

- (11.) Thinning-out of the Murray Forests:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it his intention to make provision for funds to complete the thinning-out of the valuable Murray forests?
 - (2.) If so, when does he intend to proceed with the work?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—I am calling for a report on this matter, and pending its receipt I cannot state what action I shall take.
- (12.) Smaller Settlement in the Deniliquin Electorate:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—As many of the pastoral leases in the Deniliquin Electorate have now expired, will he at once gazette all those upon which the land is suitable for smaller settlement as Crown lands, and thus make the land available for selection?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—Surveys have been completed of about 50,000 acres within expired leaseholds in the Deniliquin Electorate. This area will be gazetted as available for closer settlement without unnecessary delay. Every endeavour is being made to have the remainder of the lands within the expired leaseholds which are suitable for closer settlement set apart as speedily as possible.
- (13.) Pharmaceutical Society:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is there a Pharmacy Board at No. 7, Richmond-terrace, Domain, under the control of the Government, and whose officers are in receipt of salaries paid by the Government?
 - (2.) Is there also a private society termed the Pharmaceutical Society domiciled in the same building?
 - (3.) Does this society hold its meetings and examine candidates in furnished rooms the property of the Government, which are furnished, lighted, and kept clean at the public expense?
 - (4.) Does this society charge high fees for examinations?
 - (5.) Are any of these fees paid to the Government or retained wholly by this private society?
 - (6.) Does this society also occupy another large room in the same building wherein it stores goods?
 - (7.) Is the secretary of the Pharmacy Board, who is paid by the Government, also the paid secretary of this private society?
 - (8.) Does this private society, through its secretary, obtain information from the private papers and other records of the Pharmacy Board unobtainable by other kindred societies?
 - (9.) Is he aware that there are other private pharmaceutical societies in the city who are placed in a very unfair position by the aid rendered by the Government to the society named as quartered in Richmond-terrace?
 - (10.) Will he, under the circumstances, place all these societies on the same footing by depriving the society first named of the undue privileges it now obtains from the Government?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am at present making inquiries into these matters, and will, when I have obtained all necessary information, take such steps as may seem desirable.
- (14.) Exchange of Land on Pericoota Holding:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) In connection with the exchange on Pericoota Holding, are the title deeds to the surrendered land yet lodged by the owners?
 - (2.) If not, will he take immediate steps to ensure the immediate completion of this exchange, and thus make the land surrendered available for selection?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—The deeds have recently been forwarded, and action is now being taken to obtain the Governor-in-Council's approval of the exchange preparatory to completion of final action.
- (15.) Employces at Redfern Railway Station:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What are the hours worked by the porters and "sheeters" at Redfern?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that when a man is fifteen minutes late at starting he is docked, notwithstanding that he works thirty minutes overtime on the same day?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that these men frequently work overtime without getting paid for it?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I have requested the Railway Commissioners to give me the information.
- (16.) Actions against Railway Commissioners and the Government:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What cost to the country has been incurred from first to last in the matter of two verdicts against which the Railway Commissioners recently appealed?
 - (2.) What is the total amount reached by the verdict and costs in the case of Josephson v. Young?
 - (3.) How many cases are likely to be governed by the decision of the Full Court in the above matter?
 - (4.) Does he propose to still further appeal against the Full Court's decision in *re Josephson v. Young*?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) It is impossible to answer this Question until the official information is received from England.
 - (2.) The amount cannot yet be ascertained. An actuarial calculation will have to be made and costs furnished by the other side.
 - (3.) An exhaustive investigation will require to be made to obtain this information.
 - (4.) The matter has been referred to the Attorney-General.
- (17.) Expenses of Candidates for the State Parliament:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is he prepared to bring forward during the current Session a Bill, based on the lines of statutes in force in Great Britain, New Zealand, and South Australia, making it illegal for future candidates for the State Parliament to directly or indirectly expend more than £100 on an election?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This has not yet been considered, but it seems to me that £100 would not pay for advertisements.

8th August, 1900.

(18.) Park at Kurnel:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he one of the trustees of the park at Kurnel?
- (2.) What are the names of the other trustees?
- (3.) Under whose supervision is the new pier being constructed?
- (4.) When did the supervising officer see the work last; and what is his opinion of it?
- (5.) What are the dimensions of the pier, and the depth of the water at the end?
- (6.) When is the pier to be finished?
- (7.) Will he get a report from the Director of the Botanic Gardens as to the best means of beautifying this historic spot?
- (8.) Will he put the unemployed on to improve it?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The Honorables John See, T. H. Hassall, and J. H. Carruthers, M's L.A.; Mr. W. Houston, Commissioner of the Land Appeal Court; and Mr. C. W. Darley, Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works.
- (3.) Mr. Grimshaw, District Engineer, under the Engineer-in-Chief for Public Works.
- (4.) Inspected by Mr. Grimshaw's assistant on the 13th July. The work had only just been started, so there was very little to inspect, besides which the local inspector makes frequent visits. There will be a resident inspector when pile-driving commences.
- (5.) Length, including approach causeway, 550 feet; width, 11 feet, except at outer end, where it is widened to 41 feet for a distance of 17½ feet to accommodate steamers. The depth at the outer end is 7 feet, which it is proposed to dredge to about 12 feet at low-water.
- (6.) The contract time expires on 9th October.
- (7.) The trustees will take the matter into consideration.
- (8.) I will suggest to my fellow trustees the utilisation of the services of the unemployed wherever possible.

(19.) Proposed Tramway from Botany to La Perouse:—Mr. Dacey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has a survey been made for a tram-line from the Botany terminus to La Perouse?
- (2.) What is the distance; and how much will it cost?
- (3.) Is he aware that this extension would pay handsomely?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) An exploration with a few levels has been made, the route touching at Little Bay Hospital, and going thence to La Perouse.
- (2.) 3½ miles. Estimated cost, £12,200.
- (3.) I am given to understand that the proposed line would be a payable one, at all events upon holidays.

(20.) Municipal Contributions to the Fire Brigades Board:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) How many municipal councils were sued by the Fire Brigades Board for not paying their contributions?
- (2.) What are the names of these councils; and how much were each of them fined?

Mr. See answered,—

The following information has been furnished by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board:—Four, viz., Canterbury, Concord, Penrith, and Strathfield. Verdicts were obtained for penalties of £50 each from Canterbury, Concord, and Strathfield; and for two penalties of £50 each from Penrith. The penalties have been paid in the three former cases, but those imposed upon Penrith have not yet been paid.

(21.) Proclamation of the Commonwealth:—Mr. Ferris asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he consider the advisability of having the Proclamation of the Commonwealth made at the old Government House, Parramatta Park?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I scarcely think this can be done.

(22.) Harbours and Rivers Works in the Newcastle District:—Mr. McGowen asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) The name of the contractor for castings for the Harbours and Rivers Works in the Newcastle District?
- (2.) Does the said contractor pay the Union rate of wages, as per special conditions issued by his Department?
- (3.) If not, will he enforce the said conditions?

Mr. O'Sullivan,—This contract was let by the Public Service Tender Board, a sub-branch of the Treasury Department. I would, therefore, advise the Honorable Member to invite my honorable colleague the Colonial Treasurer to reply to these Questions.

(23.) Locomotive Department, Newcastle:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The number of tons of scrap-iron that have left the Locomotive Department, Newcastle, during years 1897, 1898, and 1899?
- (2.) The number of tons of cast-iron scraps or old chairs that have left the Permanent-way Department, Newcastle, during years 1897, 1898, and 1899?
- (3.) Who was the purchasers; and at what price per ton?
- (4.) Was a docket or ticket issued from the Department to the purchaser with each ton or load?
- (5.) Was any preference given to any manufacturer?
- (6.) Were tenders called for these materials by the Locomotive and Permanent-way Department, Newcastle?
- (7.) If not, will he see that tenders are called for in the future?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Information in reply to the Questions asked will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return. (24.)

8th August, 1900.

(24.) Exchange of Land on the Ironbong Holding:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House all the particulars of a recent exchange of land on the Ironbong Holding in the Land District of Cootamundra, giving,—

- (1.) Areas and description (including portions and parishes) of the land sought in exchange and the surrender land respectively?
- (2.) Values of the exchange and the surrender lands, together with the value (if any) of the improvements on each?
- (3.) The names of the witnesses who opposed and those who supported the exchange?
- (4.) Also the finding of the Local Land Board?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Areas offered in surrender are—Suburban portions, village of Bethungra, Nos. 145 to 154 inclusive, containing 48 acres 2 roods 27 perches, and country portions, Nos. 41 and 15, 16, 11, 12, 14, 43, 72, 30, 31, and 67, all in parish of Ulandra. Areas sought in exchange—Unmeasured land in parish of Bethungra, area 961 acres 3 roods 12 perches.

(2.) Value of surrender lands, £919 13s. 4d.; improvements, £198 7s.; value of exchange land, £1,058 0s. 2d.; improvements, £85 4s. 9d.

(3.) Mr. Surveyor Chesterman opposed the exchange. Messrs. J. Connell and W. Miller, stock and station agent, and L. S. White, grazier, gave evidence only as regards the exchange land, and in support of the applicant's valuation. Matthew Sawyer, jun., the applicant, gave evidence in support of the exchange.

(4.) The Board found that, "while a compliance with the application would tend to consolidate the applicant's estate, it would be very disadvantageous to the Crown, and they could not see any features in the case which warranted their doing other than recommending the application for refusal." The applicant for the exchange appealed to the Land Appeal Court, and the Court gave the following decision:—"The Board's finding, while admitting that the exchange, if effected, would consolidate the applicant's estate, made no similar admission in respect of the Crown lands to which the surrendered portion would be attached. But it is in evidence that the Crown estate would be consolidated as well as that of the applicant. That evidence would be found in the report of Mr. Chesterman, the Staff Surveyor. With regard to the respective values of the lands sought to be granted and that offered in surrender, the Court thinks that the alleged disparity of values, which is so important a feature in the Staff Surveyor's report, disappears, as, in addition to the surrender by applicant of all improvements on the surrendered land, it is understood that he is willing to pay the small sum—said to be about £25—required to make the values equivalent. The court is, therefore, unable to take the same view as the Board, and recommends the Minister to grant the application, subject to the conditions above indicated. The appeal is, therefore, sustained." I may mention that I have not yet given my decision on the case.

(25.) Chairman of the Wagga Land Board:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to a certain portion of the report of the Chairman of the Wagga Land Board, wherein Mr. Watts states:—"Under no circumstances is any man asked to disclose his private affairs if he desires not to do so, and I make a point of so informing the applicants"?
- (2.) If so, will he ask Mr. Watt to say whether a refusal to answer such questions adversely affects the intending selector's application when the Board is considering its decision?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

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

(26.) Sandy Creek Homestead Selections:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—Does he intend, as recommended in the report of the Chairman of the Wagga Local Land Board, to take the necessary steps to so amend the *Gazette* notice as to prevent the attendance of the unusually large number of selectors of homestead areas on the one day, as occurred in the matter of the Sandy Creek homestead selections?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I am giving this matter careful attention. Before lands were set apart a date was fixed by arrangement with the Chairman on which the Board could deal with the applications. This date was notified in the *Gazette* making the lands available, and the idea was that applicants, without any other notice, could attend on the day specified in the *Gazette*, and the successful applicants could by one attendance have their cases completed. The difficulty was that a very large number of persons applied, and some delay in attending to them necessarily occurred. An alternative method would be to leave the date of attendance to be notified to the applicants by the Chairman, who could then call for the attendance of as many as he thought fit; but, even then, such of the applicants as were selected would, if they left the district, have to return again to have their cases further dealt with.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Cohen presented a Petition from Richard C. James, Chairman of a meeting of residents of Petersham, held on the 31st day of July, 1900, praying that the law as to the closing of public-houses on Sunday may be made thoroughly effective, and that the hours of closing of public-houses and wine-shops be brought into harmony with those for ordinary shops.
Petition received.
3. FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Norton presented three Petitions from certain licensed fishermen and oystermen of Stockton, Bluff Head, Grafton, and Wiseman's Ferry, stating that the law under which Petitioners pursue their calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds in the Petitions set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
Petitions received.
4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Second Report relating to the proposed Railway from Grenfell to Wyalong.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

8th August, 1900.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Report of the Agricultural Societies Advisory Board on the management of Agricultural Societies.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Amended Rates on Telegrams transmitted from New South Wales to certain places in Africa, Asia, and America.

(2.) Report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1899, together with Appendices A to F.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 22nd December, 1899,—“Scrub in the West Bogan.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. MUNICIPALITIES ACT OF 1897 AMENDING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Fitzpatrick then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to amend the Municipalities Act of 1897; to enable Municipalities to let or lease lands within their boundaries upon which rates are due and remain unpaid for a period of more than five years.*”

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 1897; to enable Municipalities to let or lease lands within their boundaries upon which rates are due and remain unpaid for a period of more than five years,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 8th August, 1900.

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

(1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.

(2.) Public Service Board Appointment Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Quinn, “That this Bill be now read a second time”;—until To-morrow.

(3.) Coal-lumpers Baskets Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 30th October.

(4.) Railway Commissioners Appointment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 18th November.

8. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) 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 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.

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

On the motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

9. CASINO TO LISMORE RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, *passed*.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on 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 Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 9th August, 1900, A.M.

10. COBAR TO WILCANNIA RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, *passed*.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Cobar to Wilcannia; to authorise the transfer of certain Crown lands revenue to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes.*”

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th August, 1900.

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 Cobar to Wilcannia; to authorise the transfer of certain Crown lands revenue to the account of the receipts of the said line; 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 public roads; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 9th August, 1900, a.m.*

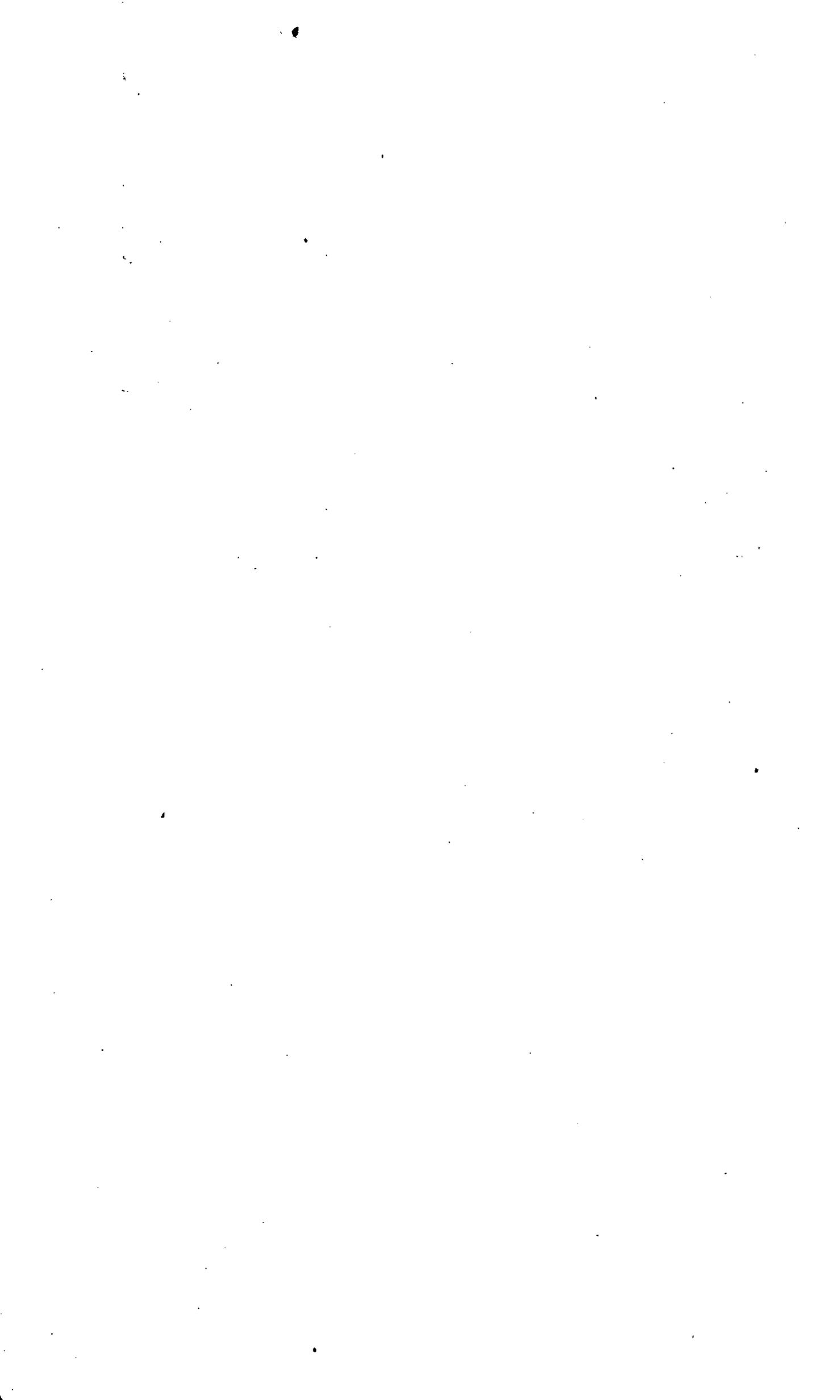
11. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—
Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill without amendment. |
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne 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.

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 27.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 9 AUGUST, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Norfolk Island:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) The total sum paid out of the Treasury of New South Wales on account of Norfolk Island during the last six years?
- (2.) The total cost or value of all work done for Norfolk Island, but not charged for by the Government of New South Wales, during the last six years?
- (3.) The approximate value of all services rendered to the Government of Norfolk Island by salaried officers under the Government of New South Wales?
- (4.) The authority under which the public revenues of New South Wales have been and are being expended by the Crown on account of Norfolk Island, an island not within the territory of New South Wales?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) From the year 1897 to the present date the sum of £1,600 (inclusive of £200 paid for the mail service) has been paid out of the Treasury. Prior to that year the Government of New South Wales was not concerned in the administration of Norfolk Island affairs.
 - (2.) It cannot be ascertained that work of any considerable value has been performed without charge being made to either the Imperial Government or to the Norfolk Island Funds. The removal of the reef obstructing the entrance to Emily Bay has recently been undertaken, under the supervision of an engineer of the Department of Works. The Norfolk Islanders are providing the labour free of cost, and the material used in the work will be paid for from funds in hand. It has not yet been decided in what way the personal expenses of the engineer and his assistant will be met.
 - (3.) Although useful assistance has, as occasion has arisen, been afforded the Administration by salaried officers of different State Departments, it would be almost impossible to give a reliable estimate of the money value of the services rendered.
 - (4.) The Parliament of New South Wales.
- (2.) Government House:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) The total expenditure on additions and repairs to Government House since 1890?
 - (2.) The total sum expended on the furnishing of Government House since 1890?
 - (3.) The total cost of Government House to the Colony since it was erected, including the expense of building, repairing, and furnishing?
 - (4.) The cost of preparing Government House for the reception of Governor Jersey, Governor Hampden, and Governor Beauchamp, respectively?
 - (5.) The privileges (if any) allowed by usage to the Governor and his staff at a cost to the public revenues?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1 to 4.) I will presently lay upon the Table returns showing—(a) the expenditure upon Government House in 1890, the year prior to the Earl of Jersey's arrival; and (b) the estimated value of Government House in 1892, and cost of additions, alterations, improvements, repairs, and furniture from 1st January, 1891, to 7th August, 1900.
 - (5.) Free railway passes and free transmission of letters through the Post Office.
- (3.) Friendly Societies' Holiday:—*Mr. Norton*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
In view of the importance of the Friendly Societies of New South Wales, will he consider the advisability of also proclaiming Bank Holiday a Friendly Societies' holiday throughout the Colony?
Mr. See answered,—I have not yet had an opportunity to consult the Premier in reference to this matter; but I am favourable to the proposal, and I hope to give my honorable friend an answer to his Question on Tuesday next. (4.)

9th August, 1900.

- (4.) Financial Condition of Municipalities:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. Chanter*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that many of the municipal districts of the Colony are in a very impoverished condition, and utterly unable financially to carry out their legitimate functions?
 - (2.) Is he prepared to render them any financial assistance; if so, when, and to what amount?
 - (3.) Will he introduce a comprehensive Local Government measure to enlarge their powers, and thus relieve their necessities?
 - (4.) If so, when does he intend to proceed with a Bill for that purpose?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1.) I have given instructions for the preparation of a return showing the maximum amount which each municipality is in a position to raise for each specific purpose, and the amount of interest payable on outstanding loans, &c. From this return the Honorable Member will be in a position to judge of the capability of any municipality to meet its engagements.
 - (2, 3, and 4.) The matter will receive consideration.
- (5.) Harbours and Rivers Works, Newcastle District:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) The name of the contractor for castings for the Harbours and Rivers Works in the Newcastle District?
 - (2.) Does the said contractor pay the Union rate of wages, as per special conditions issued by the Works Department?
 - (3.) If not, will he enforce the said conditions?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1 and 2.) The contractor's name is *Joseph B. Barclay*, and the Public Service Tender Board is not aware whether *Mr. Barclay* pays the Union rate of wages. There is, however, no stipulation in the conditions of contract that he shall do so.
 - (3.) I have no power to enforce the conditions to which the Honorable Member refers.
- (6.) The Commonwealth Bill:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has he yet laid upon the Table of the House a copy of the amendments made by the Home Government in the Commonwealth Bill; if not, will he do so without delay?
 - (2.) When does he intend to bring the amendments of the said Bill before this House for discussion and approval?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—A copy of the Commonwealth of Australia Bill as passed by the Imperial Parliament, together with the *Hansard* report of the Debates in the House of Commons and the House of Lords, will be laid upon the Table as soon as received. These documents, it may be mentioned, are now on their way out.
- (7.) Light Transit Railway Syndicate, Limited:—*Mr. Howarth* asked the Attorney-General,—Has he been consulted by the Registrar-General regarding the setting aside of the registration of the Light Transit Railway Syndicate, Limited; and what steps have been taken in the matter?
- Mr. Wood* answered,—No.
- (8.) System of Collecting Tram Fares:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) When is the system now in operation on our tram-lines under the new regime of collecting cash fares, and issuing bits of coloured paper, likely to cease, and the old system again adopted, viz., paying by tram ticket?
 - (2.) Is a staff of inspectors or detectives appointed, and continually travelling from car to car and tram to tram inspecting tickets that have been issued, to the annoyance of citizens and passengers?
 - (3.) The number of extra tram conductors that have been employed since the cash system came into operation, and the extra cost of the same?
 - (4.) The difference (if any) in regard to the amount of revenue derived from the cash system of fares compared with the old system of paying by ticket?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1.) The Railway Commissioners point out that the system of cash fares is found to be appreciated by the public, and they propose to continue it. The public have still opportunity of purchasing and paying tram tickets.
 - (2.) It is necessary to have inspectors to check tickets.
 - (3 and 4.) The introduction of the cash system was coincident with the initiation of altered sections. The cash fare system necessitated the appointment of additional conductors, but it would not be possible to divide the additional revenue and cost due to the introduction of the cash fare system and the initiation of 1d. sections.
- (9.) Unclassified Roads:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware of the enormous delay that takes place under the Lands Department when it is applied to respecting unclassified roads, or roads applied for to be surveyed, and even after survey is made?
 - (2.) Will he take steps to have all roads, in whatever position, brought under his Department, instead of the present divided and unsatisfactory position, so that applications can be made to the one Department in respect to roads?
- Mr. O'Sullivan* answered,—
- (1.) Reports have been made to me that delay has occurred on several occasions.
 - (2.) I will see my honorable colleague the Secretary for Lands, and endeavour to arrange for one Department to deal with all such applications. Personally, I am in favour of all matters in connection with roads being initiated and completed by the Public Works Department. It would save much valuable time if that were done.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th August, 1900.

(10.) Report of Public Works Committee on Railway from Grenfell to Wyalong:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it in accordance with the spirit and intention of the Parliamentary Public Works Committee for members of that Committee to take part in such proceedings in which they have a direct personal and pecuniary interest, as recently occurred, as reported in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 6th August, in conjunction with the inquiry into the proposed Temora railway extension?

(2.) Is it not a fact that the Public Works Committee twice decided in favour of the extension of the railway from Grenfell to Wyalong, and which, besides, has the support of the Railway Commissioners and experts?

(3.) Is it a fact that an indignation meeting was lately held at Grenfell, and a resolution carried unanimously to the effect "That this meeting protests with indignation against the action of one member of the Public Works Committee who voted with the Committee in defiance of the principles of justice, and by his vote got the Grenfell extension rejected by a majority of one"?

(4.) What steps (if any) does he intend to take in the matter, and to see that justice is done to Grenfell?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1 and 2.) As I have no control whatever over the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, the Honorable Member will, I am sure, see that I cannot give him any satisfactory replies to these Questions; he is no doubt aware that all reports of the Committee are laid upon the Table of the House.

(3.) I believe such a meeting was held.

(4.) I regret that nothing can be done at present, as the law provides that one year must elapse before a fresh submission of the same work can be made to the Public Works Committee.

(11.) Weirs over the Lachlan at Forbes:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a special grant of £500 was granted last Session towards the erection of two weirs over the Lachlan at Forbes; if so, did the weirs so erected stand the tests of recent heavy floods that occurred in that locality?

(2.) Have the weirs so erected been injured in any way by recent heavy floods; if so, to what extent?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) A grant of £500 was given to trustees by the Right Honorable G. H. Reid for the erection of a weir near Forbes; further sums amounting to £162 18s. were granted by me for trustees to expend upon a second weir in the same locality, but I have not been advised how these works stood the test of the late flood.

(2.) I have not received any report on the state of the weirs since the recent floods occurred.

(12.) Frenchman's Paddock:—Mr. Anderson, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the area of Frenchman's Paddock, in which the La Perouse monument stands, at Botany?

(2.) By whom is it occupied, and upon what terms or conditions?

(3.) How much of it is available for the use of the public?

(4.) Is that piece of land which abuts Hemming's accommodation-house on the north-east side a public reserve under the care of trustees; if so, what are the names of the trustees, and when were they appointed?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1 and 2.) La Perouse monument is on an area of 19 perches, covered by a release by His Excellency Sir Thomas Brisbane to Baron de Bougainville for a monument; it is within an enclosure containing about 20 acres, occupied in connection with the Telegraph Cable Station, the Customs, and Military Departments—such enclosure or paddock being within a reserve for defence purposes.

(3.) No part of such enclosure or paddock has been formally set apart for use of the public.

(4.) The land north-eastward of and immediately adjacent to Hemming's special lease for accommodation-house is Crown land reserved for public recreation, which is not vested in trustees.

(13.) Loss of Wool and Sheep:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Can he state the amount of loss (approximately or otherwise) the Colony sustained last year in the wool industry and in sheep owing to the prolonged and disastrous drought?

(2.) What effect, as far as can be ascertained, has the falling away in the quality and production of wool had upon the wool market in England and the Continent in regard to the rise or fall of prices?

(3.) Can he furnish any data (or approximate data) for the guidance of wool-growers and flock-masters in the Colony as to the probable outlook in the rise or fall in the price of wool during the ensuing wool season?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) My honorable colleague can give no definite information, and can only say that approximately the loss might be put down at (say) four and a half millions pounds sterling.

(2 and 3.) It is quite impossible to give any reliable replies to the Questions asked.

(14.) Wharf at La Perouse:—Mr. Anderson, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Did the Department, about twelve years ago, decide to construct a wharf at La Perouse; if so, what were the dimensions, and why was the work not carried out?

(2.) Will he cause a fresh report to be made on the matter?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) I am informed that the sum of £300 was voted on the 1890 Estimates for a wharf, but was found to be insufficient, and some objection having been raised to its erection, the work was never proceeded with.

(2.) Yes.

9th August, 1900.

(15.) President of the Board of Health :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to a statement that the President of the Board of Health has interfered with the jurisdiction and public functions belonging to the City Council?

(2.) Will he state if this interference with the operations and functions of the City Council has been done with the approval of the members of the Public Health Board, and with his knowledge and sanction?

(3.) Under what Act has the President of the Board of Health authority to interfere with the public functions belonging to the City Council in regard to the contract for cleansing the city and destroying the garbage by fire?

(4.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the letter sent to the City Council by the President of the Board of Health; also copy of alleged cleansing contract that has been entered into by the Council?

Sir William Lyne answered,—My attention has not been drawn to the statement to which the Honorable Member refers, and the President of the Board of Health informs me that he has not addressed the City Council upon any of these subjects. Dr. Ashburton Thompson, at my request, reported (to me) upon the proposed cleansing contract of the City Council, and I furnished the Right Worshipful the Mayor with a copy of such report. I will endeavour to obtain a copy of the contract from Sir Matthew Harris, and, if successful, will forward it to the Honorable Member.

(16.) Helmets for the Police :—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the helmets now being served out to the Police are manufactured of such heavy material and so ill-shapen that they afford little or no protection from the sun, and the weight of the helmets makes them oppressive to those wearing them?

(2.) Will he procure helmets of a lighter type, and affording more protection to the men?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police :—The contractor supplied (under penalty) some helmets heavier in weight than the sample, but otherwise suitable. They are not oppressive to wear, and weigh about $8\frac{1}{2}$ ozs.; should be 7 ozs. Lighter ones will be substituted for summer wear when practicable. Pith helmets are issued in summer in hot climates, and white covers for the regulation helmet.

(17.) Application to Purchase Land by John Whitens :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it not a fact that one John Whitens applied in May last for permission to purchase 4 or 5 acres of land on the travelling stock reserve at Balderodgery, district of Molong, county of Gordon, as a site for a blacksmith's shop for the convenience of farmers and settlers in that locality; if so, what is the reason the matter is being so long delayed, and when the person applying is likely to receive some definite answer?

Mr. Wood answered,—Several references had to be made to the District Inspector on this matter, but the reports have now been obtained, and the papers forwarded to the Department of Lands for a decision to be arrived at.

(18.) Fares on the Ocean-street Cable Tram :—Mr. Quinn asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the several postponements of the reduction of fares on the Ocean-street cable-tram, will he impress upon the Railway Commissioners the necessity of keeping faith with the travelling public using this line irrespective of the completion of Walker Drums?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that the introduction of the altered system on the Ocean-street line is waiting the completion of the necessary additional appliances. As pointed out in reply to a Question yesterday, it is expected the Clyde Engineering Company will have the Walker Drums complete, so as to allow of the change being made in a few days, viz., on the 20th instant.

2. LIQUOR ACT :—Mr. Archer presented a Petition from Mary T. Firth, Presiding Officer at a public meeting of residents at Burwood, praying that the law as to the closing of public-houses on Sunday may be made thoroughly effective, and that the hours of closing of public-houses and wine-shops be brought into harmony with those for ordinary shops.
Petition received.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulations Nos. 58A, 108, and 109A, under the Crown Lands Acts.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Expenditure on Government House.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”

(2.) Amended By-laws of the Borough of Waverley.

(3.) Report of the Aborigines Protection Board for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to amend the Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898.*”

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 Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 9th August, 1900.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th August, 1900.

5. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill ; to be further considered in Committee ;—until Tuesday next.
 (2.) Public Service Board Appointment Bill ; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Quinn, "That this Bill be now read a second time" ;—until Wednesday next.
6. **PRECEDENCE OF GOVERNMENT BUSINESS ON TUESDAYS** (*Sessional Order*) :—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That, on Tuesday next, Government Business shall take precedence of General Business ; and from that day, during the remainder of the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, Government Business shall take precedence on every alternate Tuesday.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
7. **PRINTING COMMITTEE** :—Mr. Dight brought up the Eighth Report from the Printing Committee.
8. **INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Wise, "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, 10 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Wednesday next.

9. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
 Sir William Lyne 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 for the purpose of amending the Proviso, 22 for the purpose of amending paragraph (d) of sub-clause 4 and the insertion of a new paragraph, and to consider a new Clause to follow Clause 17,"—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,—
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of Clauses 1, 17 for the purpose of amending the Proviso, 22 for the purpose of amending paragraph (d) of sub-clause 4 and the insertion of a new paragraph, and to consider a new Clause to follow Clause 17,—put and passed.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
10. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS** :—
 (1.) *Railway from Temora to Wyalong* :—Mr. O'Sullivan moved pursuant to Notice, That it be again referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Temora to Wyalong.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 (2.) *Water Supply to Towns of Broken Hill and Silverton* :—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 works at Uمبرumberka Creek, for providing a water supply to the towns of Broken Hill and Silverton.
 Question put and passed.
11. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—
 (1.) The remaining Government Business until Tuesday next.
 (2.) The remaining Orders of the Day of General Business until Tuesday next.
12. **CASE OF WILLIAM CRESWELL** :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, that portion of the Report of the Royal Commission on the case of William Creswell, which recommends that the said William Creswell be set at liberty forthwith, be carried out.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 The House adjourned, at half-past Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
 Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 28.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 14 AUGUST, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Volunteer Regiments:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Secretary,—What was the establishment, strength, and number of efficient on the 30th June, 1899 and 1900 respectively, of the following Volunteer Regiments, viz.:—(1) The 5th Regiment Scottish Rifles; (2) the 6th Regiment, Australian Rifles; (3) the 7th Regiment, St. George's Rifles; (4) the 8th Regiment, Irish Rifles? Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

Return showing establishments, strength, and efficient of the following:—

Regiment.	Establishment.	Strength.	Efficient.	Establishment.	Strength.	Efficient.
		1899			1900	
5th Infantry Regiment	423	370	356	629	629	553
6th do	636	607	516	636	636	636
7th do	629	560	281	629	629	624
8th do	323	318	217	629	627	582

- (2.) Easter Encampment, 1899–1900:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Secretary,—What was the attendance at the Easter training in 1899 and 1900 respectively of the following Volunteer Regiments, viz.:—(1) The 5th Regiment, Scottish Rifles; (2) the 6th Regiment, Australian Rifles; (3) the 7th Regiment, St. George's Rifles; (4) the 8th Regiment, Irish Rifles?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

Return showing the attendance at the Easter Training in 1899 and 1900 of the following:—

Regiments.	Days.	1899.	Days.	1900.
5th Infantry Regiment	4	212	4	327
6th do	4	456	3½	399
7th do	4	262	3	404
8th do	4	176	—	Nil

No provision was made on the Estimates for Easter Training for any of the unpaid Volunteer Regiments. However, the 5th Infantry Regiment was arranged by private subscription; the 6th Infantry Regiment got a special grant from the Government; the 7th Infantry Regiment was allowed a small sum out of the Capitation Fund towards rations, but this Regiment was not under canvas, the men returning to their homes daily. The 8th did not hold a camp.

- (3.) Defence Force Rifle Association:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Was an association called the Defence Force Rifle Association established in the early part of last year?
 - (2.) If so, upon what date?
 - (3.) Did it receive Ministerial sanction?
 - (4.)

14th August, 1900.

- (4.) If so, upon what date ?
 (5.) Did the association hold any rifle meeting during the year ending 30th June, 1899 ?
 (6.) Was not a sum of £500 voted on the last Estimates in aid of the association ?
 (7.) Has any rifle meeting been held during the year ending 30th June, 1900 ?
 (8.) What number of entries were received for the meeting announced to be held a few months ago ?
 (9.) What has become of the money voted by Parliament as mentioned above ?
- Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces :—
 (1, 3, and 5.) Yes.
 (2 and 4.) Notification published in *Government Gazette*, No. 407, of 16th May, 1899.
 (6.) £750.
 (7.) No.
 (8.) 450.
 (9.) Lapsed and returned to Treasury.
- (4.) Military Examinations:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact, as shown by the "New South Wales Army List," that none of the following officers have passed the examinations required by the law, *i.e.*, Regulations 25, 26, and 27, under the Volunteer Force Regulation Act of 1867, *viz.* :—(1) Colonel Holborow, C.M.G., Commanding the 3rd Infantry Partially-paid Regiment; (2) Brevet Lieut.-Colonel Bartlett, Adjutant of the same Regiment; (3) Lieut.-Colonel G. W. Waddell, Commanding the 2nd Infantry Partially-paid Regiment; (4) Captain J. L. Mullins, 8th Infantry Volunteer Regiment; (5) Lieutenant A. Tower, Adjutant, 8th Infantry Volunteer Regiment ?
- Mr. See answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces :—Error in Army List, as officers passed examinations as follows :—
 (1) Passed for Major, 1874; (2) passed for Captain, 1880, promoted Major in 1887 for services as Adjutant to the Soudan Contingent; (3) for Major, 1886; (4) for Lieutenant, 1897; (5) for Lieutenant, 1895.
- (5.) Hare-Spence System of Voting:—Mr. Affleck asked the Attorney-General,—Can he inform this House when he will submit the resolution promised by him regarding the introduction of the Hare-Spence System of voting for the election of the Members to the Senate of the Commonwealth of Australasia ?
- Mr. See answered,—As early as the state of Government business will permit.
- (6.) Conveyance of Books from the Free Public Library:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—
 (1.) Has it been the practice of the Post Office to carry text-books and standard works in the Lending Branch of the Free Public Library to country students in railway-connected towns on up and down journeys, free of charge ?
 (2.) Has the Post Office intimated to such students, through the Librarian, that this practice is discontinued, and that returned books of the Free Library must pay a poundage in freight stamps ?
 (3.) What is the estimated amount of revenue to be derived from this source ?
 (4.) In view of the general policy of free education of this country, carrying pupils by rail to school free, making education of children obligatory, carrying annually thousands of tons of newspapers at a loss to the Post Office of £40,000 a year, will he consider the desirability of reverting to his former practice of franking the country students' books borrowed from the Public Library ?
 (5.) The number of books that are sent through the Post Office to country students from the Free Public Library ?
- Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague has furnished me with the following replies :—
 (1.) No. The Post Office does not undertake to carry any books free of charge, but it appears that, unknown to the Post Office, the Library authorities have been in the habit of sending, under "O.H.M.S." envelopes, large supplies of books, not only to students, but to private persons, and of enclosing "O.H.M.S." envelopes for the return of the books, and complaint has been made to me that this practice, besides being illegal, interferes unfairly with people in the book trade.
 (2.) No; but I have intimated to the Library authorities that, as books sent to and from private persons are so forwarded in the interest of the latter, they must not be sent "O.H.M.S."
 (3.) Impossible to say. The Library authorities can alone furnish the information.
 (4.) Answered by No. 2.
 (5.) The Library authorities can alone furnish the information.
- (7.) Horses for Army Remounts:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Has the Government any means of showing what effect the complications in South Africa have had upon the New South Wales export trade in horses for Army remounts; has it been beneficial so far as trade and values are concerned; if so, what is the approximate increase in the value of the horses in this Colony ?
 (2.) How many horses have been sent from New South Wales for Army remount purposes during 1898, 1899, and 1900, to India, Africa, or other places, and the average prices paid for same ?
 (3.) What are the prospects for an increased trade in Army remounts with Great Britain, Germany, and other Powers; and how can the trade be stimulated ?
 (4.) Has any comparative estimate been formed of the suitability of Australian, British, and American horses for Army purposes; if so, is such comparison favourable to New South Wales in regard to the questions of cost, suitability of horses, and facilities for transit to India, Africa, and the East ?
 (5.) Have any reports been prepared showing,—(a) The most desirable stamp of horses to breed for Army purposes; (b) the weak features in the class of horses offered; (c) the ages, colours, and heights most desired; (d) the minimum and maximum prices which the right class of horses would

14th August, 1900.

would bring; (c) the conditions under which animals would be inspected, and the places for inspection; if not, will he be good enough to urge the Military authorities to prepare such a report?

(6.) In view of the possibilities of the development of the trade, will he take steps to issue a pamphlet for distribution containing the following information, viz.:—(a) Particulars of the stamp of horses required, age, colour, height, and approximate value; (b) suggestions as to the strains most valuable in breeding the class of horses required for the various arms of the military service; also illustrations showing the classes of horses desired, together with such other information as may be deemed necessary to encourage the breeding of suitable horses and the development of the trade in horses for remounts?

(7.) Will he arrange for an Honorary Board of Advice, consisting of horse-breeders and military experts, to inquire into the value and possibilities of the horse-trade for Army purposes?

(8.) Is he aware that in the Maitland, Scone, Singleton, Durham, Gloucester, and Muswellbrook Districts a large number of suitable horses for military purposes are bred; will he take steps to have inquiries instituted at the places named, with a view to the establishment of periodical military horse fairs to stimulate the remount trade between this Colony and the British, African, Indian, and Eastern markets, thus enabling horse-breeders in the surrounding districts to submit their horses upon a fixed date?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces that the Military Department is not in a position to furnish any information on this subject.

(8.) Water and Sewerage Department:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the business of the Water and Sewerage Department is extravagantly managed, and that a large amount of unnecessary expense is entailed in the working of the Board?

(2.) If so, is such extra expense met by rates charged upon the city and suburban users of the water supply and sewerage works?

(3.) Will he cause an inquiry to be held by the Public Service Board, and a report laid upon the Table of this House prior to the passing of the Estimates of 1900–1901 on the working of the Water and Sewerage Department?

Mr. See answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table a return in answer to this Question.

(9.) Increments to School Teachers:—Mr. Price asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that there are a large number of officers holding certificates, and possessing qualifications higher than those necessary for the positions which they hold; is there any hope of positions being shortly available for such officers equal to the qualifications which they possess; if not, will he take steps to have annual increments granted to such officers?

(2.) When will increases be granted to teachers having small country schools; and what ratio will such increases bear to their present remuneration?

(3.) What is the cause of the delay in dealing with this matter; will he be good enough to take steps to expedite same?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) There are many teachers who have qualified themselves by examination for positions higher than those they now hold. These will be promoted as vacancies occur. It has been pointed out time after time that the mere fact of obtaining a certain classification does not entitle a teacher to any particular class of school, but only renders him eligible for appointment. It is not desirable that annual increments should be granted.

(2.) When the necessary regulations have been gazetted and funds have been voted by Parliament.

(3.) There has been no delay. I would point out to the Honorable Member that a policeman the other day passed the examination for a police magistrateship; but, although the passing of that examination made him eligible for, it did not entitle him to appointment to such a position.

(10.) Government Agricultural Farms:—Mr. Hurley, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What is the annual expenditure in connection with the Government Agricultural Farms?

(2.) How many students have attended the Agricultural Colleges?

(3.) How many ex-students have settled upon the land?

(4.) What was the cost of the importation of stock, and what profit has such importation returned?

(5.) Is there any unsaleable live stock in the possession of the Government, and of what does it consist?

(6.) Are the Government farms still cultivating Allora Spring wheat?

(7.) What is the price per bushel of Allora Spring and Manitoba wheat respectively?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) The amount expended from revenue is £19,135.

(2.) Five hundred and seventy.

(3.) It is impossible to state definitely, but it is estimated that about 60 per cent. are working in connection with the land.

(4.) Cost, £5,763 2s. 8d. Revenue to date amounts to £606 19s. 6d., but, of course, as the progeny increases each year, it is expected the revenue will also improve. It may be explained, too, that there are indirect advantages in the improvement of the dairy stock generally of the Colony which cannot be estimated.

(5.) No.

(6.) Yes.

(7.) Local Manitoba about 3s., Allora Spring about 4d. to 6d. less.

(11.) Extension of the Cook's River Tramway to Rockdale:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he consider the advisableness of extending the electric tramway lately opened to Cook's River on to Rockdale, there to connect with Saywell's private tramway to Lady Robinson's Beach?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I will consider this suggestion when the Loan Estimates are passed. I will then know what funds are available for tramway construction.

14th August, 1900.

- (12.) 7th Regiment (St. George's Rifles):—Mr. Thomas asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has the Government acted on the recommendations of the Court of Inquiry held in connection with the 7th Regiment (St. George's Rifles); if not, why not?
Mr. See answered,—This matter has been under the consideration of the Government, but they have not yet finally decided as to the course to be taken, pending the notice of motion which has been on the business-paper for some time.
- (13.) Gold-dredging Leases on the Abercrombie River:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he have any objection to lay upon the Table of the House all the papers in connection with the applications for gold-dredging leases on the Abercrombie River, so that the petitions of the fossickers may be made public before the leases are actually gazetted?
Mr. Fegan answered,—There is no objection if moved for in the usual way; but I may point out that no dredging lease will be granted until after inquiry has been held by the Warden as to any objections which exist to the granting of the lease. Due notice of the date of inquiry will be published in the local newspapers, and the petitioners afforded an opportunity of urging their objections.
- (14.) Mount Kembla Coal and Oil Company's Railway Act:—Mr. Sleath asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Have any steps been taken to obtain the repeal of "An Act to enable the Mount Kembla Coal and Oil Company, Limited, to construct two lines of Railway from land near Mount Kembla, belonging to the said Company, and to connect the same with the sea-coast at Red Point and at Wollongong respectively,"—which Act was assented to on 23rd March, 1881, and in terms of which full power exists admitting erection of innumerable jetties at Port Kembla?
(2.) Does he intend to proceed with the Port Kembla Amending Bill while such statutory rights are in existence?
Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
(1.) I am not aware that any such steps have been taken.
(2.) The amending Bill has been passed and sent to the Council, but it only provides for the repeal of the proviso to section 1 of the Act.
2. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—
(1.) By Mr. Wilks—From certain residents of Balmain.
(2.) By Mr. McGowen—From certain members and adherents of St. Luke's Presbyterian Church, Redfern.
(3.) By Mr. Fegan—From certain residents of Hamilton.
(4.) By Mr. Wilks—From certain residents of Balmain.
(5.) By Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick—From certain residents of Junee.
(6.) By Mr. Brunker—From certain residents of Catherine Hill Bay.
(7.) By Mr. Brunker—From certain residents of Morpeth.
(8.) By Mr. Dugald Thomson—From certain residents of Manly.
(9.) By Mr. W. W. Davis—From certain residents of Bourke.
(10.) By Mr. Cann—From certain residents of Broken Hill.
Petitions received.
3. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL:—Mr. Dugald Thomson presented a Petition from certain employers of labour in all the principal branches of industry in this Colony, praying that the House may be pleased to refrain from passing the Industrial Arbitration Bill into law at the present juncture, or taking any steps to change the law relating to industrial conditions until the whole question can be remitted to the Federal Parliament for consideration.
Petition received.
4. PAPERS:—
Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Information respecting the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Reports, Correspondence, &c., of the late "Unemployed Advisory Board."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. GUNDAGAI TO TUMUT RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
BEAUCHAMP, Message No. 59.
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 a line of railway from Gundagai to Tumut, 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, and to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes.
Government House,
Sydney, 10th August, 1900.
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill. 6.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th August, 1900.

6. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
 (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill ; to be further considered in Committee ;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Ministerial Bill ; second reading ;—until Tuesday next.
7. **MINING LAWS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL** :—Mr. See moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Mining Laws Further 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 To-morrow.
8. **POSTPONEMENT** :—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Sydney Harbour Trust Bill postponed until To-morrow.
9. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Norton 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 and 17"—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, 38.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. Dight,
Mr. See,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Spruson,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Archer,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Piddington.
Mr. Ross,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Spence,	
Mr. Henry Chapman,	Mr. Mengler,
Mr. Holman,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.

Noes, 23.

Mr. J. E. Young,	Mr. Gormly.
Mr. Bruncker,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cohen,	
Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Lees,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Morgan.
Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Norton,	
Dr. Ross,	
Dr. Graham,	
Mr. Jessop,	
Mr. Storey,	
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Taylor,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Wright,	
Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Kidd,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Question then,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.
 Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. See, *passed*.

Mr. See then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879, and the Acts amending the same.*"

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 further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879, and the Acts amending the same,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 14th August, 1900.*

10. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The Orders of the Day of Government Business, Nos. 8 to 13 inclusive, postponed until To-morrow.
11. **MINES (EIGHT HOURS) BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan 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. Fegan, 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. Fegan, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
12. **POSTPONEMENTS** :—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow :—
 (1.) Coal Mines Regulation Act Amendment Bill ; second reading.
 (2.) Stock Diseases Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make provision for the prevention and cure of diseases in stock.

14th August, 1900.

13. MINES INSPECTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 and inspection of mines other than coal and shale mines; to regulate the treatment of the products of such mines; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those 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 make better provision for the regulation and inspection of mines other than coal and shale mines; to regulate the treatment of the products of such mines; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.

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

14. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS—(*Railway from Cockburn to Broken Hill*):—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Cockburn to Broken Hill.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 29.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 15 AUGUST, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Agricultural Societies:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has he yet perused the report of the Board appointed to inquire into the management, &c., of New South Wales Agricultural Societies?

(2.) Is he prepared to act upon the recommendations therein made; and, if so, when does he propose to put the same into operation?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The report is under consideration, but it has not been decided as to whether the recommendations will be adopted. It is, however, apparent that some action will have to be taken to improve the present system of Government expenditure in aid of Agricultural Societies, as the report shows that they are not carrying out the educational work that might be expected from them. Also, that some action is necessary to discourage the rapidly increasing growth of a number of small societies in the same locality, which detract from each others usefulness. The question is surrounded by many difficulties, and a decision will not be arrived at until after the fullest consideration.

- (2.) Manufacture of Arms and Ammunition:—Mr. Bennett asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the effective armament of European nations, and the serious complications in the East, will he consider the advisableness of establishing an arsenal in the Colony for the manufacture of arms and ammunition?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I fear that at present the manufacture of arms in the Colony cannot be entertained; but the Government have for some time been considering the possibility of erecting an ammunition factory in New South Wales. The cost of such a factory will, however, necessitate that the proposal be submitted to the Public Works Committee.

- (3.) The Bubonic Plague:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In answer to Dr. Ross' Question of the 8th August, No. 2, respecting the intention of the Government to send Dr. Tidswell to India, China, &c., to study the etiology and endemic character of bubonic or rat plague at the public expense, why was Dr. Tidswell selected in preference to other equally competent medical gentlemen in the Colony; or why were some of the Professors in our University, such as Professor Anderson Stuart, Dr. Wilkinson, &c., not selected?

(2.) Does he mean to infer that, by sending Dr. Tidswell to India, &c., to study this disease, the Professors of the science and practice of medicine in our University are unable and incompetent to teach or deal with this rat disease that is alleged to have been rampant in our midst during the last six or seven months?

(3.) If it is necessary in the interest of public health to send experts at the public expense to foreign countries for information respecting the nature and treatment of bubonic or rat plague, will he send experts in every other disease such as cancer, tuberculosis, consumption, diphtheria, cholera, leprosy, typhoid fever, insanity, &c.?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Dr. Tidswell is to be sent to Europe to make acquaintance with recent general advances in bacteriology, and not especially with plague. The officer named owes his selection to the fact that he is the bacteriologist to the Board of Health, and has thereby imposed upon him the duty of dealing with the bacteriological aspect of matters affecting the public health.

(4.)

15th August, 1900.

- (4.) Case of Josephson v. Young:—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What were the costs in the case of Josephson v. Young?
 - (2.) What is the amount to be paid consequent on the judgment of the Supreme Court in this case?
 - (3.) Should this be accepted as a test case, what sum will the Government be called upon to pay to the various claimants?
 - (4.) What sum of money did the Public Service Board actually save by their retrenchments?
 - (5.) How much has been, and will be, required to be paid by the Government as a result of the various actions brought by ex-Civil Servants consequent upon retrenchment?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) The plaintiff's costs have not yet been received.
- (2.) A pension to Mr. Josephson from the date of retirement, 31st January, 1896, of £222 1s. per annum.
- (3.) Impossible to say at present; inquiries are now being made.
- (4.) The saving effected by the reorganisation of the Service, under the provisions of the Public Service Act, is estimated approximately at £301,827 1s. 11d. per annum.
- (5.) So far as the Board are aware, no actions have been successfully brought against the Government as a consequence of any retrenchment effected at the instance of the Board. Mr. Josephson was retired in the early part of 1895, before the Public Service Board came into existence, the Public Service Act not having been passed until the 23rd December of that year.

- (5.) Contributions to the Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware of the fact that in Queensland some years since the contributions made to the Superannuation Fund by Civil Servants were returned to them when they voluntarily ceased paying in?
- (2.) Will he consider the advisability of adopting this course in New South Wales?
- (3.) If this suggestion be not practicable, will he issue stock or debentures at 3 per cent. for the amount requisite to carry out this proposal, such stock to be redeemable in (say) twenty years, and to be made negotiable on the Stock Exchange?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Neither the Public Service Board nor myself have any information on the subject.
- (2 and 3.) Steps will soon have to be taken to place the Civil Service Superannuation Fund upon a sound financial basis, and the course to be followed in respect of officers who decided to discontinue contributing will then receive full consideration. The Honorable Member will, I think, agree with me that the matter is one which should not be dealt with piecemeal.

- (6.) Bread Supplied to Public Institutions:—*Mr. Cann*, for Mr. Smith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Who was the successful tenderer for the bread contract for public institutions for the year 1900-1901?
- (2.) Is the successful tenderer now supplying bread under the contract; if not, what are the alleged reasons for the non-fulfilment of the contract?
- (3.) What is the name of the firm or firms now supplying bread to the public institutions?
- (4.) Are such firms working under the fair-conditions regulations *re* hours of labour and rates of pay?

Sir William Lyne answered.—A separate contract for the supply of bread is let in connection with each of the numerous Government institutions, and for the current year's supplies there were a number of successful tenderers. If the Honorable Member will indicate the particular institution or institutions to which he refers, I shall be glad to furnish him with the information he seeks.

- (7.) Mortality of Sheep from Eating a Poisonous Bush:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it true that a terrible mortality occurred during the week in a mob of 10,000 sheep travelling from Longreach *en route* to Nebo, near Clermont, in Queensland, during which it is alleged that 3,000 sheep died from eating a poisonous bush?
- (2.) Can he furnish any satisfactory information as to the class or nature of the alleged poisonous bush; and are there any records of previous deaths having occurred from the same cause, or have any deaths occurred in New South Wales from a similar cause?

Mr. Fegan answered.—Nothing is known of the matter further than what has appeared in the Press. I may say, however, that in this Colony deaths in stock from poisonous plants have been reported, but they have almost invariably turned out upon investigation to have been from disease or from hoven.

- (8.) Verdi Daley, late Bugler of the Mounted Rifles:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to compensate or indemnify the parents, who reside in Molong, of Verdi Daley, bugler of the Mounted Rifles, who some months back died from enteric fever during the war in South Africa; if so, when is this extreme case of hardship likely to receive the attention of the Trustees of the Patriotic Fund?
- (2.) When is the case of "Gosper," a resident at Manildra, in the district of Molong, who some months back returned invalided from the South African war, from lung disease, likely to receive any aid or assistance from the Patriotic Fund, seeing that he is now unable to work through severe illness contracted while in Africa?
- (3.) Will he cause a list of applications for aid or compensation that have been made by relatives of deceased or returned invalided soldiers to be laid upon the Table of this House?

Sir

15th August, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No application for assistance has been received by the Government from Mr. Daley. As is customary in such cases, a form of application for relief from the Patriotic Fund was sent to Mr. Daley to fill in, but has never been returned.

(2.) No application for assistance has yet been received from Trooper Gosper, although Mr. Mitchell, secretary to the Patriotic Fund, boards every vessel which arrives with invalided soldiers on board, and gives them every information as to the method of applying for relief if needed.

(3.) I do not think this is a matter which should be made public.

(9.) Presentation of Horses to Major-General Baden-Powell :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a letter appearing in the *Herald* of the 10th instant, from one Herbert A. Pottic (of the firm Pottic and Sous, veterinary surgeons), in which it is stated that the authorities have been inspecting and advertising for weeks in vain for a suitable horse or steed, to be presented to Major-General Baden-Powell?

(2.) Will he state what class or type of animal is required by the authorities?

(3.) Is it not a fact that dozens of superior animals can be obtained in and around Sydney?

Mr. Fegan answered,—This is a matter which does not concern the Government in any way, and I am, therefore, unable to afford the Honorable Member the information desired.

(10.) Leave of Absence to Dr. Tidswell :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Dr. Tidswell, the Chief Assistant Health Officer, has been granted twelve months' leave on full pay and allowances, although he is a Civil Servant, and has only been two or three years in the Service?

(2.) Is it the case that Dr. Tidswell has not been given any definite instructions to proceed to certain places, and perform certain duties, but can travel where he pleases at the public cost without any restriction?

(3.) If this is so, will he take steps to see that some definite result and advantage to the public is got from the expenditure of money in granting Dr. Tidswell this extended holiday?

(4.) Will he take into consideration the advisability of allowing other and senior Government Medical Officers in the Service extended leave on full pay, for the purpose of gaining further instruction in their medical duty?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) General instructions have been given to Dr. Tidswell, and it would be impossible to give him definite instructions, but his character and ability entitle him to all the confidence which has been placed in him.

(3.) There is no doubt that the improvement in his knowledge will be a definite result of very great advantage to the public.

(4.) Leave on full pay always has been granted to scientific officers in the Public Service from time to time who are professedly occupied in branches of knowledge in which advances are made year by year, for the purpose of making themselves acquainted with them in the public interest.

(11.) Shea's Creek :—Mr. Bennett asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) In what year was the Shea's Creek reclamation begun; and what has been the total expenditure on it to date?

(2.) What is the area of the reclaimed estate; and in what manner does the Government propose to utilise it?

(3.) Is he aware that the reclamation was so badly planned that portions of the estate are flooded in wet weather, and are, therefore, useless unless the drainage system is improved?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) In 1888; expenditure to date £163,707 9s. 3d.

(2.) About 156 acres. It is proposed to utilise the land for wharfage purposes, and for other commercial industries.

(3.) I am not aware that the work was set out defectively. I am informed that only those portions of the reclamation which are unfinished are liable to be flooded. The work is a good sanitary improvement, as it rid the locality of several dangerous fever-beds.

(12.) Members of the Local Parliament :—Mr. Wilson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of Federation now being an accomplished fact, does the Government intend to bring in a measure for the purpose of reducing the number of Members in the Local Parliament?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This question will shortly be considered.

(13.) Fares on the Northern Line :—Mr. Wilson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the distance by rail from Sydney to Brisbane?

(2.) The distance from Sydney to Wallangarra?

(3.) The distance from Sydney to Armidale?

(4.) What is the price of return tickets, 1st and 2nd class, from Sydney to Brisbane?

(5.) What amount of that fare do the Railway Commissioners receive for carrying through passengers from Sydney to Wallangarra and back?

(6.) What is the price of return tickets, 1st and 2nd class, from Sydney to Wallangarra?

(7.) What is the price of return tickets, 1st and 2nd class, from Sydney to Armidale?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the distance Sydney to Brisbane is 723 miles; to Wallangarra, 490; and to Armidale, 358 miles. The fares are as under :—

	1st Class Return.			2nd Class Return.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Sydney to Brisbane	6	10	0	4	0	0
Sydney to Wallangarra	5	12	6	3	10	0
Sydney to Armidale	4	16	0	3	3	6

The proportion of the Brisbane fare received by this Colony is £4 8s. 1d. first-class, and £2 14s. 3d. second-class.

(14.)

15th August, 1900.

- (14.) Road Superintendent, Armidale District:—Mr. Wilson asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has a road superintendent been appointed for the Armidale District?
 - (2.) If so, where is he, and when will he take up the duties of the office?
 - (3.) Is the assistant road superintendent being allowed any extra salary for carrying out the onerous double duties for months past?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) On leave of absence which expires on 6th September, 1900, when he will take up his duties at Armidale.
- (3.) Yes.

- (15.) Stock Inspector at Kempsey:—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the indiscriminate way the stock inspector at Kempsey causes summonses to be issued in cases of suspected non-registration of stock?
- (2.) Is it true that not only people who have no stock, but men long since dead, are at times summoned by him?
- (3.) Are stock inspectors allowed travelling expenses when they attend from home to prosecute for non-registering of stock?
- (4.) Is it a usual thing for stock inspectors to apply for, and Benches of Magistrates to grant, witnesses' expenses to such, in cases where convictions are obtained?
- (5.) If not, will he take steps to compel the stock inspector to reimburse stockowners at Bellingen, Bowra, and Merksmith, who were recently ordered to pay witnesses' expenses?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) An intimation was received from the inspector that he intended to prosecute owners who had neglected to make returns; but he did not say how many he intended to prosecute.
- (2.) I am not aware; but I shall have inquiry made.
- (3.) Yes; but not if they get expenses from the defendants.
- (4.) Yes; under section 46, Diseases in Sheep Act Amendment Act of 1878.
- (5.) I am unable to say until I have made inquiry in the matter and ascertained all the circumstances.

- (16.) Mitigation of Floods in the Hunter River District:—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will he be prepared to submit the scheme for the mitigation of floods in the Hunter River District to the Public Works Committee?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Plans are now being prepared, and I hope to ask the House to refer the matter to the Public Works Committee in about four weeks' time.

- (17.) Greater Sydney Scheme:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Was the sum of £25 given by the late Treasurer—the Right Honorable G. H. Reid, M.P., P.C.—to a committee of suburban alderman for the purpose of preparing a report upon the Greater Sydney Scheme?
- (2.) Is he aware that one member of the committee, without the concurrence of his fellow-members, expended this amount and furnished vouchers to the Treasury; was a portion of the money absorbed as follows, viz:—(a) Cab fares and sundries, £5; (b) typewriting paid to a member of an alderman's family, £3; (c) preparation of statistical information by a friend of one of the aldermen, £3; (d) clerical work by a Council Clerk in the employ of one of the aldermen, £5?
- (3.) Will he state what vouchers were sent to the Auditor-General; and by whom?
- (4.) Is he aware that the amounts paid have never been passed by the committee of alderman?
- (5.) Is it a fact that the vouchers have not been presented, examined, or checked by the auditors appointed by the committee of aldermen?
- (6.) Will he furnish the name of the aldermen who obtained the £25, and who presented the vouchers to the Treasury?
- (7.) Will he call upon the Auditor-General for a report, and the committee for an explanation of the expenditure?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) A sum of £25 was advanced by the late Colonial Treasurer to the Chairman of the committee on the Greater Sydney Scheme—Mr. J. G. Griffin.
- (2, 3, 4, and 5.) Vouchers in adjustment of advances are furnished to the Auditor-General, from whom inquiries will be made.
- (6.) Mr. J. G. Griffin. The vouchers were, however, forwarded to the Auditor-General, not the Treasury.
- (7.) I will communicate with the Auditor-General, and take any further steps if such should be necessary.

- (18.) Stock Route from Gloucester to Maitland:—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Were representations made by the Port Stephens Stock Board, through the Honorable Member for Gloucester, some two years since, to the following effect:—(a) The necessity for a deviation in the stock road from the north-east, *via* Dungog, through the Elah Estate, over Melville Crossing, to Maitland markets; (b) the advantages of this route, and the avoidance of crossing Belmore Bridge and the town of Maitland; (c) the necessity of establishing a stock reserve along the route on a portion of Crown lands at present used by private persons without payment to the Crown?
- (2.) Did the District Surveyor report in favour of the proposal; and were objections raised by private persons interested in the estate; if so, by whom?
- (3.) What are the reasons that the recommendations of the District Surveyor were not carried out?
- (4.) Is he aware that the present route is inconvenient and dangerous, as stock must pass through Maitland and over the Belmore Bridge?
- (5.) Will he be good enough to take action to conserve to the Crown the portion of Crown lands referred to, at present in private use, and convert same into travelling stock reserves; also, will he expedite the proposed road deviation?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th August, 1900.

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The District Surveyor suggested two deviations to shorten the route used, one through part of the Belle Vue Estate—W. Evans' 1,070 acres—with reserve 21,044 as a stock reserve, and another through part of the Melville Estate—W. Hick's 1,000 acres; also reported that the owners of these estates objected to adoption of proposed deviations.
- (3.) The title of the Crown to the land embraced in reserve 21,044 is in dispute, and this fact has led the District Surveyor to state that without this land the small saving in distance would not warrant the expense of establishment of the road.
- (4.) The disadvantages of the present route are recognised.
- (5.) The matter is one for the Department of Mines, to which the case has been referred.

(19.) Survey Work of Roads Branch, Lands Department:—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has the whole of the survey work of the Roads Branch, together with the charting and other work in connection with the establishment of roads, formerly done in the head office of the Lands Department, been transferred to the District Survey Office at Maitland, and has the same course been adopted in other districts; if not, what portion of the work formerly performed at the head office has been so transferred?
- (2.) Has a proportionate increase been made in the number of surveyors employed at Maitland and other districts; if not, is it expected that the existing staff can perform the additional duties?
- (3.) Is he aware that the West Maitland and other District Survey Offices are undermanned, and that, in consequence, the establishment of roads and other survey work is therefore delayed?
- (4.) Will he make the necessary arrangements for an increase in the survey and drafting staff of the Maitland and other offices, in order to expedite the work?
- (5.) Are the officers of the Maitland and other survey offices at present obliged to work night and day to keep the work up, so as to prevent public inconvenience; will he be good enough to expedite action being taken in this case?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Examination of plans of road surveys which formerly was done in Head Office has for some years been undertaken in the local District Survey Office.
- (2.) This does not involve any additional work for the field staff.
- (3.) The District Surveyor has not made application for assistance.
- (4.) Inquiry will be made.
- (5.) It is not unusual for officers to work after hours when the necessity arises; but when the Maitland office was last inspected it was shown that one or two officers could be spared, and they were accordingly transferred elsewhere. Further inquiry is, however, now being made.

(20.) The Northern Trade:—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the progress of the Northern Districts is being retarded by reason of the delays which occur in shipping coal at Newcastle, and the consequent restriction of the output of coal from that port; is it a fact that the delay is due to—

(a) The dual control exercised by the Navigation Department and the Railway authorities, in connection with the berthing of ships at the Dyke; will he be good enough to explain the system adopted, and give details as to the mode of working the berthing at the Dyke; is the system capable of improvement; if so, will he expedite the matter?

(b) The congestion of the traffic on the main line to the Dyke caused through the limited accommodation for running and shunting trains; is it necessary to duplicate the main line; if so, when will the duplication be completed; would it be possible to employ three shifts, working day and night, for the purpose of carrying out such improvements; could the electric light be utilised to enable this being done?

(c) The serious delay through the difficulties in shunting; is this due to want of rail accommodation, and has extra haulage and shunting to be done through the congested state of the traffic; would the increased facilities, which the duplication of the line would provide facilitate the despatch of coal from the various pits to the particular cranes to which coal is consigned?

(d) The berthing accommodation in the Newcastle Harbour being insufficient; is extra expense entailed in moving vessels; will he obtain a report from the railway authorities, the Department of Navigation, and the Harbours and Rivers Department at Newcastle, on the subject of facilitating the berthing and loading of ships at that port?

- (2.) Are the whole of the cranes being worked, or are they in a condition to admit of their being continually employed; if not, what are the reasons for their unserviceable state; which cranes are idle at present, and from what cause; is it possible to utilise all of the cranes at the Dyke; will he be good enough so arrange for three shifts of men being employed in carrying out improvements at the Dyke, so as to provide further facilities for increasing the output of coal at that port?

Sir William Lyne answered.—It would be impossible to supply the lengthy information asked for in the form of a reply to a Question. I will call for reports, and communicate with the Honorable Member.

(21.) Steamer "Lotus" running to Neutral Bay:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the Question of Mr. E. M. Clark, on the 7th August, as to the running of the single-headed steamer "Lotus" to Neutral Bay, and his reply that this steamer would be removed when two new double-ended boats, for which tenders are now being invited by the Sydney Ferries Company, are built,—

- (1.) Will he cause the Superintendent of Navigation to consult the residents of Neutral Bay in regard to the inconveniences they are at present suffering by the running of this boat?

(2.) Will he also inquire if it is not a fact that many of the residents do not travel by this boat because of the dangers to which they are exposed?

(3.)

15th August, 1900.

(3.) Will he also inquire if it is not a fact that the excuse of the company as to the building of new boats is one that has been made for months; and, if so, when these boats are likely to be constructed?

(4.) If his inquiries from the residents of Neutral Bay prove that there is any possible danger of loss of life by the running of the "Lotus," will he request the Sydney Ferries Company to provide, pending the building of the new boats referred to, steamers of a class and convenience to remove the alarm which now exists at Neutral Bay?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Superintendent of Navigation is informed that the "Lotus" will be withdrawn from the Neutral Bay service in the course of the next few days, and her place taken by the "Wallaby," so that there will then be two double-ended boats on that service. The Superintendent is also informed that tenders have already been called for the two new double-ended boats; and as soon as they are received the building of the boats will be put in hand. It is anticipated that the new steamers will be in commission within six months.

(22.) Sydney Ferries Company:—Mr. B. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has the Sydney Ferries Company been further permitted to encroach upon the conveniences of the travelling public at No. 6 Jetty, Circular Quay, by the erection of a Greek's or Italian's fruit shop; and, if so, by whose authority?

(2.) Is it a fact that at times considerable difficulty arises in providing the necessary ingress and egress for passengers at this wharf, and that it can be only a short time when the whole of the room now taken up by the shop will be required for the purpose?

(3.) Under such circumstances, will he consider the advisability of so reorganising the terms of the lease of this wharf which will prevent it being used other than for legitimate passenger traffic?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Sydney Ferries, Limited, have not been permitted to further encroach upon the conveniences of the travelling public at No. 6 Jetty, Circular Quay. A provision in the lease to the company allows them to sublet the room which is being fitted up to any person or persons they please.

(2.) I am not aware that there is any difficulty in the ingress or egress of passengers using the jetty.

(3.) The company have received three months' notice that it is the intention of the Government to terminate their lease, and, if renewed, the proviso giving the company power to sublet will be removed.

(23.) Municipal Reform:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has he any intention of introducing at once a measure of municipal reform which will confer upon the larger population of the metropolitan municipalities the same privileges that are contained in the Sydney Corporation Act; and, if not, why?

Mr. See answered,—An amending Municipal Bill is being prepared by the Parliamentary Draftsman, and will be ready for consideration in a few days.

(24.) Indecent Publications Act:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware of the fact that a considerable number of New South Wales newspapers still continue to publish medical and other advertisements of a suggestive and objectionable nature?

(2.) Will he take steps in the direction of having the provisions of the recently-passed Indecent Publications Act immediately enforced?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Inspector-General of Police informs me that this matter is receiving attention.

(25.) Application of Crozer and Party for Land near Bathurst:—Mr. W. W. Young asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) The date of Crozer and party's application, under Mining on Private Lands Act, for 10 acres of land near Bathurst?

(2.) Were the applicants in possession of the area prior to date of application; if so, under what authority, date of same, and work performed?

(3.) Did the Department consider Crozer and party *bona-fide* prospectors; were they the first to discover payable gold; if so, date of reported find?

(4.) Did the Department receive another application to lease the prospector's claim; if so, date of application?

(5.) Did the applicants claim to be the owners of the freehold; if so, date of purchase, and amount of purchase money?

(6.) Did the reputed owner, through his solicitor, submit some strong legal points to show that the Minister had no power to refuse his application in favour of the prospectors?

(7.) Is it true that the Minister, nevertheless, decided to grant a lease to the prospectors?

(8.) The date of Minister's decision, and the reasons given for adopting this course?

(9.) Did the prospectors dispose of the property; if so, what was the amount of purchase money?

(10.) Has any claim been made by the prospectors for the reward payable to discoverers of new gold-fields?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) 24th July, 1894; again on the 11th February, 1895; again on the 15th September, 1896.

(2.) Yes. Under an authority granted in terms of the Mining Act of 1889, dated 20th January, 1894. Discovery of gold was reported to the Warden with a view to the land being resumed.

(3.) Yes. The Warden notified the Department on the 27th March, 1894, that Crozier and party reported crushing of stone taken from area under authority.

(4.) Yes. 11th February, 1895.

(5.) No; but as owner of the land as a conditional purchase transferred with other holdings from H. Butler.

(6.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th August, 1900.

- (6.) Yes. He submitted his view that the objections raised against Crozier and party's application were fatal.
- (7.) Yes.
- (8.) 25th February, 1896; because they (Crozier and party) had the prior rights. Their application afterwards was refused on a technical ground, but the renewed application of the 15th September, 1896, was granted.
- (9.) Yes. £10,000.
- (10.) No.
- (26.) Police Magistrate, Cowra:—Mr. Waddell asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it true that the Police Magistrate who resides at Cowra has been ordered to change his residence to Blayney?
 - (2.) If so, will he state what are the reasons for causing this change to be brought about?
 - (3.) Is he aware that Cowra is a much more important town than Blayney?
- Mr. Wood answered,—The Police Magistrate has not been "ordered" to change his residence to Blayney, but, on his representations that it was impossible for him to obtain a suitable residence at Cowra, special permission was granted to him to reside at Blayney on the understanding that his designation of Police Magistrate of Cowra must be retained. I understand that the Police Magistrate has been equally unsuccessful in obtaining a suitable residence at Blayney, so that he still resides at Cowra.
- (27.) Country Towns Water Supply:—Mr. Ewing asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Is it his intention to introduce a Bill to amend the Act under which the water supply to country towns is at present administered?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I hope to be able to introduce a Bill, which is now ready, so soon as the Government Business will allow.
- (28.) Sleepers for the Dubbo to Coonamble Railway:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—If a tender for the supply of sleepers for the Dubbo-Coonamble railway has been given privately to Messrs. Ewers and Handover, of Dubbo?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—No. I have, however, given orders that a contract may be let to the sleeper-getters of the Dubbo District without reference to a contractor.
- (29.) Euroka-Keepit Land Exchange:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) If he has come to any decision with regard to the Euroka-Keepit land exchange?
 - (2.) Will he delay it until the very large and extensively-signed petition from residents of the district, against the granting of the exchange, has been presented?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—I have given my decision on this case. The application for exchange was made long prior to my taking office. The lands to be surrendered are for the most part in the Land District of Tamworth, a small portion being in the Land District of Gunnedah. The lands to be acquired from the Crown are in the Walgett Land District. The case was heard by the Land Board at Tamworth in February last, when that Board decided that the lands offered for surrender 28,229 acres 1 rood 28 perches, are fit for the support of forty-five families if suitably subdivided; that they are worth, on a freehold basis (exclusive of the value of improvements based on cost, but inclusive of the accrued benefit to the land from ringbarking), £45,484 14s. 5d.; and that the improvements (exclusive of their benefit to the land) are worth £3,916 15s. 6d. to the present holder, and £2,300 to incoming tenants. The Walgett Board heard the case in April last, and reported that the land offered in surrender is in an agricultural district, to a large extent suitable for agriculture, and that it has convenient access to market; and alluded to the finding of the Tamworth Land Board. The Walgett Board also found that the land asked for in exchange is in a pastoral district, remote from market, and, under existing conditions, would be subdivided into six or seven holdings, or, if the areas were reduced to a minimum, into not more than eleven holdings. That Board appraised the value of the Crown lands at £37,074 5s. 8d., and alluded to the Tamworth Board's valuations of the lands offered in surrender, viz., £45,484 14s. 5d. They said, "We are of opinion that the exchange is desirable in the public interest, and recommend it be effected." Messrs. Bell and Stanton, of the Walgett branch of the Farmers' and Settlers' Association, and some others, appeared before the Walgett Board in opposition to the exchange; and Mr. Bell appealed to the Land Appeal Court. The Court affirmed the recommendation of the Board, and dismissed the appeal. The Court said, "The difference in the respective values of the two assets seems to be such as to commend the proposed exchange as a very good business transaction in the public interest, not only in regard to intrinsic values, but in consideration of the greater facilities for close settlement offered by the surrendered lands. These, on the Keepit holding, are estimated to be capable of supporting forty-five families, while the lands asked for in exchange on the Euroka holding could not support more than twelve. Notwithstanding the superior advantages of settlement possessed by the land that would be acquired by the Crown if the exchange be accomplished, it is right to point out that the applicant for the proposed exchange is not so much consolidating his holding on Euroka as transposing his estate from Keepit to Euroka. But this circumstance does not appear to the Court to outweigh the largely countervailing advantages which will be secured to the Crown in the way of settlement." A petition against the Walgett lands being exchanged was received on the 3rd instant, and a request was made that the case might be referred back to the Walgett Board. The following is the text of my decision:—"I am myself opposed to exchanges of lands situated in different districts, and future applications containing that objectionable feature cannot be entertained. Where, however, applications were made prior to the debate in the Assembly on this subject, and action taken by the Department calculated to lead parties concerned to expect a settlement based on the merits of the case, I do not think the House expected or would desire the Department to repudiate what might fairly be classed as its responsibilities to this class of landholders. I
- " could

15th August, 1900.

"could, perhaps, shelter myself behind the understanding arrived at in the House, and refuse to complete the exchange, which might possibly be the easier and more convenient course for me to take personally. I do not, however, feel justified in taking such a course in this particular case, in face of the favourable complexion which this exchange bears. The case has been dealt with by the Tamworth and Walgett Land Boards, and also by the Land Appeal Court, and their respective recommendations are deserving of serious consideration. I think, therefore, the exchange should be approved, subject, however, to the parties surrendering their deeds, and responding to any requirements of the Department within, say, three months of those requirements being put forward. With regard to the petition, I cannot see how the case can well be got back to the Board—supposing such a course appeared expedient—as the Land Appeal Court dealt with the case, and any such action would savour of an attempt to go behind the back of the Court."

(30.) Crown Lands Act of 1899 :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) When were copies of the Crown Lands Act of 1899, and the Regulations framed thereunder, first sent out by the Department to the various Crown Lands Agents?
- (2.) How many cases for reappraisalment have been held under that Act?
- (3.) Is the time allowed under the Act for making applications limited to two years?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Copies of the Act were forwarded to Crown Land Agents during January last, when they were available, and the regulations were forwarded during the following month.
 - (2.) No appraisements have actually taken place in consequence of the fact that the applications have until recently been so remarkably few that payment of appraisers' expenses would not have been warranted; and although the local officers might have been entrusted to carry out the whole of the work, it has been thought expedient to meet the wishes of selectors as far as possible by obtaining valuations from local experts. Some appraisers have been appointed, and the work in all the districts is to be started upon at once.
 - (3.) Yes, so far as conditional purchases and conditional leases are concerned; but, of course, the appraisement whenever made dates back to the date of the application for appraisement.
- (31.) Release of William Creswell :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—Whether he will take due precautions against the release of the lunatic William Creswell from Parramatta Asylum except after due and regular application to a Judge of the Supreme Court?
- Mr. See answered,—I am informed that application must be made to a Judge of the Supreme Court for his release.
- (32.) Foreigners in the Public Service :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—If he will have prepared a return showing the number of persons employed in the various Public Departments who are not British-born subjects?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A return such as is required can, of course, be prepared, but it will entail a large amount of work upon the various Departments, as there are some 16,000 officers employed under the provisions of the Public Service Act alone. If the Police, railway employees, and others are included, this number will be considerably increased.

2. LIQUOR ACT :—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named :—

- (1.) By Mr. Mahony—From certain residents of Annandale.
- (2.) By Mr. Law—From certain residents of Balmain.
- (3.) By Mr. Morgan—From certain residents of Pitt Town, Ebenezer, and Sackville.
- (4.) By Mr. Lees—From certain residents of Katoomba.
- (5.) By Mr. Garland—From certain residents of Paddington and Woollahra.
- (6.) By Dr. Graham—From certain residents of Surry Hills.
- (7.) By Mr. Nobbs—From certain residents of Auburn.
- (8.) By Mr. Archer—From certain residents of Burwood.
- (9.) By Mr. Howarth—From certain residents of Chatswood.
- (10.) By Mr. Henry Clarke—From certain residents of Bega.
- (11.) By Mr. Archer—From certain residents of Croydon.
- (12.) By Mr. Archer—From certain residents of Burwood.

Petitions received.

3. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT :—Mr. Sleath (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Administration of the Military Department" have leave to sit during the sittings of the House, or any adjournment thereof.
Question put and passed.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Hassall 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.) 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 Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (4.) 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.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Statement showing the average Liabilities and Assets of Banks within the Colony for the quarter ended 30th June, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th August, 1900.

5. LAND EXCHANGE AT LARRAS LAKE, DISTRICT OF MOLONG (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, correspondence, maps, Local Land Board decisions, and other documents, &c., referring to the application made for "Land Exchange at Larras Lake," in the district of Molong, and counties of Wellington and Ashburnham.
Question put and passed.
6. LAND OWNED BY LOUISA H. WINDUS, DISTRICT OF MOLONG (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, maps, correspondence, and other documents, also Land Board and Land Appeal Court decisions, in the case of the conditional purchase and conditional lease owned by one Louisa H. Windus (formerly land belonging to one Edward Windus), in the district of Molong, and county of Ashburnham.
Question put and passed.
7. NYANG LAND EXCHANGE GRANTED TO THE HONORABLE SIMON FRAZER, M.L.C., OF VICTORIA (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Norton moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and documents connected with the Nyang exchange, granted to the Honorable Simon Frazer, M.L.C., of Victoria.
Question put and passed.
8. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the day for the further consideration in Committee of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill postponed until To-morrow.
9. LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 60.

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 provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section 11 of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 30th July, 1900.

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

10. SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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.
11. MINES INSPECTION BILL:—Mr. Fegan, pursuant to leave granted on 14th August, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make better provision for the regulation and inspection of mines other than coal and shale mines; to regulate the treatment of the products of such mines; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
12. MINES (EIGHT HOURS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Fegan, *passed*.
Mr. Fegan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to limit the hours of employment and working below ground in mines, 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 limit the hours of employment and working below ground in mines, and for other purposes connected therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 15th August, 1900.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 30.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 16 AUGUST, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Grading of Officers in the Postal Department:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. Price, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Is he aware that great injustice has been done to employces in the Postal Department in the lower grades of the Service in the grading of those officers?
- (2.) What steps have been taken in regard to the officers to remedy the mistakes in grading?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the grading in the first instance was done in accordance with the recommendations of a sub-Board consisting of Postal officials; if so, what were the names of the officers constituting such Board; were increases in salary granted to the members of such Board?
- (4.) Is he aware that great injustice has been done in connection with the recent regrading?
- (5.) Have several capable officers not received increases, and have some been granted to officers, including relatives and connections of high postal officials and a relation of an ex-Minister of the Crown; if so, what are the reasons for such action?
- (6.) Were recommendations sent on by the Postal Department for increases to officers which were ignored by the Public Service Board; if so, why?
- (7.) Is it a fact that several appeals have been pending for some years; if so, who is responsible for the delay; will he take steps to have the appeals expedited?
- (8.) What steps are being taken to deal with the case mentioned by Sir William Lyne in Parliament in 1896, in reference to the injustice in the matter of grading the Postmaster at Wallsend?
- (9.) When will action be taken in this case; and what is the reason for the delay?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1.) None of the officers in the lower grades, *i.e.*, below £100 a year, suffered reduction in connection with the grading of the Department, whilst the salaries of a very large number of officers have since the grading been materially increased, no fewer than 1,165 having received increases during the last financial year, amounting in the aggregate to over £12,000 per annum, considerably more than half of which was distributed amongst juniors receiving less than £100 per annum.
- (2.) The right of appeal granted by the Public Service Act was largely exercised, and, after consideration of such appeals, the Public Service Board regraded a number of officers. At the request of the Board, inquiries are now being made with a view to the correction of anomalies that have been brought under notice since the appeals against the original grading were dealt with.
- (3.) This is a question for the Public Service Board.
- (4, 5, and 6.) There has been no "recent regrading," but a large number of officers who were recommended for increments for last financial year, in accordance with the increment regulations, have not yet received them, the reason, I understand, being that the amount voted was insufficient to pay the whole of the increments recommended by the Department. The question of providing the additional amount necessary to pay the increments that have been withheld has, however, been referred for the consideration to the Public Service Board, whose approval is a necessary preliminary to the amount being placed on the Estimates.
- (7.) This is also a question for the Public Service Board, to whom all appeals that have reached the Department have been duly forwarded.
- (8 and 9.) The appeal of the officer referred to was dealt with by the Board, who have intimated that his request for a reconsideration of their decision "must stand over until the visit of the "Board to Newcastle."

(2.)

16th August, 1900.

(2.) Insufficient Postage on Letters Addressed to Miss Griffin:—*Mr. Hoque*, for *Mr. Carruthers*, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) How many letters having insufficiently paid postage have passed through the General Post Office addressed to Miss Griffin since the inception of the "chain letter"?

(2.) Of these letters, how many have been returned to the country of origin; and on how many has the amount of postage due been paid; and what was the amount?

(3.) On what date was the last postage due paid; what was its amount; and how many letters were delivered for the amount paid?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) Since 1st January, 1897, prior to which date no record was kept, about 83,000 insufficiently paid letters have arrived here addressed to Miss Griffin.

(3.) All of the above letters, having been refused by the addressee, were duly returned to the countries of origin, in accordance with law.

(3.) Answered by No. 2.

(3.) Residences Occupied by Postmasters:—*Mr. Price* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it the practice to deduct specific amounts from the salaries of Postmasters as rent for the premises they occupy?

(2.) Are such deductions made irrespective of the value of the premises occupied?

(3.) Is it a fact that only a portion of the premises are used by the Postmasters, and that the Postmasters are obliged to have the whole of the buildings and premises cleaned at their own expense?

(4.) Is he aware that the rentals deducted are in excess of the value of the residences?

(5.) Have appeals been pending for the past few years; if so, what is the reason of the delay in dealing with those cases?

(6.) Is he aware that both *Mr. Cook* and *Mr. Varney Parkes* promised, in Parliament, that only fair rents would be charged to Postmasters for the residences occupied?

(7.) Have either of those gentlemen taken steps to carry out their promises?

(8.) Will he have an inquiry instituted, and the appeals expedited?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) (a) All except the office accommodation is used. (b) No, except at the very small offices; at the larger ones the Postmaster receives an annual cleaning allowance.

(4.) I am not aware that they are so in every case, or even in the majority of cases, the deductions having originally been fixed, not according to the value of the quarters, but according to the grade of the office.

(5.) All appeals that have reached the Department have been duly forwarded to the Public Service Board, who alone can answer this Question.

(6.) No; but the attention of the Public Service Board was called to the matter, and at their request information was obtained as to the value of the quarters occupied by Postmasters, for which rent is charged, and sent to the Board in July, 1897.

(7.) See reply to No. 6.

(8.) I will communicate with the Board.

(4.) Discovery of Gold near Gundagai:—*Mr. Barnes* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has he seen the report of a sensational gold-find near Gundagai?

(2.) If so, in view of the uncommon nature of the matrix in which the gold was discovered, viz., conglomerate soapstone, serpentine micaceous schist and calcyte, will he instruct the Government Geologist to proceed to the place of discovery, and make a report on the same for the information on mining and for mining men in New South Wales?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) An officer from the Geological Staff will be sent to report on the matter.

(5.) Examinations for Admission to the Public Service:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) For what purpose are the Senior and Junior University Examinations held twice in each year?

(2.) Are the University certificates issued to successful students of a certain standard of education recognised by the Government in admitting applicants and candidates into the Public Service when vacancies occur; if so, what occasion or necessity for the Public Service Board and other Departments undertaking to hold special and extra test examinations of applicants who have already successfully passed the University Examinations?

(3.) Is it not possible to have one uniform system of carrying on test examinations, and one Examining Board, in place of so many different Examining Boards as at present in different Departments?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) These examinations are held once yearly, the Senior in November and the Junior in June. Their primary object is to improve the standard of education by testing the attainments of the candidates, and the issue of certificates of proficiency.

(2.) The Public Service Act provides that admission to the Public Service shall be by competitive examination, the nature of which is to be prescribed by regulations made under the Act. No other certificate of qualification can, therefore, be accepted.

(3.) There is only one Examining Board for admission to the Clerical Division of the Public Service, which is composed of the following gentlemen:—*Professor T. T. Gurney, M.A.*; Chairman; *Professor Thomas Butler, B.A.*; *Professor T. W. Edgeworth David, B.A.*; *Henry Deane, Esq., M. Inst. C.E., M.A.*; *Walter Edmunds, Esq., M.A., LL.B.*, Barrister-at-law; *R. N. Morris, Esq., M.A., LL.D.*; *R. F. Irvine, Esq., M.A.*, Secretary.

16th August, 1900.

(6.) Volunteer Officer's Decoration.—Long Service Medals.—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What are the names and rank of officers of the Partially-paid Forces entitled to the Volunteer Officer's Decoration who have made application for same?

(2.) What are the dates of such applications?

(3.) The same as regards the Non-commissioned Officers and men entitled to the Long-Service Medal?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(7.) Oyster Reserves on the Hastings River.—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the public oyster reserves on the Hastings River are becoming so overgrown with seaweed as to threaten their early extinction as oyster-bearing areas?

(2.) If such is the case, will the Fisheries Department adopt any measures to mitigate the evil?

(3.) Will he take into consideration whether it is not a menace to adjacent areas under lease for public oyster reserves to be affected as above?

(4.) Is it true that on the Hastings River practical ostraculturists are compelled to use soft mud and sand-banks for oyster culture, whilst hard clay, shell, and stone bottoms of large areas are set aside for net-hawling grounds and public oyster reserves?

(5.) Is it true that no young spat of oysters has set on that river during the last two years, and that great scarcity of oysters will, as a consequence, result in the summer of 1902-3?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Secretary to the Commissioners of Fisheries:—

(1, 2, and 3.) There is no record to show that this is the case, but inquiries will be made.

(4.) Hawling grounds are reserved for the use of fishermen, and public oyster reserves are exempted from leasing. All other grounds are available for oyster leases.

(5.) No.

(8.) Mr. Fred. Glynn, late Probationary Storekeeper, Coast Hospital.—*Mr. Sleath*, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did Mr. C. G. Willman, clerk and storekeeper at the Coast Hospital, report unfavourably on the work of Mr. Fred. Glynn, late probationary storekeeper at the same institution?

(2.) Did Glynn appeal to the Public Service Board against his dismissal, and allege that his removal was the result of his having persisted in condemning rotten fish, vegetables, &c., supplied by the store contractor after having been asked by his superior officer (Willman) to pass them?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board asked the permanent head of the Department of Public Health to institute a Departmental inquiry into these charges?

(4.) Is it a fact that when such inquiry took place Glynn was not in any way notified thereof, and only learned the date of the inquiry the day previous to its being held, through Mr. Arthur Griffith, M.P., calling at the office of the Board of Health and ascertaining for him?

(5.) Notwithstanding this, is it not a fact that, when at the Departmental inquiry Glynn wished to have the Medical Superintendent called, he was informed by the officer deputed by Dr. Ashburton Thompson to hold the inquiry that he "should have had his witnesses in attendance"?

(6.) Are Departmental inquiries under the Board of Health usually conducted on these lines?

(7.) Did Glynn, at this inquiry, notwithstanding the difficulties placed in his way, succeed in showing such a state of things to exist with regard to the supply of stores that the Public Service Board considered it necessary to themselves institute a further inquiry?

(8.) Was it not proved at this second inquiry that the Matron reported to the Medical Superintendent that Glynn reported, shortly after his appointment, that he was being intimidated by Superior Officer Willman to accept goods of inferior quality from the store contractor?

(9.) Did the Matron also state that during the few months that Glynn occupied his position the provisions were better than ever before or since?

(10.) Did the Matron also state in her evidence that for years past she has been complaining of the quality of the provisions without result?

(11.) Was it not proved at the inquiry that again and again Glynn sent into the office of the Board of Health samples of bad fish, decayed vegetables, and other bad provisions supplied by the contractor, of which no notice was taken—except that he (Glynn) was removed from his position?

(12.) Did the Matron and other officers swear to the effect that the fish was uniformly bad, frequently swollen and stinking, that the vegetables were stale and often fermenting, the fruit small and hard, the butter rancid, and the vermicelli so bad that the weevils used to float in the soup?

(13.) Is it not a fact that the stores contractor got 1s. per lb. for fish, and that when it was condemned by Glynn good fish was purchased in its place at 4d. per lb.?

(14.) Did not an examination of the diet books show that rations were drawn for patients who were dead, or had left the hospital?

(15.) Is it a fact that the coal supplied to the hospital has not been weighed for years, and that the first ton of coal passed over the newly-erected weighing machine weighed only 14 cwt?

(16.) Is it a fact that at the inquiry Willman was unable to produce the standard samples of groceries; and was it not clearly proved that the stores contractor was in the habit of substituting unchecked inferior brands of goods for those specified in the contract?

(17.) Is it not a fact that Willman, though proved to the satisfaction of the Public Service Board to have assisted dishonest contractors for years past to supply the hospital with bad food, is still (14th August, 1900) in his position as storekeeper; and that Glynn, who exposed this state of things, has been, as a consequence of his having done so, compelled to walk the streets during the last seven months?

(18.) Did not Mr. F. Stillwell swear at the inquiry that on one occasion a banquet given at the "Baden Baden Hotel" to Willman was paid for by the then stores contractor?

(19.)

16th August, 1900.

(19.) Is it not a fact that the stores contractor has been paid exorbitant rates for goods purchased outside the contract, such as 108s. per dozen for champagne (pints)?

(20.) Did Mr. Delohery, during the Public Service Board Inquiry, tell Willman that he could not believe a word he said, and that he was telling lies on oath?

(21.) Did not the chief cook state during the Departmental inquiry that Willman often wanted Glynn to pass food which both he and Glynn considered bad?

(22.) Did not the Matron, at the inquiry, state that Glynn did more for the institution in the matter of improving the provisions in seven months than was done for it during the previous nine years?

(23.) Will he lay upon the Table—(a) the report of the Public Service Board with regard to this case; (b) the Departmental report; (c) all the evidence taken at both inquiries?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter is *sub judice*, and I do not think it would be fair to all parties concerned to give a reply at the present time. Therefore, I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will kindly renew the Question at some future date.

(9.) Hours worked on the Newcastle Harbour Ferry Service:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that in connection with the Newcastle harbour ferry traffic the following hours are worked:—(a) Dyke and Stoekton ferry masters and engineers—105 hours, 7 days per week; (b) limeburners, Dyke ferry—81 hours, 7 days per week; (c) tug-steamers, leaving port at 3 a.m., returning at 6.30 p.m., or working hours on average of 129 hours per week?

(2.) Does he intend to take any steps to remedy this state of affairs; and, if so, when?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Inquiries are being made with a view of obtaining the desired information.

(10.) Shipping Coal at Newcastle:—Mr. Haynes, for Mr. Price, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In reference to the question *re* frequent delays in shipping coal at Newcastle, submitted by the Honorable Member for Gloucester on Wednesday, 15th August, will he cause an inquiry to be made into this matter, and the report furnished to Parliament?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter is receiving attention. I have already obtained a report from Captain Newton, Deputy Superintendent of Navigation, and I have communicated with the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, through Mr. Dick, M.L.A., inviting suggestions for minimising the present delays to shipping.

(11.) Country Fire Brigades Bill:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Secretary,—When does he propose proceeding with the Country Fire Brigades Bill?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A Fire Brigades Bill has been prepared, and will be introduced shortly.

(12.) Motions for Appointment of Select Committees:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What sitting, or portion of a sitting, does he propose to allow for consideration of motions for the appointment of Select Committees?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Any night when Government business has been concluded early, and I hope also to give one or two special nights.

(13.) Trustees of the Barrack-street Savings Bank:—Mr. Cook asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What are the names of the trustees of the Barrack-street Savings Bank?

(2.) When were they appointed, and by whom?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Honorable George Thornton, M.L.C., appointed 22nd February, 1875; E. Fosbery, Esquire, appointed 20th October, 1875; C. Cowper, Esquire, appointed 3rd August, 1876; Henry Clarke, Esquire, M.P., appointed 20th May, 1884; Honorable James Watson, M.L.C., appointed 3rd July, 1888; R. C. Close, Esquire, appointed 3rd July, 1888; Honorable John See, M.P., appointed 24th August, 1894; F. A. Wright, Esquire, M.P., appointed 20th October, 1899; T. Waddell, Esquire, M.P., appointed 20th October, 1899; T. Jessep, Esquire, M.P., appointed 3rd November, 1899; John Kidd, Esquire, M.P., appointed 3rd November, 1899; J. R. Carey, Esquire, appointed 22nd December, 1899; Sir G. R. Dibbs, Managing Trustee, appointed 24th September, 1895.

(2.) By His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. McGowen—From certain residents of The Glebe.

(2.) By Mr. Hogue—From certain residents of The Glebe.

(3.) By Mr. Hogue—From certain residents of The Glebe and Pymont.

(4.) By Mr. O'Conor—From certain residents of Mulgoa, Greendale, and Luddenham.

(5.) By Mr. Rigg—From certain residents of St. Peters.

(6.) By Mr. Dacey—From certain residents of Botany.

(7.) By Mr. Sawers—From certain residents of Tamworth.

Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Return showing number of Voters (according to the existing Rolls) in the various proposed Federal Electorates of New South Wales.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Report by Mr. Robert E. Jones, M.I.C.E., on proposed Railway from Manilla to Barraba.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

16th August, 1900.

4. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Ninth Report from the Printing Committee.
5. **MOLONG HOSPITAL (Formal Motion)**:—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all letters, papers, petitions, official reports, and other documents having reference to the appointment of a second medical officer for the Molong Hospital.
Question put and passed.
6. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Industrial Arbitration Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Wise, "That this Bill be now read a second time";—until Wednesday next.
(2.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday next.
7. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**:—
(1.) *Removing the Public Abattoir from Glebe Island*:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of removing the Public Abattoir from Glebe Island, and re-erecting the same on a more suitable site in the vicinity of the Corporation Sale-yards.
Debate ensued.
Point of Order:—Mr. Garland, drawing Mr. Speaker's attention to sections 12 and 13 of the Public Works Act, submitted that the Minister in moving this motion had failed to comply with the conditions prescribed in those sections requiring an explanation comprising an estimate of the cost of the proposed work when completed, &c.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Speaker ruled that the Minister had given the explanation required, which comprised an estimate of the cost of such work when completed; and had also given the description which he deemed proper, in accordance with the sections of the Act referred to.
Mr. Crick moved, That the Question be amended by the addition of the words "or other suitable locality."
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be added be so added.
Debate continued.
Question,—That the words proposed to be added be so added,—put and passed.
Question then,—That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report on the expediency of removing the Public Abattoir from Glebe Island, and re-erecting the same on a more suitable site in the vicinity of the Corporation Sale-yards, or other suitable locality,—put and passed.
(2.) *Erecting a Library within the University Grounds*:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 a Library within the University Grounds in connection with the University of Sydney.
Question put and passed.
8. **GUNDAGAI TO TUMUT RAILWAY BILL**:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Gundagai to Tumut; 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, and to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
9. **PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR 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 amend the Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 16th August, 1900.
W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.
10. **LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL**:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment books and the collection of land tax; to provide for better defining the persons liable to such tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section eleven of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

16th August, 1900.

- (2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section eleven of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.
11. KOORAWATHA TO GRENFELL RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) 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 and passed.
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 the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Wednesday next.
12. THE ROCK TO GREEN'S GUNYAH RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
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 the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
13. BYROCK TO BREWARRINA RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
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 the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
14. POSTPONEMENTS:—
(1.) The remaining Government Business until Tuesday next.
(2.) The remaining Orders of the Day of General Business until Tuesday next.
15. WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to amended Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the working of the Free Public Library.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Perry, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Price, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Millard, and the Mover.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
16. NAMES FOR ELECTORATES, FEDERAL PARLIAMENT:—Mr. Piddington moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to consider and report upon the names for the Electorates for the House of Representatives in the Federal Parliament.
(2.) That such Committee consist of Sir William Lyne, Sir Joseph Abbott, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Lees, Dr. Graham, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Richards, Mr. Kidd, Mr. Haynes, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at nineteen minutes before Twelve o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 31.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 21 AUGUST, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Export Trade in Horses for Army Remounts:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has the Government any means of showing what effect the complications in South Africa have had upon the New South Wales export trade in horses for Army remounts; has it been beneficial so far as trade and values are concerned; if so, what is the approximate increase in the value of the horses in this Colony?

(2.) How many horses have been sent from New South Wales for Army remount purposes during 1898, 1899, and 1900, to India, Africa, or other places, and the average prices paid for same?

(3.) What are the prospects for an increased trade in Army remounts with Great Britain, Germany, and other Powers; and how can the trade be stimulated?

(4.) Has any comparative estimate been formed of the suitability of Australian, British, and American horses for Army purposes; if so, is such comparison favourable to New South Wales in regard to the questions of cost, suitability of horses, and facilities for transit to India, Africa, and the East?

(5.) Have any reports been prepared showing,—(a) The most desirable stamp of horses to breed for Army purposes; (b) the weak features in the class of horses offered; (c) the ages, colours, and heights most desired; (d) the minimum and maximum prices which the right class of horses would bring; (e) the conditions under which animals would be inspected, and the places for inspection; if not, will he be good enough to urge the Military authorities to prepare such a report?

(6.) In view of the possibilities of the development of the trade, will he take steps to issue a pamphlet for distribution containing the following information, viz.:—(a) Particulars of the stamp of horses required, age, colour, height, and approximate value; (b) suggestions as to the strains most valuable in breeding the class of horses required for the various arms of the military service; also illustrations showing the classes of horses desired, together with such other information as may be deemed necessary to encourage the breeding of suitable horses and the development of the trade in horses for remounts?

(7.) Will he arrange for an Honorary Board of Advice, consisting of horse-breeders and military experts, to inquire into the value and possibilities of the horse-trade for Army purposes?

(8.) Is he aware that in the Maitland, Scone, Singleton, Durham, Gloucester, and Muswellbrook Districts a large number of suitable horses for military purposes are bred; will he take steps to have inquiries instituted at the places named, with a view to the establishment of periodical military horse fairs to stimulate the remount trade between this Colony and the British, African, Indian, and Eastern markets, thus enabling horse-breeders in the surrounding districts to submit their horses upon a fixed date?

Mr. See answered,—I will presently lay the information upon the Table in the form of a return.(2.) Colonel Bell:—*Mr. Dacey* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Was Colonel Bell the accredited representative of this Colony at the International Commercial Congress of Philadelphia?

(2.) Did Colonel Bell apply for the position?

(3.) What did Colonel Bell's mission cost this country?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No.

(3.) Nothing whatever, except the cost of printing 600 copies of his report at the Government Printing Office, which, I am informed, amounted to £19 0s. 10d.

(3.)

21st August, 1900.

- (3.) Randwick Rifle Range :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Have a number of residents of Coogee frequently complained about their lives being endangered by stray bullets from the Randwick Rifle Range?
 - (2.) Did the Military authorities report to the effect that the complaints might be well founded, as it was a common thing for bullets to ricochet?
 - (3.) When will he reply to the complaints of these people?
 - (4.) Is it not a fact that they have been waiting a considerable time for his decision in the matter?
 - (5.) Has anything been done to remedy the grievance?
 - (6.) Will he lay the papers upon the Table of the House?

Mr. See answered—

- (1.) A few complaints have been received.
- (2.) To a certain extent, yes.
- (3.) These have been dealt with.
- (4.) There was the least possible delay in dealing with these communications.
- (5.) Work is being now carried out.
- (6.) Yes, I will lay them upon the Table.

- (4.) Members of the Public Service Board :—Mr. Dacey asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) How many members are there on the Public Service Board; and what amount of salary does each receive?
 - (2.) Is there as much work for the members to do now as there was when the Board was first instituted?
 - (3.) How many sub-Boards are there in existence?
 - (4.) Who are the members of these Boards?
 - (5.) Are they paid extra for their services?
 - (6.) Is it not a fact that the Public Service Board will cease to have the control of a number of Public Servants after the Commonwealth is proclaimed?
 - (7.) How many Public Servants, approximately, will be removed from the Board's control by the proclamation of the Commonwealth?
 - (8.) Is it the intention of the Government to reduce the number of the members of this Board?

Mr. Wood answered,—

- (1.) Three; £1,000 per annum.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3, 4, and 5.) It is presumed that the Honorable Member refers to sub-Boards in connection with the regrading of the Service. Of these, there are none at present in existence. The use of committees of officers in connection with the selection of candidates for various appointments is dealt with in the last report of the Board, which was laid upon the Table of the House on the 14th June last (page 28), to which my honorable colleague would refer the Honorable Member.
- (6.) Yes.
- (7.) On the establishment of the Commonwealth, the Department of Customs and Excise is to be transferred thereto; the officers affected number 298. Other Departments are afterwards to be transferred on dates to be proclaimed. The total number of officers in all who will be eventually transferred to the Commonwealth is, approximately, 5,481.
- (8.) No.

- (5.) Tide-waiters :—Mr. Phillips asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Customs Department has lately advertised for three tide-waiters?
 - (2.) Have any steps been taken to ascertain if men already qualified are in the Department?
 - (3.) If so, what are those steps?
 - (4.) Is he aware that there are a large number of men on very low wages, to whom these positions constitute promotion, fully qualified, now in the employ of the Department?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2 and 3.) The selection of the most suitable men of those applying for the positions rests with the Public Service Board.
- (4.) Each officer of the Service has the right to make application for the positions in question, and submit his qualifications and credentials for consideration.

- (6.) Representation of New South Wales at the Imperial Institute :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact, as stated by a correspondent to the metropolitan Press, that whilst the other Colonies of Australia have on hand at the Imperial Institute, for the use of all interested, and for distribution, official hand-books, pamphlets, &c., relating to their industries, natural resources, wealth and progress, &c., New South Wales is in no way represented in this direction?
- (2.) If this is a fact, will he at once see that some steps are taken to remedy this defect, and to ensure the dissemination in the most effective possible way of all information of the character referred to which may be of use to capitalists and intending emigrants?

Mr. See answered,—The Secretary of the Imperial Institute, and also the Librarian of the Royal Colonial Institute, London, are regularly supplied with all Parliamentary papers, and copies of "Wealth and Progress," "Seven Colonies," and "Statistical Register." The Agent-General is also regularly supplied with 500 copies of "Wealth and Progress" and "Seven Colonies," 100 "Statistical Registers," 200 copies of the Annual Report of the Mines Department, 10 copies each of the other Ministerial and Departmental Reports, and 50 copies of the "Year Book of Australia" (N.S.W. portion). In April last 2,500 copies of a hand-book on the "Statistics, History, and Resource of New South Wales," compiled by the Editor of the "Year Book of Australia," were also sent to the Agent-General for distribution.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st August, 1900.

- (7.) Employees in Institutions of the Insane:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) With reference to Mr. E. M. Clark's Question, of the 2nd August, is it not a fact that Dr. Sinclair, the Inspector-General of the Insane, issued instructions that none of the attendants attached to the various Hospitals for the Insane should accept of a seat on Council of the Public Service Association?
 - (2.) If so, what authority had he for doing so?
- Mr. See answered,—The Inspector-General of the Insane informs me that he has at no time issued instructions to the attendants in regard to the Public Service Association, or objected to any of them accepting a seat on the Council.
- (8.) Wages of Men Employed in Hyde Park:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the men engaged in Hyde Park have had their wages reduced from 7s. per day to 6s. 8d. per day?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that these men have to do duty on Saturday nights and Sunday without payment?
 - (3.) If so, what is the reason of this reduction in wages and increase of hours of labour?
- Mr. See answered,—Hyde Park is vested in trustees, by whom the men are engaged. The Government does not pay or control the men.
- (9.) Vacancies in the Public Service:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) What is the duty of the Under Secretary of any Department as to filling up any vacancy which may occur therein?
 - (2.) Should any recommendation of the permanent head of a Department respecting the filling up of vacancies be made free from any political, including Ministerial, influence?
 - (3.) If any recommendation be not so made, what is the essential difference between the present system and that which obtained before the introduction of the Public Service Act?
- Mr. Wood answered,—In answer to the Honorable Member's Questions, my honorable friend refers him to sections 19 and 40 to 45 of the Public Service Act.
- (10.) Sunday Closing of Public Houses:—Mr. Watson, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) When will he be prepared to give effect to his promise to a deputation to make the Sunday closing of public-houses more effective?
 - (2.) Will he state what steps he proposes to take to that end?
 - (3.) If the present law is found to be inadequate, when will he be prepared to introduce a Bill to cast the onus of proof on the publican and persons found on licensed premises during prohibited hours?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1 and 2.) The attention of the Inspector-General of Police has been directed to this matter.
 - (3.) I am obtaining information regarding the operation of the laws of the other Colonies dealing with this subject, and from Great Britain.
- (11.) Sale of Crown Lands:—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What is the approximate amount of land sold, and the amount realised therefrom, since the present Government came into office?
 - (2.) What are the areas, approximately, of the lands sold as referred to?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—
- (1.) Between the 19th September last and the 31st July of this year 68,762 acres were sold, and realized a price of £97,483.
 - (2.) Under the provisions of section 61 of the Crown Lands Act of 1884 no single block of country lands exceeding 640 acres can be offered at auction. The average area of the country lands sold during the period mentioned was 102 acres.
- (12.) Land Exchange on Ironbong Holding:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he withhold his decision in regard to the proposed exchange on Ironbong holding, Land District of Cootamundra, until he shall have received a petition from residents of that locality, setting forth their objections and protesting against the proposed exchange?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—As I have not yet given my decision, I am willing to defer action for the present, as desired.
- (13.) Provisions Supplied to the Coast Hospital:—Mr. Arthur Griffith asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- What was the total cost of provisions (apart from forage) supplied to the Coast Hospital—
- (a) during the month of July, last year; (b) during the month of July of the present year?
- Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Chief Medical Officer of the Government:—(a) £615 14s. 6½d. (b) Full accounts for the month's supplies have not yet been rendered. I may add that the average daily number of patients during July, 1899, was 233·2, and during July, 1900, 199.
- (14.) Ambulance Drivers' Salaries:—Mr. Arthur Griffith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that the ambulance drivers who had the handling of the plague patients during the outbreak received only their ordinary salary of some three shillings and nine pence per day?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I have approved of an increased allowance to the ambulance drivers. I may, however, point out that, in addition to receiving their daily pay, ambulance drivers were in receipt of rations, fuel, light, and quarters.

21st August, 1900.

- (15.) Information respecting the Timber Industry :—*Mr. Willis*, for *Mr. Levien*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact, as reported in the Sydney papers, that, when he and the Premier were waited upon with reference to the timber industry, he stated that he sent for two officers of the Forestry Branch, with a view to ascertaining some particulars as to the timbers of the Colony, but he found that the information was not to be had?
 - (2.) Will he say why, when information of a practical nature relating to the timbers of this Colony was required, the Chief Inspector, who is the practical officer of the Branch, and whose province it is to supply information of this nature, was not asked to furnish it?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—
- (1.) The Forest Branch happened to be asked for photographs of typical western trees, and unfortunately a photographic collection had not been made. Had specimens of Australian timbers, or a botanical description of the trees, or such like information been asked for, it could have been immediately supplied.
 - (2.) I assume that the Honorable Member intends to refer to the Inspecting Forester. If so, his duties call him for the most part into the field. I am not aware that he had any photographic representations of Australian trees, and am not prepared to confine myself to any particular source for information that may be asked for.
2. LIQUOR ACT :—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named,—
- (1.) By *Mr. Willis*—From certain residents of Collarenebri and District.
 - (2.) By *Mr. Willis*—From certain residents of Angledool, New Angledool, and the surrounding District.
 - (3.) By *Mr. Hughes*—From certain residents of City and Suburbs.
 - (4.) By *Mr. Watson*—From certain residents of Young.
- Petitions received.
3. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL :—*Mr. Watson* presented a Petition from *S. A. Jones*, President, and *E. Harrison Hurley*, Secretary, of a Board meeting of Union Compositors, members of the New South Wales Typographical Association, praying the House to pass into law the Industrial Arbitration Bill.
- Petition received.
4. PAPERS :—
- Sir William Lyne* laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Statement showing the average Liabilities and Assets of Public Companies accepting deposits in New South Wales for the quarter ended 30th June, 1900.
 - (2.) Notification of resumption under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for a Turntable on the Great Northern Railway at Wingen.
 - (3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land for grade improvements on the Great Southern Railway, between Wallendbeen and Jindalce.
 - (4.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for the year ended 30th June, 1900.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. See* laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Report on Administration of the Metropolitan Charities Association.
 - (2.) Particulars respecting Horses for Army Remounts.
 - (3.) By-laws of the Borough of West Maitland.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. THE ROCK TO GREEN'S GUNYAH RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Mr. O'Sullivan*, read a third time, and passed.
- Mr. O'Sullivan* then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend The Rock to Green's Gunyah Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888.*"
- 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 Rock to Green's Gunyah Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
- Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st August, 1900.
6. BYROCK TO BREWARRINA RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Mr. O'Sullivan*, read a third time, and passed.
- Mr. O'Sullivan* then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Byrock to Brewarrina Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888.*"
- 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 Byrock to Brewarrina Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
- Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st August, 1900.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st August, 1900.

7. **MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL**:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of this Bill, on motion of Mr. Fegan, discharged.
Ordered that the Bill be withdrawn.
8. **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- (1.) **Lands for Settlement Bill**:—
BEAUCHAMP, *Message No. 61.*
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 acquisition of private lands for purposes of settlement, and to provide for dealing with and disposing of such lands.
Government House,
Sydney, 21st August, 1900.
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
- (2.) **Old Age Pensions Bill**:—
BEAUCHAMP, *Message No. 62.*
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 provide for Old Age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of or consequent on the aforesaid object.
Government House,
Sydney, 21st August, 1900.
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
- (3.) **Lindfield—St. Leonards Railway Crossings Bill**:—
BEAUCHAMP, *Message No. 63.*
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 enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares.
Government House,
Sydney, 15th August 1900.
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
9. **ATTACHMENT OF WAGES LIMITATION BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
BEAUCHAMP, *Message No. 64.*
Governor.
A Bill, intituled "*An Act to limit the Attachment of Wages,*"—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, 17th August, 1900.
10. **YASS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Affleck moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Affleck, 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. Affleck, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
11. **DENTISTS 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 Dr. Graham, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
12. **PUBLIC HOSPITALS (VOTING) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. FitzGerald 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. FitzGerald, 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. FitzGerald, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

21st August, 1900.

13. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Labour Unions Employees Protection Bill postponed until To-morrow.
14. **TRUCK BILL**:—
 (1.) 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 regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages; to prohibit such payment being paid in goods or otherwise than in money; and to regulate the service of legal process.
 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 paid in goods or otherwise than in money; and to regulate the service of legal process.
 On motion of Mr. Cook, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
 (2.) Mr. Cook 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; and to regulate the service of legal process,*”—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 30th October.
15. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The intervening Orders of the Day and Notices of Motions of General Business, down to and inclusive of Notice No. 15, postponed (*by consent*) until To-morrow.
16. **PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Public Instruction Act of 1880, so as to render instruction in the Public Schools free.
 Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 32.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 22 AUGUST, 1900.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Truck Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 65.

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 the payment and recovery of wages and contracts in respect of wages; to provide that such payments shall be made in money only; to regulate the sale and supply of goods to workmen; to regulate deductions and payments in respect of fines, bad, or negligent work, and injury to the property of employers, and contracts in respect of the same; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

*Government House,
Sydney, 21st August, 1900.*

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

- (2.) Fire Brigades Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 66.

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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 22nd August, 1900.*

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

2. MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2):—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Fegan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
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 provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents, for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 22nd August, 1900.*

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

22nd August, 1900.

3. QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Land Exchange, Combardelo Holding :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that an application for a land exchange in the interest of Messrs. Moses, of Combardelo Holding, is at present under his consideration?
 - (2.) If so, has the Local Land Board reported favourably or unfavourably of the exchange being carried out?
 - (3.) Does the property belong to any relative of the Minister?
 - (4.) In view of the circumstances surrounding the case, will he, before giving finally his consent to it, lay upon the Table of this House copies of all papers, maps, reports, and correspondence in connection with the case?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) An exchange was applied for in August, 1896, and was recommended by the Land Board in September, 1897, and received Ministerial approval long prior to my taking office.
- (3.) One of those having an interest in the pastoral lease has become connected with me by marriage.
- (4.) I do not understand what the Honorable Member means by the phrase "in view of the circumstances surrounding the case," and would like a clearer exposition of his views and implications. At present, he must excuse me for regarding the tone of his Question as gratuitously offensive. I do not know who put the Honorable Member up to ask these Questions. I entirely acquit the Honorable Member of any desire to put Questions of that character to me.

- (2.) Anti-alcoholic Serum :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Will he endeavour to obtain from the Board of Health the fullest possible information as to the alleged recent discovery and infallible cure made by Drs. Sapehier, Bocca, and Thebault, of the Pasteur Institute, Paris, of the nature and therapeutic value of a certain serum called an anti-alcoholic serum, that has lately been used by those gentlemen for the radical cure of drunkenness?
- (2.) Is he aware, or can the Board of Health furnish any information, as to how this alleged anti-alcoholic serum is obtained or prepared, or if any of the serum has yet been imported into the Colony, and by whom?
- (3.) Is it a fact that, in order to obtain this serum, a horse has first to be brought under the influence and made drunk with alcohol, and when the animal is suffering in this state of intoxication, or alcoholism, it is then bled, and the serum taken from the blood of the same is then subsequently injected by way of inoculation into the human subject, or of those suffering from the habit of drunkenness, delirium, and alcoholic poison or madness?
- (4.) Can the Board of Health furnish any information as to the *rationale* or therapeutic and physiological effects of this serum for the information of the general public?
- (5.) If the serum, as alleged, has any such extraordinary medicinal virtues, will the Government see that a supply is obtained for the Colony from Paris without delay?
- (6.) In order that the dogmas that have of late years sprung up in our midst under the auspices of a class called "bacteriologists," viz., that of curing disease by the serum of disease or bacteriologically-prepared serums and inoculation (from bubonic plague prophylactic serum and tick pests downwards), may be carried out to their fullest extent, will the Government see that the Board of Health is instructed to take the necessary steps for the better protection of public health, and to have the serum of all known malignant diseases bacteriologically-prepared for this purpose, either by the erection of a bacteriological laboratory, or else importing a supply of the same?
- (7.) Will he see that the Board of Health is likewise instructed to carry out the principles and application of wholesale inoculation with bacteriologically-prepared virus or serum for the universal cure of all and sundry diseases or so-called up-to-date scientific practice of medicine in which modern scientists assert and insist that bacteria is the only source and origin of disease, and that food and liquor adulterations have nothing whatever to do with the spread of diseases affecting the human family, especially the increasing infantile mortality?
- (8.) Will the Government see that the President of the Board of Health is granted twelve months' leave of absence and allowances to visit the Pasteur Institute in Paris, to obtain the fullest information on this startling discovery in the annals of medicine?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1 to 5.) A statement was recently made in the public Press to the effect that a serum useful for the radical cure of drunkenness had been devised; but nothing authoritative is known about it, nor is it considered at all probable that the statement was correct.
- (6, 7, and 8.) The Health Department is already provided with a suitable bacteriological laboratory, and all work of the kind referred to is taken up there as necessity and occasion occur.

- (3.) Death of Mrs. Bridget Hamilton, in George-street :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the painfully sudden death which occurred, in George-street, near Reidfern Railway Station, of Mrs. Bridget Hamilton, residing at Waterview-street, Balmain?
- (2.) If so, can he explain the reason why in several cases of sudden illness and deaths that have lately occurred in our streets, such as Mr. Carmichael and Mrs. Hamilton, &c., the services of such an incompetent body as the Civil Ambulance Brigade was called in to the exclusion of some duly qualified medical practitioner, whose services when called in by the police or public in such cases of emergency and sudden illness should be guaranteed payment by the Government?
- (3.) Who is answerable for such cases not been brought under the notice and attended by some member of the medical profession?
- (4.) Will he see that steps are taken, and some provision made, for the better protection of valuable lives in cases of emergency and sudden illness occurring in our streets, and the police, &c., instructed to immediately call in the services of a medical man, so that valuable lives may in future not be sacrificed at the hands of an incompetent irresponsible body?

Sir

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd August, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have been furnished with the following report by the Police:—"It would appear that Mrs. Bridget Hamilton, about 4.20 p.m. on the 17th instant, was standing waiting for a tram within a few yards of the Civil Ambulance Station, at the junction of Pitt and George Streets, when she suddenly exclaimed to a woman who was standing beside her, 'Oh! my heart,' and instantly dropped down apparently dead. She was then removed to the Civil Ambulance Station, and Dr. Taylor, who was passing at the time, pronounced life extinct. All this occurred in the course of a couple of minutes; consequently it was impossible to do more for the deceased than was done. For some time previously she had been under Drs. Wilson and Shirlow, of Balmain, for heart disease."

- (4.) Butter Exported to England:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to a complaint of the "fishiness" or rancid state of Colonial butter exported to England?
 - (2.) Are there any grounds for the existence of such a report or complaint?
 - (3.) What constitutes fishiness in butter?
 - (4.) Does fishiness in butter mean rancid butter, or what is it that constitutes this complaint called fishiness?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) The Dairy Expert of the Department has drawn attention to the matter.
 - (2.) I believe there are.
 - (3.) The Dairy Expert accounts for the "fishy" flavour owing to the use of stale inferior cream, or the mixing of such cream with good cream. An article dealing with the question appears in the June number of the *Agricultural Gazette* for this year, page 466, which I hope the Honorable Member will read.
 - (4.) Not in the ordinary sense of the word. I may say that a Bill is being prepared to deal with the manufacture of butter and similar products.
- (5.) Historical Records:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will he lay upon the Table the return *re* the Historical Records, which he promised on the 2nd August would be laid upon the Table on the 15th August?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I shall lay this return upon the Table presently.

- (6.) National Ode, Union of Australia:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he consider the advisableness of offering a prize for the composition of a national ode in honour of the consummation of the Union of Australia?
 - (2.) If yes, will he further consider the importance of having such ode set to music?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The matter will be considered by the Committee which will be appointed in connection with arrangements for the inauguration of the Commonwealth and swearing-in of the Governor-General.

- (7.) Experimental Farms:—*Mr. Wright*, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to Mr. Farrer's paper in the *Agricultural Gazette* of February—"How Experimental Farms can be made to help on in the best manner the Agriculture of the Country"—in which he says:—(a) "The best work experiment farms can do for our farmers is to furnish them with a solid foundation for their practice in the form of an equipment of readable home-won experimental facts; or, in other words, to carry on in a systematic and public manner carefully planned experiments, extending in each case over as long a period as is necessary, of such a practical character as will afford guidance to our farmers in their efforts to adapt those practices to the requirements of their climates" (b) "Will the experiment farms of Australia be put to do this work; and can they do it while they are organized and controlled as they are at present; and will the changes be made in them which are necessary to enable them to become real working experiment farms"?
 - (2.) As Mr. Farrer's paper clearly shows that the costly experiment farms have failed in the purposes for which they were intended, will they be continued under their present conditions?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) Yes; but the paper is simply the expression of an individual opinion that all the work done at experimental farms throughout Australia should be of a purely experimental nature; others, however, hold the view that they should combine the practical and the experimental—I am one of them—and it is on the latter system the farms in this Colony were started and are continued. In respect to quotation (b), Mr. Farrer advocates a policy based upon his own enthusiastic ideal of agricultural experimentation, the carrying out of which on a more extended basis than that now employed would involve a much greater expenditure of public funds than is at present warranted or available for the purpose.
 - (2.) They have not failed, according to all the authorities who visit them, and there is no intention to change the system in favour of that advocated by Mr. Farrer.
- (8.) Improvements to the City:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will the Government obtain authority from this House for the appointment of the Board to deal with improvements to the city before committing the country to the expenditure?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is difficult to understand precisely to what the Honorable Member refers. A temporary Board is already sitting dealing with matters in connection with the Darling Harbour wharf resumptions, and I would point out that, under section 3 of the Darling Harbour Resumption Bill, a resolution of Parliament is necessary before a work can be inaugurated.

- (9.) Commercial Agent in London:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he obtain the approval of this House before making any appointment of a Commercial Agent in London?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Certainly not, excepting in reference to the salary to be allowed the gentleman selected.

(10.)

22nd August, 1900.

(10.) Case of *Hutchinson v. Hipgrave*:—*Mr. Fitz Gerald*, for Mr. Wilson, asked the Attorney-General,—
 (1.) Will he state the reason why the case *Hutchinson v. Hipgrave* and another, which was set down for hearing in Sydney in November, 1899, and through pressure of business was postponed until 12th March, 1900, was then again postponed, when all the witnesses from Armidale were in attendance, in order to take up a heavy case, *Low v. Sydney Morning Herald*, which had not previously been on the list?

(2.) Is he aware that this course of action involved the defendants in *Hutchinson v. Hipgrave* in tremendous extra expenses for witnesses, &c., who had to travel over 700 miles to and from Sydney?

(3.) Was His Honor Chief Justice Darley the presiding Judge?

Mr. Wise answered.—An order changing this case was made by Mr. Justice Stephen on the 6th March. Although this was known by the plaintiff's attorney on that date, he does not appear to have taken any steps to have the order altered.

(11.) Information respecting Conditional Purchases:—*Mr. McLaughlin* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has the practice of the Treasury in charging a fee of not less than 5s. for furnishing information to conditional purchasers of the amounts due on their conditional purchases his sanction?

(2.) Does he not consider it unreasonable for a creditor to charge his debtor for information of the amount of his indebtedness?

(3.) Will he communicate with the Treasury, with a view to having the practice discontinued?

Sir William Lyne answered.—It has been found necessary to charge a search fee in consequence of the large number of inquiries made by financial institutions, such inquiries being evidently for the sole purpose of checking their securities. In no case is the fee charged when the owner of the conditional purchase asks for the information, nor is it charged in cases where it is the intention to pay off the outstanding balance of purchase money.

(12.) Federal Electorates:—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did any Member of the Government give any instructions, written or verbal, to the gentlemen who have mapped out the Federal Electorates as to the principles which should guide them in their work?

(2.) If not, can he state to the House what principles (if any) those gentlemen endeavoured to follow in this important work?

(3.) What method did they adopt to find out the number of electors in each proposed electorate?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The only instructions received by the gentlemen are those contained in the Commission from the Crown, and are as follows:—"To make a diligent and full inquiry with a view to enabling a Bill to be submitted to Parliament for the apportionment of the Colony into divisions, for which members representing New South Wales in the Federal House of Representatives may be chosen in accordance with the provisions of the Draft Bill 'To constitute the Commonwealth of Australia,' as embodied in the third Schedule of the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1899."

(2.) The Commissioners are governed by the principles contained in the Act referred to.

(3.) The methods adopted to obtain the number of electors in each proposed electorate are not yet completed, and no reliable estimate can, therefore, be furnished until the Commissioners' final report has been received. I may tell the Right Honorable Member that I received this information from the Commissioners.

(13.) City Cleansing Work:—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Can he state how many persons are still employed in connection with the special work of cleansing the city?

(2.) What are the names of the principal officers, including gangers and inspectors?

(3.) Is Mr. McCredie still at work, and upon what terms from 1st July last?

(4.) Are his head-quarters still at the "Royal George Hotel," Sussex-street?

(5.) On what localities is work proceeding?

(6.) Have any attempts been made to make owners pay for the nuisances removed from their premises at the cost of the State; if so, the nature of such attempts?

(7.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of the House, for inspection only, the pay-sheet for the scavenging operations during the week or two weeks that included Good Friday and Easter Monday?

(8.) Has any inquiry been made into the statements of the civic authorities as to the quantities of dirt removed by the scavenging detachment as estimated in a return read to this House on 14th June; if so, with what result?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1, 2, and 5.) There are no persons now employed in the cleansing of the city.

(3.) No.

(4.) These quarters have been given up.

(6.) This matter cannot be dealt with until after the passing of the Resumption Bill.

(7.) No objection.

(8.) I have had inquiries made as to the quantity of dirt removed by the scavenging detachment, and am satisfied that the return, as submitted by me, is correct.

(14.) Sale of Crown Lands in the Wagga Wagga District:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that several blocks of Crown lands situated in the Wagga Wagga Land Board District are now advertised for sale by auction?

(2.) Are many of those areas sufficient to maintain a home?

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd August, 1900.

- (3.) Are Crown lands in this district in great demand for settlement?
 (4.) Are the whole, or a considerable part of the lands referred to, situated within the boundaries of large estates?
 (5.) If such sales are allowed to be carried out, are large properties likely to be increased in area by the purchase of such lands?
 (6.) Will he have such lands withdrawn from auction sale and made available for settlement?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) No; only one portion embraces an area in excess of 120 acres, and a request to have that block withdrawn and made available for conditional purchase having been received, a further report as to its capabilities, &c., was asked for on 20th instant. On receipt of the report the matter will receive consideration.
 (3.) Yes.
 (4 and 5.) I have not had sufficient time to have the plans examined; but it may be that some of the blocks are surrounded by large estates; and, if so, there is, of course, the possibility that they may be purchased by the holders of these estates.
 (6.) With the possible exception of the portion referred to in the answer to Question No. 2, no reason has been shown to me why the land should be withdrawn; but if the Honorable Member will indicate any particular blocks which he considers are sufficient to maintain a home, I will be glad to give the matter special consideration.

(15.) Plague on Premises of Jeremiah Loneragan:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Was there a case of plague on the premises of Jeremiah Loneragan, dairyman, South Waterloo?
 (2.) Did the Health Department order a large quantity of fodder to be burned; if so, what is the estimated value of it?
 (3.) Do the Government intend to indemnify Mr. Loneragan for his loss; if so, when?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes. £55 0s. 4d.
 (3.) The Board of Health inform me that they are on the point of submitting a recommendation to me in this matter. Mr. Loneragan claimed £98 11s., a sum so much in excess of the amount estimated by Mr. Veterinarian Stewart that repeated interviews with him took place. Mr. Loneragan has now reduced his claim to £64 9s.

(16.) Newcastle Harbour Ferry Service:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—As promised on Thursday, 16th August, has he yet made inquiries as to the hours worked by men employed in connection with the Newcastle harbour ferry and tug service; and, if so, with what result?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A report has been obtained from Newcastle in this matter, but it was not considered to be complete, and it was returned for further information. I expect to be in possession of a full report within the next day or so.

(17.) Burial of Paupers:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the Question of Mr. E. M. Clark on 8th August, *re* burial of paupers, and his reply that he would cause inquiry to be made as to the fact of plain rough wood boxes stuffed with rough sawdust being provided by the contractors, and the bodies so inclosed, and also whether steps would be taken to have a coffin specified in accordance with the custom of society, and to give the semblance of decent Christian interment to paupers buried from our hospital and other institution,—has he yet made inquiries; and, if so, with what result?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have called for a report as to whether there are any reasonable grounds for complaint as to the description of coffin used for the burial of paupers in this Colony, and also how the coffins used here compare with those used for the burial of paupers elsewhere. As soon as I receive the report I shall communicate with the Honorable Member.

(18.) Pharmacy Board:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—What steps have been taken to compel the Pharmacy Board to pay rent; and has he made any inquiries as to the members of the Board using the offices of same for private business?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter is now being inquired into.

(19.) Clothing for Railway Employees:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Who is the contractor for the supply of clothing to railway employees; and when does the contract expire?
 (2.) Is it a fact that a provision of the tender is that cloth suits should be supplied for winter wear in each year, and that up to the present time many of the men have not yet been supplied?
 (3.) Is it a fact that serge suits are to be supplied in November for summer wear, and that the men not supplied with cloth suits have had to wear the serge clothes during the present exceptionally cold winter?
 (4.) Have any complaints been made about make and non-delivery of clothes?
 (5.) Are any fines provided for under conditions of tender; and, if so, have they been enforced?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I am informed Messrs. S. Weingott and Sons were the contractors. The contract expires on 31st December next.
 (2.) No.
 (3.) The summer uniforms are of serge, as hitherto.
 (4.) A number of uniforms, which were not a good fit, were supplied, and complaints with regard to these have been received, the defect being set right by the contractors.
 (5.) Fines are provided for under the contract, but owing to the majority of the uniforms being delivered before the usual date of issue, and the contractors not being held responsible for the delay of the balance, fines were not enforced. (20.)

22nd August, 1900.

- (20.) **Leadville Water Supply**:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has any decision been arrived at by his Department with reference to the matter of providing a water supply for the township of Leadville, in the Rylstone electorate?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I promise the Honorable Member that steps will be at once taken to ascertain what the Department propose to do in the matter, and so soon as the necessary reports have been received I will communicate with him. There may have been delay in dealing with this and other somewhat similar cases owing to the transfer of the Public Watering Places to this Department.
- (21.) **Building for the Colony's Collection of Books**:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—When does he propose to take steps in the direction of choosing a site for and erecting a building for the housing of the Colony's Collection of books, &c., including the valuable gift of Mr. Mitchell, as recommended some time since by the trustees?
- Mr. Perry answered,—Several sites have been under consideration, but the matter has not yet been finally decided by the Cabinet.
- (22.) **Amendment of the Police Regulation Act**:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to introduce during this Session a Bill to amend the Police Regulation Act, for the purpose of placing the Superannuation Fund on a sound basis, in order to enable men who are entitled to a pension to retire?
- (2.) Is he aware that a number of men who have retired are still on the monthly pay-list owing to the Fund being exhausted?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The state of this Fund will engage the attention of the Government at the earliest possible moment. In the meantime pensions are being paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund where necessary.
- (23.) **Settlement Leases in the North-west**:—Mr. Norton, for Mr. Willis, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the greater proportion of the settlement leases in the north-west (where the rainfall is uncertain and spasmodic, and the situation in some cases remote from market) are offered in such small areas as to make it almost impossible for any man to maintain himself and family?
- (2.) Will he, in the public interest, and in the interest of the men who take these leases up, instruct the district surveyors generally to, in future, map out sufficient country in these leases to enable each lessee to depasture not less than 3,000 sheep?
- (3.) Will he offer some help to those settlement lessees who are now possessed of leases whereon the area has been found to be too small to enable a decent living to be made off it; if not, why not?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I am aware that the areas of settlement leases vary, but on the 25th October, 1899, I had a circular issued to district surveyors intimating that in pastoral country settlement lease farms should be of an area sufficient to carry from 2,000 to 3,000 sheep.
- (3.) The law makes no provision for adding to the area of any settlement lease, as it supposed that the area of the farm would be sufficient from the beginning; but before considering the question I should like the Honorable Member to bring specific cases under my notice.
- (24.) **Payment for Overtime, Taxation Department**:—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Regarding the Taxation Department, is it proposed to allow payment for overtime; if so, when will payment be made accordingly?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—In view of the fact that officers of the Taxation Department in common with all officers of the Public Service are allowed every consideration in respect of sick leave, and are liberally afforded annual leave of absence for the purpose of recreation, it is only reasonable to expect that their services should be cheerfully given when they are occasionally required after the usual office hours, as is the case in other Government Departments. Payment is made in consideration of exceptional and arduous overtime services.
- (25.) **Correspondence in reference to Mr. G. S. Peel, of Glen Innes**:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he produce and place upon the Table of this House all correspondence during 1881 and 1882, between the Works and Railway Departments and Mr. Hoyle, relative to Mr. G. S. Peel, of Glen Innes; also copy of correspondence between those Departments and Mr. Peel?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—There will be no objection if moved for in the usual manner.
- (26.) **Norfolk Island**:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is Norfolk Island portion of the territory of the Colony of New South Wales?
- (2.) If not, what section of the Constitution Act of New South Wales authorises this Parliament to appropriate any portion of the Consolidated Revenue for or in aid of the Government of Norfolk Island?
- (3.) Has he received any advice of the intention of the Imperial Government to ask the Imperial Parliament to amend section 47 of the Constitution Act of New South Wales, so as to authorise the appropriation of part of the Consolidated Revenue of that Colony for or in aid of the government of Norfolk Island, and to validate the illegal appropriation of £1,600 for that purpose in the past by the Parliament of New South Wales?
- (4.) Does he intend to ask the Imperial Government to defray the whole cost of governing Norfolk Island?
- (5.) Has he asked, or does he intend to ask, the Imperial Government to reimburse the Government of New South Wales all moneys paid out of the Colony's Treasury since 1893 to, for, or on account of Norfolk Island?
- (6.) Will he lay upon the Table of the House a copy of any papers bearing on the subject-matter of the above Questions?
- Sir

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd August, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—I cannot undertake to give the Honorable Member the legal opinions which seem to be involved in the matters he refers to. I may say, however, that Norfolk Island has not been formally annexed to this Colony, but in conformity with a proposal of the late Government, its administration—by an Order of Her Majesty in Council, dated the 15th January, 1897, which was published in the *Government Gazette* of the 19th March, 1897—has been conferred on the Governor of New South Wales. I invite the Honorable Member's attention to the correspondence relating to the transfer of Norfolk Island to the Government of New South Wales, which was laid upon the Table on the 11th August, 1897, and which, no doubt, had due weight with this House when voting the sums referred to. Any moneys supplied by the Treasury on account of the Home Government, for its administration of Norfolk Island, have been duly reimbursed.

(27.) Commonwealth of Australia Bill:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Referring to his promise to lay upon the Table of the House the reports of the debates on the Commonwealth of Australia Bill in both Houses of the Imperial Parliament, will he consider the advisableness of adopting the more convenient and utilitarian plan of having the debates (with a copy of the Bill as submitted to the House of Commons appended) reprinted in *Hansard* size only, and issued to Members of both Houses of Parliament, Schools of Arts, and kindred public institutions, as a work of reference?

(2.) Will he also consider the propriety of requesting the Government Printer to prepare for sale in limp covers a reprint of the Commonwealth of Australia Act, the British North America Act, and the Constitution of the United States of America, with all amendments thereof?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) A number of volumes containing the Debates, Memoranda, &c., in connection with the Commonwealth of Australia Bill in both Houses of the Imperial Parliament have already been shipped to this Colony by the Agent-General, and will shortly be available. The question of supplying Members of Parliament, Schools of Arts, and kindred institutions with copies will be duly considered in connection with the disposal of the same.

(2.) I do not think that there is sufficient public demand to justify the issue of such a pamphlet.

(28.) Employment of Mr. Josephson:—Mr. Norton asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Did the Minister of the Crown who first authorised the employment of Mr. Josephson in the Civil Service act under the authority of an Act of this Legislature, or of an Order-in-Council?

(2.) If under the former, the short title of the Act; and if under the latter, the terms of the Order-in-Council?

Mr. Wise answered,—As Mr. Josephson was an officer of the Works Department, I have to ask the Honorable Member to obtain this information from the Minister for Works.

(29.) Navigation Amendment Act:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of the House a copy of all the documents relative to the giving of the Royal Assent to the Navigation Amendment Bill of last Session?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have not seen all the papers; but I am opinion that, by reason of the nature of some of them, it is not desirable to lay them upon the Table of the House. I shall, however, refer the matter to the Honorable the Attorney-General.

(30.) Hare-Spence System of Voting:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Do the Government intend to ask the House to afford an opportunity to the Hare-Spence cult to indirectly take part in its deliberations by the agency of evidence taken before a Select Committee?

(2.) If so, is he prepared to afford a like opportunity to Mr. W. McMillan and Mr. A. B. Smith to place before this House their views on the provisions of the Industrial Arbitration Bill?

(3.) Will he procure and lay upon the Table of this House a copy of the valuable report of the Returning Officer for the province of South Australia on the proposed system of effective voting, which was laid before the Parliament of South Australia last year?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) No.

(3.) I will endeavour to obtain a copy.

(31.) Public Works Committees:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—How long have the Treasury officers been engaged in making out the return which he promised last month to lay upon the Table in a day or two showing the total payments to the various Public Works Committees—first, for fees, and, secondly, for travelling expenses?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The information cannot be gleaned from the Treasury books, but must be abstracted from those kept in the office of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, which was accordingly requested to prepare the return. I expect to be in a position to lay the return upon the Table on Tuesday next.

(32.) Expenses of Members of the Reid Ministry:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The total sum of money paid in each year to the several members of the Reid Ministry for travelling expenses on official or other business?

(2.) The total sum of money paid to each representative of New South Wales in respect of each Session of the Federal Convention?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The information will take some time to compile, but I will have a return prepared and laid upon the Table.

(2.) I shall presently lay upon the Table a statement giving the required information.

22nd August, 1900.

(33.) Fisheries Bill:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is there any reason why the Fisheries Bill cannot be originated in the Legislative Council?

Mr. See answered,—A Fisheries Bill would naturally provide for the collection and expenditure of revenue, and cannot, therefore, be conveniently introduced into the Legislative Council.

(34.) Reappraisal of Conditional Purchases, Gosford District:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has an appraiser been appointed for the Gosford District, in connection with the 1899 Act, for the reappraisal of conditional purchases?

Mr. Hassall answered,—As only two applications for appraisal have been received, the appointment of an appraiser has not been necessary. Instructions have already issued to proceed with the valuation of the land, and to obtain evidence from a local expert.

(35.) Old Age Pension Scheme:—Mr. McGowen, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact, as stated in the *Daily Telegraph* of 20th August, that, in place of the long-promised Old Age Pension scheme, it is his intention to introduce a measure merely dealing with the inmates of charitable institutions?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I intend to introduce the Bill as early as practicable, and the Honorable Member will then see how far it is proposed to go. I did not use the term “in place of the long-promised Old Age Pension scheme.”

(36.) Removal of wreck of the “Hetty de Fraine”:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he yet taken the necessary steps for the removal of the wreck of the “Hetty de Fraine” from the channel of the Camden Haven Bar?

Mr. O’Sullivan answered,—Yes; arrangements have been made to have this wreck blown up, and explosives are to be sent to Camden Haven this week for the purpose.

(37.) Lieutenant Darley, Sydney Lancers:—Mr. McGowen, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is the Mr. Darley recently appointed an honorary Captain in the Sydney Lancers a son of His Honor the Chief Justice?

(2.) Has the gentleman referred to any other qualification for the position; and, if so, will he state what it is?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Mr. Darley is a son of the Chief Justice, and holds a Commission as Supernumerary 2nd Lieutenant in the Sydney Lancers.

(2.) He has the same qualification as other officers joining as 2nd Lieutenants.

(38.) Invalided Troops Returning to Queensland:—Mr. Lee asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Queensland invalided troops that arrived on Friday, 17th August, were despatched the same night by train for Queensland without the means of procuring food on the journey?

(2.) That, on arrival at Glen Innes refreshment station, these troops were wandering about shivering with cold, and unable for want of means to obtain food?

(3.) Who is responsible for the neglect of these troops while in this Colony?

(4.) Will he take steps to prevent a recurrence of such unseemly treatment of returned invalided troops?

Mr. See answered,—

(1 and 2.) No.

(3.) This Question is not understood, as in the first place there was no neglect whatever. Acting under direct instructions of the Minister for Defence, all invalided troops have been received in the same way, with every consideration, courtesy, and kindness. The troops to whom this question refers were received in exactly a similar way to those who preceded them, and not a single complaint has been received. Acting under instructions from the Minister, the troops of other Colonies have been treated equally with ours, with proper and due reception; after being visited by one of the Ministers of the Crown or another, in addition to the General himself, they have been distinctly and directly informed that they had been placed for medical purposes under the control of the principal Medical Officer, and for all other matters under the Senior Warrant Officer of the Garrison, namely the Garrison Sergeant-Major. The Minister also directed that any legitimate expense might reasonably be incurred without waiting for special authority. In each case, and in this special case, the Garrison Sergeant-Major assembled these men, not only on arrival, but again at the dinner hour, and personally explained, in the presence of other officers and warrant officers, that if they required to be supplied with money or any other articles, clothing, &c., to at once give their names to him. In this particular instance the appeal was not responded to; therefore it is surmised that they had received from other Colonies advances sufficient to see them to their homes in Queensland. With regard to their meals *en route* from Sydney to the Border, absolutely personal inquiry was made from the Sergeant-Major in charge of these invalids if he required any assistance with regard to refreshments on the way, and he replied that they were satisfied that everything was all right. In addition, telegrams were duly forwarded to the Military authorities in Queensland acquainting them of the time of the arrival of their returned invalids. Further, acting under the Minister’s direction, special arrangements were made with the Railway Department to see they, being invalids, were accommodated with first-class railway accommodation at the expense of the Government.

(4.) As no unseemly treatment occurred, necessity is not seen. I may add that the return of these gentlemen was directed by the Queensland Government. They wished them to return upon a certain date, and upon that particular date arrangements were made by the Department here for the convenience and comfort of these returned soldiers so far as it was possible to do it.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd August, 1900.

4. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Whiddon—From certain residents of Surry Hills.
 - (2.) By Mr. Wise—From William Bert Lloyd, Chairman of a meeting of the Rose of Ashfield Tent, No. 6, of the Independent Order of Rechabites.
 - (3.) By Mr. Neild—From certain residents of Paddington and Woollahra.
 - (4.) By Mr. Neild—From certain residents of Paddington and Woollahra.
 - (5.) By Mr. Ewing—From certain residents of Lismore.
- Petitions received.
5. BRODIE'S ENABLING BILL:—Mr. E. M. Clark presented a Petition from Mary Gilroy, of Turramurra, near Sydney, wife of Peter Gilroy, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to authorise the sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; and for other purposes.
And Mr. Clark having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Australian Star* and *North Shore and Manly Times* newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.
6. NAMES FOR ELECTORATES, FEDERAL PARLIAMENT:—Mr. Piddington (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the paper, "Particulars showing Boundaries of Proposed Federal Electorates of New South Wales," together with three maps, laid upon the Table of this House on 7th August, 1900, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on "Names for Electorates, Federal Parliament."
Question put and passed.
7. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with the Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. KOORAWATHA TO GRENFELL RAILWAY (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888.*"
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 Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 22nd August, 1900.
9. YASS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH TRUSTEES ENABLING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Affleck, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Affleck then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the trustees of a certain allotment or parcel of land in the Town of Yass, granted to the Right Reverend William Lanigan, and others, as trustees of the Roman Catholic Church at Yass, to sell the said land and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof.*"
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 trustees of a certain allotment or parcel of land in the Town of Yass, granted to the Right Reverend William Lanigan, and others, as trustees of the Roman Catholic Church at Yass, to sell the said land and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof,*"—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, 22nd August, 1900.
10. DENTISTS 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 provide for the Registration of Dentists qualified to practise in New South Wales.*"
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 for the Registration of Dentists qualified to practise in New South Wales,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 22nd August, 1900.

22nd August, 1900.

11. PUBLIC HOSPITALS (VOTING) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. FitzGerald, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. FitzGerald then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Public Hospitals Act, 1898.*"
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 Public Hospitals Act, 1898,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 22nd August, 1900.*
12. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
(2.) Companies Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
13. PAPERS:—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Return to an Order, made on 31st October, 1899,—"*Appointment of Mr. James Bonwick—
"Historical Records."*"
(2.) Statement of payments to the New South Wales Delegates in connection with the Conventions held at Adelaide and Melbourne.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Right Honorable Member for Sydney—King Division, Mr. Reid, 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 "vindication of the financial administration of the late Government afforded by a recent investigation of the Public Accounts by a Committee of Public Accountants."*"
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
15. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Arthur Griffith, pursuant to leave granted on the 21st August, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Public Instruction Act of 1880, so as to render instruction in the Public Schools free,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 30th October.
16. SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST 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, 23 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

17. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Paton's Settlement Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise and enable the trustee or trustees for the time being of a certain indenture of settlement, bearing date the twenty-second day of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, made between Theophilus Paton of the first part, Mary Ann Paton (then Mary Ann Allison), of the second part, and the Reverend John Dunmore Lang and Robert Watson of the third part, and under a certain instrument of transfer under the Real Property Act, dated the fifth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four; and under a certain declaration of trust, dated the twenty-second day of April, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, under the hands and seals of Henry Elliott and Andrew Fenwick, to obtain payment out of Court of certain money now standing to the credit of the said trust estate in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, in its equitable jurisdiction; and to provide for making certain payments thereout; and for the investment of the balance thereof; and to declare and determine the trusts thereof; and to provide for the ultimate distribution thereof; and for other purposes,*"—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, 22nd August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Fegau, read a first time.

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

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd August, 1900.

(2.) Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for other appropriations and resumptions and purchases for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made or to be made for those purposes, and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 22nd August, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 22nd August, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 3, clause 3, line 5. *After* "performed" *omit* remainder of clause.

Page 3. *After* clause 3 *insert* the following new clause:—

"The amount of compensation in respect of any land resumed, as mentioned in sections two and three of this Act, shall be estimated without reference to any alteration in the value of such land arising from any purchase, or any appropriation or resumption, for any purpose mentioned in this Act, or the establishing of any public works on any land the subject of any such purchase, appropriation, or resumption."

Page 3, clause 4, line 12. *After* "resumption" *insert* "hereinbefore"

Page 3, clause 4, line 13. *Omit* "in either of the last two preceding sections"

Page 3, clause 4, line 14. *After* "payable" *insert* "to the Municipal Council of Sydney"

Page 3, clause 4, line 21. *Omit* "so"

Page 3, clause 4, line 24. *Omit* "Minister" *insert* "Governor"

Page 3, clause 4, line 36. *Omit* "by the Minister"

Page 3, clause 4, lines 37 and 38. *Omit* "The Land Appeal Court or a District Court in ascertaining the compensation to be paid" *insert* "Where any action is brought for compensation under this Act the Court before which the cause is tried"

Page 4, clause 4, line 1. *Omit* "Minister" *insert* "Governor"

Page 4, clause 4, line 3. *Omit* "shall apply"

Page 4, clause 4, line 4. *After* "rent" *insert* "shall be applied"

Page 4, clause 5, line 5. *After* "Where" *omit* remainder of clause, *insert* "in the case of a resumption referred to in section two or three of this Act an action for compensation is brought in the Supreme Court against the Government, the action shall be tried in the said Court without a jury, by a Supreme Court Judge and two District Court Judges, to be appointed in that behalf by the Governor,

"The Supreme Court Judges or any three of them may make rules as to the procedure at any such trial, and as to motions for new trials of any such action,

"The said Court shall have the powers and duties of a jury under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act or any Act amending the same."

Page 7, clause 14, line 2. *After* "1897" *insert* "or against any person or persons"

Page 7, clause 14, line 3. *After* "compensation" *insert* "in respect of"

Page 7, clause 14, line 4. *Omit* "sections" *insert* "section"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

18. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Fegan moved, That this House do now adjourn.

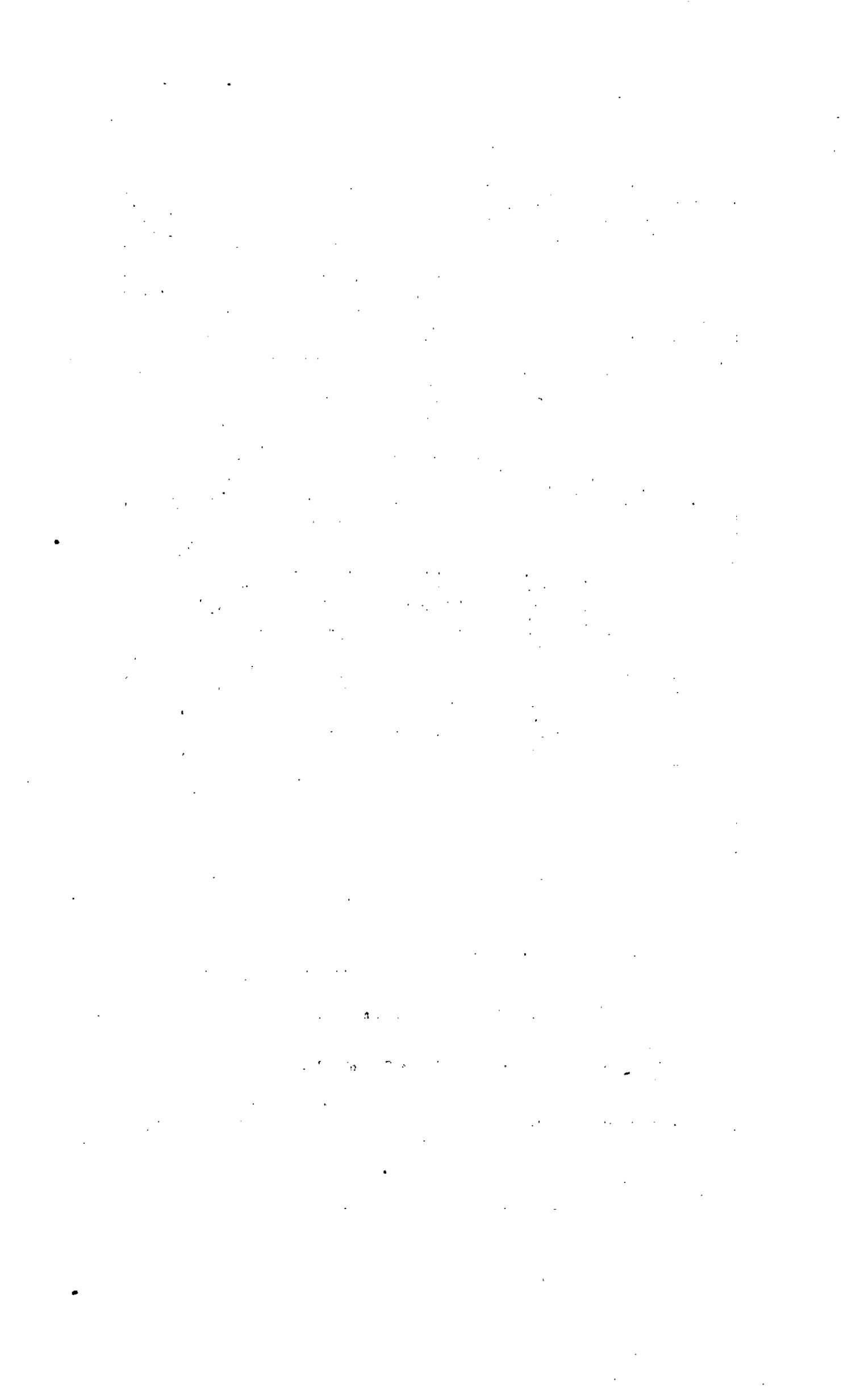
Debate ensued.

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.

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 33.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 23 AUGUST, 1900.

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

PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyde, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 68.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the Port Kembla Harbour Act, 1898,"—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 August, 1900.

2. MUNICIPALITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. See, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 69.

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 further and better provision for Municipal Government; and to amend the law relating to Municipalities.

Government House,

Sydney, 23rd August, 1900.

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

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Bravery of Constable Jeffrey at Walgett:—Mr. Norton, for Mr. Willis asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Constable Jeffrey, at considerable personal risk, saved the life of a child from drowning at Walgett?

(2.) If so, will he see that proper and substantial recognition of his bravery is conveyed to the constable for his brave conduct?

Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police:—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The facts will be favourably recorded, and a recommendation will be made to the Royal Humane Society that a medal be granted the constable. This is by no means an isolated case of the Police saving life by similarly prompt and courageous action.

(2.) Employment of Mr. Josephson in the Civil Service:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Did the Minister of the Crown, who first authorised the employment of Mr. Josephson in the Civil Service, act under the authority of an Act of this Legislature, or of an Order-in-Council?

(2.) If under the former, the short title of the Act; and if under the latter, the terms of the Order-in-Council?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The records of the Department do not show under what authority Mr. Josephson was first employed in the Public Service, so it is impossible for answers to be given to the Honorable Member's Questions.

(3.)

23rd August, 1900.

- (3.) Width of Tires Bill:—Mr. Chanter asked the Colonial Secretary,—Does he intend, during the present Session of Parliament, to introduce and pass into law a Bill providing for regulating the width of tires?

Mr. See answered,—Power to do this will be given in the Municipal Bill about to be introduced.

- (4.) Marine Board Certificates:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did he, some months ago, instruct Captain Hickson, when President of the Marine Board, to make provision for an alteration of the Regulations to provide that third-class harbour engineers should, under certain conditions, be qualified to pass for second-class sea-going certificates?

(2.) Did he also give instructions for a Regulation preventing persons possessing the double certificates of masters and engineers?

(3.) Is it a fact that no effect has yet been given to these instructions; and, if so, will it be done at once?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) It would be impossible to supply, in the form of a reply to a Question, the lengthy information and explanation which this question involves. The whole matter of the regulations relating to the qualifications required for engineers' second-class and third-class certificates of competency is being considered by the Superintendent of Navigation in conjunction with the Chief Engineer Surveyor to the Department, and a report is now in progress and will be furnished in a day or two.

(2 and 3.) I have already called for a report from the Superintendent of Navigation upon this question. There is nothing in the Navigation Acts or Regulations to prevent a person qualifying as a master and an engineer, but the matter of his acting in the dual capacity is contrary to law. Under the old Navigation Acts of 1871-1873 every steam vessel plying in the harbours or rivers is bound to have a certificated master and a certificated engineer, but the late Marine Board did not enforce these provisions with regard to small launches plying in the harbours and rivers and not holding passenger certificates. As many of these vessels are so small as not to require registration, the Department has no record of their tonnage. The surveyors, however, have been instructed to measure them up to ascertain their tonnage, and upon receipt of their report a further and fuller reply, embodying the opinion and recommendation of the Superintendent on the matter, will be furnished.

- (5.) Cable Company at La Perouse:—Mr. McGowen, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What area of land is occupied by the Cable Company at La Perouse?

(2.) The terms and conditions of such occupation?

(3.) The like information with regard to Yarra Beach?

(4.) With regard to the Crown land reserved for public recreation north-eastward of and immediately adjacent to Hemming's special lease for accommodation-house, has he any objection to place this recreation reserve under the care of three trustees?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) The area at La Perouse in authorised occupation of the Eastern Extension Australasia and China Telegraph Company, Limited, is 5 acres 1 rood 4 perches. It was dedicated for electric telegraph purposes on the 25th April, 1894.

(2.) Apparently under authority from the Postal Department.

(3.) There is a portion containing 6 acres, at Yarra Point, which has been purchased in freehold by this company.

(4.) The area of this reserve is large, about 830 acres, and it is not intended to vest the land in trustees at present.

- (6.) Consolidation of the Pastures and Stock Protection Act:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—When does he propose to introduce a Bill for the consolidation of the Pastures and Stock Protection Act and other Acts of a kindred nature, as urged by the Boards of the Colony?

Mr. Fegan answered,—It is my intention to submit this Bill at the earliest possible opportunity.

- (7.) Salaries Paid to School Teachers:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the following disparity between the salaries paid to male and female teachers possessed of the same qualifications:—

	Male.	Female.
	£	£
To a first assistant, holding a first-class certificate, in a school of the first-class...	225	150
To a second-class assistant, holding a second-class certificate, in a school of the first-class...	136	108
To a first-class assistant, holding a second-class certificate, in a school of first or second-class...	171	130
To an assistant, holding a second-class certificate, in a third, fourth, or fifth-class school...	136	104
To an assistant, holding a third-class certificate in first, second, third, fourth, or fifth-class school...	113	104
To an ex-student of Training School, for the first year...	96	84
To an ex-student of the Training School, for the second year...	104	90
To an ex-student of the Training School, for the third or later year...	113	96

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd August, 1900.

(2.) Are not the examinations identical which male and female teachers are expected to pass; and are not their duties exactly the same?

(3.) Will he take such steps as may be necessary to place teachers of both sexes upon the same footing as regards salaries?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Nearly the same.

(3.) It is not my intention to take any steps in the matter, which is one for the consideration of the Public Service Board.

(8.) Royal Commission on Crown Leases and Lands in the Western Division:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Colonial Treasurer,—With reference to the scope of inquiry of the Royal Commission appointed to investigate and report on the condition, tenure, &c., of the Crown leases and Crown lands generally in the Western Division, is it intended that such inquiry shall embrace the question of mortgages upon such properties, and to what extent the present condition of those lands have been affected by said mortgages; also to what extent the holders of such mortgages will be advantaged by any concessions that may be recommended?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The scope of inquiry of the Royal Commission referred to is considered to be sufficiently comprehensive to embrace all of the matters referred to in the discretion of the Commission. It is not considered, however, that the Commission will insist upon answers to inquisitorial questions which might affect the financial position of any person concerned.

(9.) Appointment of Commercial Agent in London:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the answer given by him to Question No. 10, put by Mr. J. H. Young on 21st August, in reference to the appointment of a Commercial Agent in London, does he mean it to be understood that he desires to leave himself free to make such an appointment before this House has voted the necessary salary?

Sir William Lyne answered,—If the Government consider it absolutely necessary it will be done, but probably the salary will first be passed.

(10.) Mr. Claude Solomon, Acting Military Paymaster:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is there a person named Claude Solomon acting as Military Paymaster?

(2.) If so, what is the position of the accounts with which he has had to deal?

(3.) Has he been away from duty for five weeks without pay?

(4.) Or is he absent on his holidays?

Mr. See answered,—

The Military Secretary reports as follows:—

(1 and 4.) Mr. Claude Solomon is at present on leave. He holds the position of Staff Paymaster.

(2.) The accounts are at present under investigation by a Treasury Officer.

(3.) Yes.

(11.) Ironbong Exchange, Land District of Cootamundra:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Referring to his reply to Mr. Norton's Question on the 8th instant,—that he had not yet come to a decision relative to the Ironbong Exchange, Land District of Cootamundra,—will he now state whether he has yet decided on the course he will pursue?

(2.) Is he aware that in the district where this holding is situated a petition is being circulated asking the Minister to throw open the surrendered land for settlement, and that persons are being persuaded to attach their signatures upon the representation that the Minister has sanctioned the exchange?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) I have not given my decision, and have, as a matter of fact, withheld it in pursuance of a promise I made to the Honorable Member in reply to his Question of the 21st instant.

(2.) A petition purporting to be signed by local residents has been received, asking to have the proposed surrender land made available for settlement, but I am not aware what the impressions of the petitioners were when they signed the petition, or what representations (if any) were made to induce them to attach their signatures to the document in question.

(12.) Mr. George Seale, Public Works Department:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that an officer of his Department, named George Seale, is the proprietor of an athletic club and boxing saloon in Castlereagh-street, Sydney, which comes into serious competition with the professional athletic clubs already existing in Sydney?

(2.) Is it not a fact that, when Mr. Bruce Smith was Minister for Public Works, Seale was seriously injured in a championship fight with a man named Sandall, being absent from his duties for some time, and causing Mr. Bruce Smith to say he must leave the Department if he insisted on continuing to take part in fights in public?

(3.) Is it not a fact that liquor is freely purveyed on Seale's premises without a license to sell liquor having been obtained?

(4.) Is it a fact that no properly organised club exists there, such as would confer the privilege of selling liquor?

(5.) Will he give an assurance that Seale is instructed to withdraw from an actual participation in the management or monetary proceeds from the club, and strictly confine himself to his official duties in accordance with the regulations regarding Civil Servants and their taking part in outside work?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Mr. George Seale resigned his position under this Department on the 31st July, 1899.

23rd August, 1900.

4. WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:—
 (1.) Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick presented a Petition from H. C. L. Anderson, of the Public Library, Sydney, praying that he may be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before the Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report upon the "Working of the Free Public Library."
 Petition received.
 Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
- (2.) Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Working of the Free Public Library" have leave to sit during any adjournment of the House.
 Question put and passed.
5. PAPERS:—
 Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (63 and 64 Vict., ch. 12).
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Report of the Public Service Board on inquiry into certain charges against Mr. C. G. Willman, clerk and storekeeper at Coast Hospital, Little Bay.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. BRODIE'S ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 (1.) Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; and for other purposes.
 Question put and passed.
- (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 the sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; and for other purposes,*"—read a first time.
7. 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 management of the Receiving Office at Garland."
 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.
8. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Wise, "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, 24 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.
- Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Wise, 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 next.
9. MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2):—Mr. Fegan 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 for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects.
 Question put and passed.
10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Fegan moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
- The House adjourned accordingly, at four minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
 Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 34.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 28 AUGUST, 1900.

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 William Walter Davis, Esquire, resigning his seat as Member for the Electoral District of Bourke.

Whereupon Sir William Lync moved, That the seat of William Walter Davis, Esquire, Member for the Electoral District of Bourke, hath become, and is now vacant, by reason of the resignation thereof by the said William Walter Davis.

Question put and passed.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Police Engaged Hunting the Aboriginal Murderers:—*Mr. Hurley*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many police officers have been engaged directly in connection with the hunting of the aboriginal murderers?

(2.) What has the cost been for such service up to date, specifying the pay to respective officers and subordinates per day and night during such service?

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

(1.) The number of police so engaged has varied, about 100 being the maximum.

(2.) The only extra cost will be for the usual travelling allowance, but the total amount could not be estimated at present. The charge in connection with the Queensland trackers has not yet been taken into consideration.

(2.) Pastoral Holdings on Quambone, Wangrawally, &c.:—*Mr. Hurley*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) When do the leases of Quambone, Wangrawally, Warren Downs, Buckingham, and Quilbone pastoral holdings expire?

(2.) Will he, in view of the high-class lands upon the runs named, proclaim them open for settlement immediately upon expiration?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Quilbone expired, 10th July, 1895; Warren Downs, 10th July, 1899; Quambone No. 129, Quambone No. 161, Buckingham and Wangrawally, 10th July, 1900.

(2.) Quilbone was set apart for settlement leases in February, 1896, and was all selected. Warren Downs has been delayed by an exchange, but it is anticipated that survey of the land for settlement purposes will shortly be directed. Quambone No. 129 is already in the surveyor's hands for measurement into settlement lease farms. Quambone No. 161 is affected by an exchange proposal, but the District Surveyor has been instructed to design the land that will be available. Buckingham is affected by an exchange proposal which will be put aside if finality is not reached at an early date. Wangrawally has been sent to the Land Board to adjust a stock route, and deal with the claims of adjoining selectors for additional land. It may be pointed out that an application has been made having for its object the inclusion of Warren Downs, Quambone No. 129, and Quambone No. 161, in the Western Division.

(3.) Musketry Instruction to Members of Police Force:—*Mr. Hurley*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a condition that constables during their period of probation in barracks are instructed in a course of musketry and marksmanship?

(2.) Are the Members of the Police Force submitted to periodical tests in revolver and carbine shooting?

(3.) If not, will the advisableness of these suggestions being carried into effect be considered?

Mr.

28th August, 1900.

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

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) No; but it is understood that the country police maintain their efficiency in this respect. Some belong to rifle clubs.
 - (3.) The subject will continue to receive constant attention.
- (4.) Employees in Institutions of the Insane:—*Mr. Affleck*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to the Questions of Mr. E. M. Clark on 2nd and 21st August, with reference to instructions issued by the Inspector-General of Insane to the effect that none of the attendants should accept a seat on the Council of the Public Service Association,—
- (1.) Is it a fact Messrs. Dempsey and McDonald, officers of the Lunatic Asylums, were proposed as members of the Council of the Public Service Association?
 - (2.) Is it a fact they were approached and informed they could not contest; and was that action taken with the knowledge of the Government?

Mr. See answered,—

The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of the Insane:—

- (1.) The proposal as Members of the Council of the Public Service Association is a private matter, of which the Inspector-General of the Insane had no knowledge.
 - (2.) It is not a fact that they were informed they could not contest, nor were they approached in any way on the subject.
- (5.) Trial Bay Prison:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Minister of Justice,—Is it a fact,—
- (1.) That the privileges accorded to a certain section of the prisoners in Trial Bay Prison have been greatly restricted?
 - (2.) That the payments made to prisoners working in the quarries have been reduced by 3d. per day all round?
 - (3.) That a certain section of prisoners are now forced to take their meals in their cells, instead of in the corridor as formerly?
 - (4.) That, as a result of the reduced payments, the prisoners are now precluded from supplementing their rations by the purchase of food, and are, consequently unfit to do the heavy work in the quarries, and are refusing to do such work?
 - (5.) That the boundaries within which prisoners were allowed freedom have been greatly restricted?
 - (6.) That *Mr. Macauley*, the Deputy-Comptroller, has recently visited the goal, accompanied by four warders, known as his bull-dogs, whose espionage on the prisoners has caused much grumbling among them?
 - (7.) That if the above be correct, will he consider whether such a condition of things is not calculated to absolutely defeat the humanitarian ends for which the prison was established, and will he see at once that they are discontinued, and the old order of things reverted to?

Mr. Wood answered,—The Comptroller-General of Prisons has informed me as follows:—

- (1.) It was deemed desirable to restrict some privileges.
 - (2.) No. The reduction applies only to prisoners arriving after a certain date, viz, 1st June, 1900, but after six months they are eligible to hold billets at 1s. per diem.
 - (3.) Yes, to restrict an undesirable association, and in the interest of well-disposed prisoners who can now have their meals in comfort, instead of being coerced into sharing food with other prisoners.
 - (4.) No; the daily regulation ration consists of (when cooked)—24 oz. bread; 17 oz. meat (without bone); 11 oz. potatoes; 1 oz. rice, for soup; 1½ oz. sugar; ½ oz. salt; ¼ oz. soap (for cleansing purposes); 45 oz. hominy (result of 6 oz. maize meal boiled)—100 oz. = 6 lb. 4 oz. solid food; and 1 quart coffee for breakfast; 1 quart tea for dinner; 1 quart soup (vegetables included) for dinner; 1 quart tea for supper = 4 quarts liquid; 2 oz. tobacco weekly.
 - (5.) The boundaries have been reduced. The area over which the prisoners were permitted to roam prevented the supervision so very essential at all penal establishments.
 - (6.) The Inspector of Prisons, accompanied by four warders, recently visited the gaol in consequence of representations made by the Governor, and these officers were taken for the purpose of providing escorts should it be deemed necessary to return any of the prisoners to ordinary treatment. The Comptroller-General adds:—The changes made in restricting boundaries, meals in cells, &c., are in the interests of discipline, supervision, and morality. The new scale of pay, which only applies to new arrivals, is quite sufficient.
 - (7.) In view of the above facts, I see no necessity.
- (6.) Quarrymen's Wages at Glebe Island:—*Mr. Law* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the quarrymen employed at Saunders' quarry, and also the men employed at the large dock being constructed at Woolwich, are receiving 10s. a day?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that quarrymen employed at Glebe Island receive only 8s. per day?
 - (3.) Will he, in view of the aforesaid facts, raise the Glebe Island quarrymen's wages from 8s. to 9s. per day?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I endeavoured to refer this matter to the Quarrymen's Union, but I find, unfortunately, that such a union does not exist. I have, however, obtained the following information:—

- (1.) I understand that this is the case. There has been a rise in wages in many callings since this Government took office.
- (2.) Most of the men working in the quarry at Glebe Island are only shooting out stone, and not quarrying large dimensioned stones, as I am informed has to be done in Saunders' quarry and at the Dock at Woolwich, consequently only a few quarrymen are required at Glebe Island, and they are at present receiving 8s. per diem. Men in quarries who do work like some of the men on Glebe Island are only paid 7s. per day.
- (3.) Whenever competent quarrymen are employed on work of a skilled nature, I have directed that they shall be paid at the rate of 9s. per diem, which the quarrymen referred to in the latter part of Question No. 2 will now receive.

(7.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th August, 1900.

(7.) Sunday Observance Bill :—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that Mr. Affleck has had a notice on the paper last Session, and also during the whole of this Session, and cannot now get at it, to propose the introduction of a Bill on Sunday observance, so that it might be printed and circulated amongst Members?

(2.) If this motion does not go as a formal motion, will he give Mr. Affleck the opportunity of proposing it to-night; if not, will he state a day on which he will give the Honorable Member the opportunity of proposing its introduction?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The opportunity which can be allowed the Honorable Member depends solely upon the progress made with Government business.

(8.) Temora-Wyalong Railway :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a paragraph headed "Temora-Wyalong Railway," appearing in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 23rd instant; if so, does he intend, in the face of the expert evidence and stubborn facts adduced by Mr. H. Deane, Engineer-in-Chief, Railway Construction Branch of the Public Works Department, to persist in the construction that has been most emphatically condemned?

(2.) Will he, in the face of Mr. Deane's evidence and expert knowledge, see that steps are taken to push forward the construction of the line from Grenfell to Wyalong, and which has been twice before the Public Works Committee, and twice recommended by that body, and also by the Railway Commissioners?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I must wait until the Committee submits to Parliament its report upon the Temora to Wyalong Extension before anything further can be done.

(9.) Consumptive Invalids in the Liverpool Asylum :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is there any particular classification adopted of the consumptive invalids at present confined in the Liverpool Asylum and other charitable institutions throughout the Colony; or are all invalids simply cooped up together irrespective of the incipient or chronic stage of this fatal malady?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to see that steps are taken to permit phthisical invalids confined in Liverpool Asylum to have out-door, open or fresh-air exercise at stated periods?

(3.) Have the inmates of that asylum approached him at any time, by petition or otherwise, asking that this concession of out-door, open fresh-air exercise be granted to them; if so, when is the concession likely to take effect?

(4.) Is it not a fact, confirmed by recent experience in the modern treatment of phthisis, that out-door, fresh-air exercise has a most salutary and beneficial effect in the cure and amelioration of the disease?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes; special wards for bad cases; isolation of less severe cases in other wards.

(2.) The Government has under consideration the recommendation that a special area of surrounding land be enclosed, to enable patients to enjoy freedom of fresh air and sunshine so necessary in the treatment of phthisis.

(3.) Yes; by petition dated 11th instant, which was fully endorsed by the Medical Superintendent with above recommendation as an immediate step pending a more suitable site for an asylum.

(4.) Yes.

(10.) "Sweating" in the Medical Profession :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In view of the agitation existing in the Colony over the manifold hardships and long hours the working classes and poor people have to endure owing to the amount of "sweating" that exists, what action (if any) do the Government intend to take to put down the shameful amount of "sweating" that exists in the medical profession?

(2.) Has he seen an article on the subject appearing in the August issue of the *Australian Medical Gazette*, and quoted in the *Daily Telegraph*, of the 23rd August; if so, is it not possible for the Government to take action to bring the medical profession into line with and under the category of the "sweating" system that has been introduced for the protection of other callings and occupations?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have no knowledge of the existence of "sweating" in the medical profession, and I do not see how I could interfere unless by means of legislation. I may add that I believe the medical profession to consist of a body of gentlemen well able to protect their own interests.

(11.) Cookery Classes in Public Schools :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that cookery classes have been established in connection with Public Schools at Fort-street, Paddington, Petersham, and Redfern; and, if so, when were each established?

(2.) Is there a class exclusively for girls from St. Leonards and district at Fort-street; and, if so, what is the attendance?

(3.) Is he aware that the district known as St. Leonards includes the suburbs of North Sydney, Mosman, Manly, Lane Cove, and Willoughby, situated within municipal areas; also Roseville, Lindfield, Gordon, Pymble, Turramurra, Wahroonga, Waitara, and Hornsby—all populous suburbs?

(4.) Are Paddington, Petersham, and Redfern considered of more importance than a district containing the suburbs mentioned; and, if not, why are they more favoured?

(5.) Will he favourably consider the claims of North Sydney and district apart from Departmental reports?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes. Fort-street, established in 1889; Paddington in 1895; Petersham in 1895; Redfern West in 1893; the last named has not been continuous, having been closed during 1896 and 1897.

(2.) Yes. The attendance has been twelve girls in each term since 1st January, 1897.

(3.)

28th August, 1900.

(3.) Some of the places mentioned have no Public Schools established yet, and the children residing in some of the other localities could travel to the Fort-street cookery school more conveniently than they could to St. Leonards.

(4.) They have a greater number of large Public Schools attended by fifth-class girls, for whom the cookery classes are intended.

(5.) I shall consider the matter, as promised in answer to the Honorable Member's Questions on 19th July, together with many other claims of a similar nature, after the Estimates have been passed.

(12.) Report on Grose and Colo Rivers:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Has he yet received a report from the officer of his Department deputed to examine the Grose and Colo Rivers, with the object of discovering the value of their waters as a medium for generating electric power for lighting and motive purposes?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Yes; and it is somewhat favourable so far as the Grose and Warra-gamba Rivers are concerned.

(13.) Convictions under Section 42 of Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1883:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) How many persons have been convicted during the last four years, under section 42 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883, where the age of the girl was between 13 and 14 years?

(2.) What were the sentences imposed in each case?

(3.) The date and place of each and every court where such sentences were imposed, together with the names of the Judges who presided and passed the said sentences?

Mr. Wood answered,—The desired information will be furnished in the shape of a return, and laid upon the Table in due course. I may tell the Honorable Member that I have to go outside the Department in order to obtain the information.

(14.) Accidents on the George-street and North Sydney Electric Trams:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he have prepared a complete return showing the number of fatal accidents on the George-street and North Shore electric trams respectively since the date of opening?

(2.) Also, the number of accidents reported by the officials in charge of the trams, but which were unattended by fatal consequences?

(3.) Likewise the number of fatal accidents, and accidents unaccompanied by fatal results, on the steam and cable trams during the last twelve months?

(4.) Will he also state in detail the respective amounts paid on behalf of the Government Tramways Department to the victims of tram accidents, or their representatives, by way of compensation since the inauguration of the electric system, and on the steam motor lines, during the past twelve months?

(5.) What claims (if any), and their nature, are pending for damages alleged to have been sustained in connection with tram accidents?

Sir William Lyne answered,—There will be no objection to the preparation of a return of tram-way accidents, and I will forward a copy to the Honorable Member.

3. DUBBO PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BILL:—Mr. Phillips presented a Petition from the Trustees of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to empower the Trustees of certain lands at Dubbo, in the Colony of New South Wales, dedicated and granted for the use of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, to mortgage the said lands and to raise money on mortgage of the said lands, and for other purposes in connection therewith.

And Mr. Phillips having produced the *Government Gazette*, and the *Australian Star* and *Dubbo Liberal* newspapers, containing the notices required by the 396th Standing Order,—
Petition received.

4. FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Norton presented a Petition from Walter Rotton, of Balranald, a licensed fisherman and oysterman, stating that the law under which Petitioner pursues his calling is unsatisfactory on various grounds in the Petition set forth; and praying the House to take the earliest opportunity to pass into law an amended Fisheries Bill on the lines of that introduced in a former Session.
Petition received.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Amended Regulations Nos. 125 and 126, Amended Form No. 40, also Additional Form No. 40a, under the Crown Lands Acts.

(2.) Statement showing reasons for granting sick-leave of absence, on full pay, to Mr. W. H. O'M. Wood; Acting Chairman of the Local Land Board, Bourke.

(3.) Return to an Order, made on 15th August, 1900,—“Nyang Land Exchange granted to the Honorable Simon Frazer, M.L.C., of Victoria.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Pegan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Regulation under the Imported Stock Acts.

(2.) Proclamation respecting registration of horses in actual work belonging to inhabitants of towns and districts in the Colonies of New South Wales and Queensland on either side, and within 10 miles of the Border of the two Colonies, which cross the Border.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Cooma, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.

(2.) Return showing the quantities of cast scrap-iron sold at Newcastle by the Railway Department during the years 1897, 1898, and 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th August, 1900.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Kiama, county of Camden, for the construction of a Rifle Range at Kiama.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That leave be given to the Select Committee inquiring into the Free Public Library to sit during the sittings of the House.
Question put and passed.

7. EUROKA-KEEPIT LAND EXCHANGE (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Willis moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers in connection with the Euroka-Keepit Land Exchange.
Question put and passed.

8. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
(1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill ; to be further considered in Committee ;—until To-morrow.
(2.) Paton's Settlement Bill (*Council Bill*) ; second reading ;—until Tuesday, 4th September.
(3.) Ministerial Election Bill ; second reading ;—until Tuesday, 11th September.

9. VOTE OF CREDIT :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

BEAUCHAMP,

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 that provision be made for defraying the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the month of September, or following month, of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901.

Government House,

Sydney, 28th August, 1900.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

10. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Waratah, Mr. Arthur 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.—“A case of collusion between certain Government officers and a Government Stores contractor, which has resulted in the supply for a considerable time past, to at least one Government institution, of food unfit for human consumption.”
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. DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, 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 validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto ; to provide for other appropriations and resumptions and purchases for the extension of such system ; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made or to be made for those purposes, and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services ; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works ; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act ; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888 ; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations.*”

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 28th August, 1900.

12. POSTPONEMENT :—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Sydney Harbour Trust Bill postponed until To-morrow.

13. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION 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,—

WEDNESDAY, 29 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

28th August, 1900.

14. MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2):—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those 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 provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects.

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

(2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects,*"—which was read a first time.

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

15. POSTPONEMENTS:—

(1.) The remaining Government Business postponed (*by consent*) until To-morrow.

(2.) The remaining General Business, down to and inclusive of Notice No. 32, postponed (*by consent*) until To-morrow.

16. CASE OF WILLIAM REID:—Mr. Holman moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the action of Mr. Warden Maitland in connection with the case of William Reid.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Fegan, Mr. Cook, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Richards, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Nielsen, Mr. Thomas, Mr. Hurley, and the Mover.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at half-past Four o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 35.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 29 AUGUST, 1900.

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

METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC BILL.—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lync, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 71.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for the regulation of traffic within a certain metropolitan area; and for that purpose to regulate and control vehicles, horses, and the owners, drivers, and conductors thereof, and persons using such vehicles, and certain other persons; to repeal certain Acts; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those 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, 29th August, 1900.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) **Type-writing Machines in Telegraph Offices.**—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) Has he decided to introduce the typewriter in the Telegraph Offices of this Colony?
- (2.) If so, how many machines are likely to be needed?
- (3.) Is it his intention to call for tenders from, or to give an equal share of the orders to, all the leading and best known makers of type-writing machines?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Twelve.
- (3.) No; for the small number, not required.

(2.) **Federal Elections Bill.**—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention, when giving notice of going into Committee for leave to introduce a Bill for the Federal elections, to have the order of leave made in such an open manner that the House will be able to vote on the question as to whether members of the State or provincial Parliament will be also able to take their seats in the Federal Parliament, should they be elected to such, so that the Bill may be passed embodying the opinion of a majority in that regard?

Sir William Lync answered,—I have not yet drawn up the resolution for the introduction of this Bill. It will, however, probably be drawn in the manner in which the Honorable Member suggests.

(3.) **Special Grants.**—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has he since January last made any special grant or grants to any municipality or district for public works, or for the purpose of carrying out road repairs that have been required owing to recent floods?
- (2.) Will he furnish a list of the several municipalities and districts that have received those special grants of public money, and the amount allotted to each municipality and district respectively, and the nature of the work for which the money was granted?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes; if moved for in the usual manner.

(4.)

29th August, 1900.

- (4.) Leave of Absence to Public Servants:—*Mr. Dacey*, for *Mr. Anderson*, asked the Attorney-General,—In pursuance to Question asked on the 12th July, No. 12, has anything further been done in regard to the annual leave being granted to the General Division of the Public Service?
Mr. Wood answered,—The Public Service Board have just obtained information as to the cost which the granting of three weeks' annual leave of absence to the whole of the General Division of the Service would involve, which they required in order to enable them to come to a decision, and they will shortly deal with the matter in a definite way.
- (5.) Road Vote:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he lay upon the Table of the House a return showing how the last Road Vote of £500,000 has been distributed, the amount allotted to each district respectively, and the nature of the work to be carried out?
Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Yes, if moved for in the usual manner, when the money is all apportioned.
- (6.) Unemployed in the Dubbo District:—*Mr. Phillips* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Is it a fact that unemployed are to be sent from Sydney to the Dubbo District to carry out some clearing work on reserves?
(2.) Before doing so, will he cause inquiries to be made as to the number of unemployed in the Dubbo District who would be glad to obtain such employment; and will he give local men preference?
Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
(1.) Yes.
(2.) Inquiries will be made, but I cannot undertake to give preference to local men. These clearing operations are relief works, and are only intended for men in distress. If there are men in distress in Dubbo they will have a fair share of the work.
- (7.) Issue of Certificates by the Stock Board:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
(1.) Is it a fact that the Stock Board or Branch under the Department of Mines have power and authority to issue certificates of competency to those persons presenting themselves before that Board who have successfully passed the necessary examination of contagious and infectious diseases pertaining to stock?
(2.) On what authority, by whom, or by what law have the Board power to grant such certificates as a licensing body?
(3.) Is he aware that students, after having attended a course of lectures at the Technical College on contagious and infectious diseases of stock, and having passed the necessary examination, receive no certificate of competency on their leaving the College?
(4.) Can he explain or furnish any reason for the existence of such an anomaly; if not, will he make the necessary inquiry, with the view of having the matter rectified?
Mr. Fegan answered,—
(1.) Yes, the Stock Board of Examiners are so empowered.
(2.) Under Regulations Nos. 21 and 22 of 6th February, 1888, issued under the Diseases in Sheep Act.
(3.) The Technical College is under the direction of my honorable colleague the Minister of Public Instruction, but I understand that students, on passing an examination in the subjects referred to, are supplied with a certificate to that effect.
(4.) I am not aware that there is any anomaly.
- (8.) Tide-waiters:—*Mr. Phillips* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) What qualifications are necessary to enable an applicant to obtain the position of a tide-waiter?
(2.) What are the duties of tide-waiters?
(3.) Does the Collector of Customs recommend who are eligible for such positions; or does the Public Service Board fill up vacancies without recommendations from the head of the Department?
Sir William Lyne answered,—
(1.) A good physique, fair education, good credentials as to character, knowledge of shipping desired, age not exceeding 40 years.
(2.) That of watchman on board ship for the prevention of smuggling, and to assist landing-waiters when called upon during discharge of cargo.
(3.) The final selection and appointments are made after reference to the permanent head of the Department.
- (9.) Reports by Officers of the Public Works Department:—*Mr. Hogue* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Is it a fact that he has, as he is reported in the *Sydney Morning Herald* to have declared at East Hills, on Saturday, 25th August, "overridden about 200 adverse reports by Departmental officers, and ordered matters to be carried out which they reported unfavourably upon"?
(2.) Were such reports made by responsible officers of the Department after due inquiry and under his authority?
(3.) Had he any special reasons for doubting the competency or the honesty of the officers whose reports he has overridden, and for conducting personal inquiries as to the desirableness of having the works in question carried out?
(4.) Does he consider the officers whose reports he has overridden competent to occupy positions in which their recommendations are so completely at variance with his own views; and has he taken any steps to have them removed from the Service, or disrated on the ground of incompetency?
Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—As I have already explained in the Press, too severe an interpretation was placed upon the casual remarks referred to. I was referring to railways, tramways, and roads, and stated that I had frequently to act in opposition to reports of officials. There is no implication of incompetency in these statements, because a Minister has to judge matters from a different standpoint to the Railway Commissioners or Road Superintendents. I have no reason whatever for doubting the competency or honesty of any such officials, but at the same time I will assert my right to differ from them in opinion with regard to the necessity for public improvements.

29th August, 1900.

- (10.) Issue of Certificates by the Stock Board:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Are students, after having attended a series or course of lectures at the Technical College on contagious and infectious diseases pertaining to stock, and after having passed the necessary examination, furnished with any certificates of competency when they leave that institution; if so, by whom are the certificates granted?
 - (2.) How is it that the Stock Board of the Department of Mines has power to grant certificates that the Technical College is debarred from issuing to successful students on their leaving that institution?
 - (3.) Is there any possible way of steps being taken to have this anomaly rectified?

Mr. Perry answered,—

- (1.) Yes; certificates are issued by the Department on the results of the examinations conducted by the Department's examiners.
- (2 and 3.) The Technical College is not debarred from issuing certificates to successful students.

- (11.) Settlement of Australian Soldiers in South Africa:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to the fact that some few weeks ago the Secretary of the Canadian Agency in London penned an indignant protest against the proposal to settle colonials in South Africa, pointing out that "Canada and Australia were endeavouring to encourage the settlement of a class of men on their lands of the type which they sent to South Africa," and contending "that by assisting colonials to settle in South Africa the Imperial Government were unwarrantably entering into competition with the Canadian and Australian Colonies, unduly favouring the African Colonies, and showing a very poor return for the generous spirit of assistance in which the Dominion and Australian Governments despatched troops to the war"?
- (2.) Has any similar protest been made by him on behalf of this Colony; or is he willing to offer facilities for effecting the settlement of Australian soldiers by providing that they shall be disbanded in South Africa at the close of the war?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have already notified the Imperial Authorities that this Government is opposed to the offering of inducements to members of its various contingents to settle in South Africa. I may add that I sent another cablegram to-day to inform the authorities there that from information of a semi-private character, which I have lately received, I have again protested against any inducements being held out to our men remaining in South Africa.

- (12.) Answers to Questions:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) For the purpose of economising public time, will he for the future discard the system at present in vogue of giving verbal answers to Questions placed upon the Assembly business paper; and substitute for it the system of printing replies, and circulating same at the opening of each sitting?
- (2.) Is he not aware that the practicability of this proposal is proven by reason of the fact that at present the printed replies to Questions are at present available within an hour or so of the meeting of the Assembly?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I think the suggestion of the Honorable Member has much to commend it.

- (13.) Proposed Road through Macquarie Fields Estate:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) *Re* a proposed road through Macquarie Fields Estate,—did he, when on a visit lately to Camden and the Belmore railway extension matter, inspect the above proposed road through Macquarie Fields Estate, owned by Mrs. Ashcroft, from a point known as the Cross Roads on the Liverpool-Campbelltown Road, to the present Glenfield station; if so, is it his intention to sanction the construction of this unnecessary road?

(2.) Is it not a fact that a road starting from the Cross Roads to the Glenfield station through the Throsby Estate, almost parallel with the proposed road, and only a few chains distant, already exists; if so, on what public grounds can the construction of this proposed and unnecessary road be justified?

(3.) Is it not a fact that the Local Land Board has reported against the land being resumed for the construction of this road?

(4.) Has his attention been drawn to Mrs. Ashcroft's letter in the issue of the *Daily Telegraph* of Friday, the 24th August, protesting against the construction of this road, and the interference with her property as proposed?

(5.) Will he before taking further action in this important matter, lay a copy of all papers, maps, documents, Land Board decisions, and other correspondence, &c., upon the Table of this House?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The road is required to give access to a proposed Public School and a railway station. In view of the opposition to be made, however, all action in this matter has been stayed till I visit the locality to satisfy myself as to whether the road is required.

- (14.) Examinations for Ladies in the Public Service:—Mr. Neild asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Public Service Board have determined to abandon the system of allowing ladies to compete in examinations for junior clerkships?

(2.) If so, will not a great hardship be inflicted upon ladies who have been preparing, at considerable expense, for the examination, which they were led to believe would be open to them in December next?

(3.) Should not fair notice of this change of policy be given by the Board, seeing that their last Annual Report strongly defended the admission of ladies to the Public Service?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) In connection with the examination held by the Public Service Board in December last, it was decided, as an experiment, to allow female candidates to compete. Nine were successful in obtaining places amongst the first eighty-five candidates, but owing to the difficulty which the Board

29th August, 1900.

Board have experienced in placing these successful candidates in the various Departments, and only four of them having been employed (two of these in a temporary capacity), and to the fact that they are not yet assured of the success of the experiment, the Board have considered it wise not to allow ladies to compete at the next examination to be held in December. At the examination for Postal Assistants, held in July, 1899, female candidates were also allowed to compete. Of these twenty-nine were successful, and up to the present it has only been possible to appoint eight, leaving twenty-one still awaiting appointment.

(2 and 3.) As pointed out in reply to No. 1, the admission of female candidates to the last Junior Clerks Examination was in the nature of an experiment, and if any candidates are preparing themselves under the idea that the practice would be continued, they are doing so entirely at their own risk. The Board, as pointed out in their Annual Report, are entirely in favour of the employment of females in the Public Service, where practicable, and they have consistently endeavoured to carry this out; but chiefly owing to the want of proper accommodation in the offices, it has not been found practicable to employ them except in special cases.

(15.) Public Servants:—Mr. Neild asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) What was the number of Public Servants suspended during 1895?

(2.) What was the number of such suspended Public Servants who have been subsequently granted retiring allowances or gratuities?

(3.) What was the number of such suspended Public Servants who were called upon to resign, but refused any retiring allowance or gratuity?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) As it will be necessary, in order to obtain the information desired, to cause inquiries to be made at the various Government Departments, it cannot at present be supplied?

(2.) Steps, however, will be taken to obtain the necessary particulars, which, when received, will be laid upon the Table of the House.

(16.) Proposed Road through the Macquarie Fields Estate:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What steps (if any) does he intend to take to resume a certain portion of land for the construction of a road through the Macquarie Fields Estate (owned by Mrs. Ashcroft) from a point known as the Cross Roads on the Liverpool-Campbelltown Road to the present Glenfield station?

(2.) Has his attention been drawn to a letter from Mrs. Ashcroft, in the issue of the *Daily Telegraph* of Friday, the 24th August, protesting against the construction of the road or interference with her property as now proposed?

(3.) Is it not a fact that the Land Board has reported against the land being resumed for the construction of this road?

(4.) Is it not also a fact that a road starting from the Cross Roads to the Glenfield station through the Throsby Estate almost parallel with the proposed road, and only a few chains distant, already exists; if so, on what public grounds can the construction of this proposed and unnecessary road be justified?

(5.) Before taking any further action in this important matter, will he lay a copy of all papers, maps, documents, Land Board decisions, and other correspondence, &c., upon the Table of this House?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) A preliminary notice was issued under the Roads Act which allows one month for the lodging of any objections to the proposed resumption; and resumption cannot take place, or the road be brought into existence, until all objections have been considered and decided upon.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) The Land Board made a report which, however, did not constitute a legal bar to any action taken under the Roads Act.

(4.) There is an existing road starting from the Cross Roads, but it does not meet (as the new road would) the Glenfield Railway Station.

(5.) I must ask the Honorable Member to move for the papers in the usual way.

(17.) Register of Transfers of Conditional Purchases to Married Women:—Mr. Jessop asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that until recently there was no objection by the Lands Department to register a transfer to a married woman of a conditional purchase upon which the conditions had been fulfilled, and that now Land Agents are instructed not to register such transfers?

(2.) If so, under what clause of the Land Act is the Lands Department acting?

(3.) Considering that upon payment of the balance a certificate of title must be issued by the Department, what is the object in refusing to register such transfers?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Since 1897 it has been the practice of the Department to decline to register transfers of conditional purchases to married women except in a representative capacity?

(2 and 3.) The Department is acting under the advice of the Crown Solicitor; but is endeavouring to obtain a judicial decision on the matter, as the Department would be glad to accept such transfers, in accordance with its previous practice, if entitled to do so.

(18.) Steam-motor Drivers:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it imperative in the regulations framed by the Railway Commissioners, and gazetted on the 23rd December, 1892, that, prior to the appointment of a steam-tramway motor driver, he must hold a certificate from the Locomotive Superintendent showing that he has passed the prescribed examination, and is competent to take charge of a motor?

(2.) Have these regulations force of law?

(3.) How many steam-motor drivers have been appointed since these regulations came into force?

(4.) Have all steam-motor drivers received these certificates?

(5.) If not, why not?

(6.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th August, 1900.

(6.) Do the General Conditions of employment in the Railway and Tramway Services, as published in *Gazette* of 23rd December, 1892, provide that annual and periodical increases of pay will be dependent and continued upon certificates of efficiency and good conduct being obtained?

(7.) Have the Railway Commissioners made any provision for the issue of these certificates; if so, what?

(8.) Have such certificates of efficiency and conduct ever been issued; if not, why not?

(9.) Is it a fact, since June last, applications for these certificates have been made without success, or reason assigned for their non-issue?

(10.) If so, what is the reason?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1, 2, 3, and 4.) I am informed it is imperative that a motor driver shall pass an examination prior to his appointment, and a certificate of his competency is put with his papers?

(3.) Eighty-two drivers have been appointed since December, 1892, but the regulation was in force prior to that date.

(6.) Yes, on necessary certificate being given.

(7 and 8.) The Railway Commissioners only deal with increases upon recommendations from the head of the branch, whose recommendation is accepted as a certificate of efficiency and good conduct.

(9 and 10.) There would appear to be some misunderstanding as to the form of these certificates; they are not issued annually to the men.

(19.) Railway Refreshment Rooms:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) When does the lease of the Railway Refreshment Rooms that are leased to H. Smith expire?

(2.) Has any private lease been given to H. Smith by the Railway Commissioners without public tenders being first called?

(3.) If so, why were tenders not called?

(4.) What prices does H. Smith pay for Werris Creek, Mount Victoria, Wellington, and Nyngan?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1 to 3.) I am informed that the leases of the Railway Refreshment Rooms expire on the 31st December next; but it is intended to renew the leases for another year pending the consideration of a proposal for an alteration in the mode of conducting the Railway Refreshment Rooms.

(4.) The rent for Werris Creek is £198; for Mount Victoria, £540; for Wellington, £414; and for Nyngan, £270.

(20.) South Head Coast Defence Guns:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Quinn, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is one of the South Head coast defence guns placed on a portion of rock divided from the main mass of the cliffs by a crack?

(2.) Has a report been obtained from geologists on the danger, if any?

(3.) The nature of this report?

(4.) Has the advice of a competent quarryman been sought upon the risk arising from this crack to the fort?

Mr. See answered:—The following information has been furnished by the Military Authorities:—

(1.) No; cracks are in front (seaward) of guns.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Practically that the safety or stability of the fort in question are not likely to be affected by the existence of the cracks for a considerable period of time, such as fifty or a hundred years or more.

(4.) The advice of the Government Geologist, assisted by Professor David, of the Sydney University, was obtained.

(21.) Railway Porters at Redfern:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that railway porters at Redfern work on alternate weeks to 11 p.m. and 8 p.m., thus practically destroying the entire evening in every week?

(2.) Will he confer with the Commissioners as to taking steps to avoid this?

(3.) Will he assure the House that facilities will be given to railway servants who are students at the Technical College, or other night schools, to continue their studies?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The matters to which the Honorable Member draws attention are details connected with the administration of the railways, and are controlled by the Railway Commissioners. I will bring them under the notice of the Railway Commissioners.

(22.) Mr. Wyndham Davies:—Mr. Sleath asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) What position does Mr. Wyndham Davies occupy in the Postal Service?

(2.) What salary is he in receipt of?

(3.) Is it a fact that he is proceeding to Europe or America; if so, for what purpose?

(4.) Is he to receive full salary during his absence?

(5.) Are his expenses to be paid by the State?

(6.) Is this trip absolutely necessary in the interests of the Service?

(7.) Is it a fact that an attendant is to accompany Mr. Davies?

(8.) If so, is the State to pay the salary of the attendant and his expenses?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) Chief Inspector and Superintendent of Mails?

(2.) £700 per annum.

(3.) Yes; to America, for the purpose of reporting on the pneumatic tube system, as used for mail carriage; the system of sorting mails on railway lines, including the latest devices for receiving and delivering mails whilst the train is in motion; the latest kind of electric stamping-machines; private box system; motor car and motor cycles for mail conveyance; and other up-to-date matters; his absence not to exceed four months.

(4.) Yes.

29th August, 1900.

(5.) Yes, to the extent of a sum not exceeding £250, including passage money.

(6.) Yes. For some considerable time past the various Postmasters-General have been in communication as to the necessity for preparing a uniform scheme for the Postal Departments of the Federating Colonies. I also consider it highly desirable that, not only shall we have uniformity, but that the coming Conference shall be in a position to submit a report, bringing postal arrangements up to anything to be met with in America. Mr. Davies will be back before the Conference, and he was selected for the position on account of his long experience and position as head of the Mail Branch. The report of an expert, setting out amplified details, will be of much more value than the long debates of Ministers who lack the necessary experience, and will result in a far greater saving of money than the amount to be paid Mr. Davies. The question of the preliminary cost of handing over the Post Offices to the Federation will be a subject to be discussed at the Conference.

(7.) No.

(8.) Answered by No. 7.

(23.) Case of Charles Westphal and Charles Bright:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Were two men, named Charles Westphal and Charles Bright, committed for trial at Paddington Police Court to the last Darlinghurst Quarter Sessions on a charge of knowingly making a false answer to the Electoral Registrar?

(2.) At the Quarter Sessions was Bright found not guilty and discharged, whereupon the Crown Prosecutor entered a *nolle prosequi* in the case of Westphal?

(3.) If so, was Westphal detained in Darlinghurst Gaol for nine days after the Crown Prosecutor intimated that he did not intend to prosecute; and will the Minister state who was responsible for this man's illegal detention?

Mr. Wise answered,—

(1.) These men were committed to the Central Criminal Court.

(2.) The Crown Prosecutor did not enter a *nolle prosequi*.

(3.) Westphal was released in due course after the Attorney-General had decided not to prosecute, but there was a delay of three days, namely, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday (which was a holiday), as the papers did not disclose the fact that his surties had surrendered him.

3. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Spence presented a Petition from certain residents of Cobar, Wrightville, Dapville, Dalton Park, Cornish Town, School Town, and Newtown, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petition received.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Wise laid upon the Table,—Particulars of the number of persons employed in the Public Service, excepting the Public Works Department, on the 31st December, 1895, and on the 30th June, 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Minute of the Postmaster-General respecting leave of absence granted to Mr. Arthur H. Moodie, Telegraph Operator.

(2.) Amended Telephone Regulations under the Electric Telegraph Act.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Report on the Coast Hospital, Little Bay, for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. DUBBO PASTORAL AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BILL (*Normal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Phillips moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to empower the trustees of certain lands at Dubbo, in the Colony of New South Wales, dedicated and granted for the use of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, to mortgage the said lands, and to raise money on mortgage of the said lands, and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Phillips 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 empower the trustees of certain lands at Dubbo, in the Colony of New South Wales, dedicated and granted for the use of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, to mortgage the said lands, and to raise money on mortgage of the said lands, and for other purposes in connection therewith,*”—read a first time.

6. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Sir William Lyne 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 1900–1901,”*” 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.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th August, 1900.

7. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**;—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed Railway from Wellington to Werris Creek.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. **SUPPLY**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, 30 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.

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 £642,000: being £524,500 to defray the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the month of September, or following month of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, to be expended at the rates which have been sanctioned for the financial year ended 30th June, 1900, subject to the rate of any reduction that may hereafter be made in the expenditure of the year 1900–1901.

And for Services of the year 1900–1901.—£117,500: being £17,500 for Public Parks, Recreation Grounds, Bathing Places, Public Cemeteries, &c., towards purchase, acquisition, and resumption of Sites, and towards improvements and general maintenance of same; and £100,000 to meet Railway and Tramway Expenditure in wages only during the month of October, 1900.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

9. **WAYS AND MEANS**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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:—

(3.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Services of the financial year 1900–1901, the sum of £642,000 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

10. **CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 3)**:—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 1900–1901.

(2.) Sir William Lyne 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 1900–1901*,”—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 Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

(4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne 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 1900–1901*.”

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 1900–1901*,” presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th August, 1900, a.m.

11. **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) The Rock to Green's Gunyah Railway (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend The Rock to Green's Gunyah Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888*,”—returns same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 29th August, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

(2.)

29th August, 1900.

(2.) Byrock to Brewarrina Railway (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Byrock to Brewarrina Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

(3.) Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway Act, 1898, and the Public Works Act of 1888,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

12. SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Wise moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the procedure of the Supreme Court.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Wise then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the procedure of the Supreme Court,*"—which was read a first time.

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

13. MUNICIPALITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. See 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 make further and better provision for municipal government; and to amend the law relating to Municipalities.

Question put and passed.

14. LINDFIELD-ST. LEONARDS RAILWAY CROSSINGS BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares.

Question put and passed.

15. FIRE BRIGADES BILL:—Mr. See 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at sixteen minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 36.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 30 AUGUST, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) "Readers" in use in the Public Schools:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware of the fact that the following are extracts from two Readers in use in the Public Schools of the Colony:—Fourth Reader, page 220:—"Britain sends out numerous colonists to possess the unoccupied lands, and some of them who have a touch of John Bull's masterfulness do not scruple to exterminate weaker races who stand in their way." Fifth Reader, page 225:—"I shall repudiate and denounce the expenditure of every shilling, the engagement of every man, and the employment of every ship which has no object but intermeddling in the affairs of other countries, and endeavouring to extend the boundaries of an empire which is already large enough to satisfy the greatest ambition, and, I fear, is much too large for the highest statesmanship to which any man has yet attained"?

(2.) What steps does he propose to take in the direction of preventing such disloyal sentiments from being circulated in our State educational institutions?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) The first passage is misquoted. It is not stated that "Britain sends out numerous colonists, &c." The lesson is on "Nature and Science," and speaking of the habits of ants, says, "They (the ants) send out numerous colonists, &c." The second extract is from a speech of one of England's most loyal statesmen—the late Right Honorable John Bright—and occurs on page 255, not 225, of the Fifth Reader. It simply gives the views of that statesman as regards British policy in the matter of colonial expansion, and should not be read apart from the context. The sentiments given expression to throughout the speech are of the most patriotic character.

(2.) None.

(2.) Salaries of Public Servants:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Have the Public Service Board yet completed their treatment of appeals by officers in connection with their salaries; and, if not, when will they have done so?

(2.) When will increments still due to officers of the several branches of the Service be paid?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Public Service Board have not yet completed the consideration of the appeals of the officers referred to. They hope to be able to do so shortly, but at the present time many pressing and important matters are occupying their attention.

(2.) The vote for increments having been exhausted, no further amounts can be paid, if determined upon, until funds are voted for the purpose.

(3.) Treasury Buildings—Government Printing Office:—Mr. Wright asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the estimated cost of the new Treasury Buildings, submitted to and approved of by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works?

(2.) What was the actual cost of these buildings, including the depreciation for plant used in the erection of same?

(3.) What was the estimated cost for additions to the Government Printing Office?

(4.) What was the actual cost of these additions, including the depreciation of plant used in the erection of same?

Mr.

30th August, 1900.

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) The estimated cost submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, £21,500.

(2.) Actual cost, No. 1 Contract, £8,036 11s. 8d.; No. 2 Contract, £16,894 3s. 10d.; total, £24,930 15s. 6d. It should be noted, however, that the Treasurer requested that additional works be done which cost £2,401. These additional works were not contemplated nor included in the scheme submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee, but the expenditure thereon is included in the actual cost of the buildings. No Government plant was used.

(3.) Estimated cost, £18,172 15s. 8d.

(4.) Actual cost, including plant, £17,856; less proceeds, sale of old materials, £96; value of plant on hand transferred to other day-labour works, £454—£550; net cost, £17,306.

(4.) Nevertire to Warren Railway :—Mr. Wright asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the estimated cost of the Warren to Nevertire Railway, submitted to and approved of by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works?

(2.) What was the actual cost of same, including depreciation, wear and tear of plant used in constructing this line?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) £32,730.

(2.) The following statement shows the cost of the works executed :—Works as originally proposed, £31,069 4s. 8d.; extra works asked for by the Railway Commissioners, and specially approved by the Minister, £2,087 4s. 6d.; increased cost of permanent-way materials, due to rise in prices, £2,223 4s. 11d.; additional length of line, due to permanent survey, £686 2s. 6d. Total, £36,065 16s. 7d.

(5.) Tram from King to Ocean Streets :—Mr. Wright asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What was the estimated cost of the cable tramway from King to Ocean Streets, submitted to and approved of by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works?

(2.) What was the actual cost of same including wear and tear of plant used in construction of same?

(3.) The like information of the electric tramways in George and Harris Streets, Sydney?

(4.) What amount of money has been spent in the conversion of steam trams into electric tramways?

(5.) What is the estimated cost for converting the whole of the steam tramways in Sydney and suburbs into electric tramways?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) £80,000, and with the statutory 10 per cent. added, £88,000.

(2.) It is not possible to say what was the actual cost of the authorised work. The whole scope of the work was very much enlarged, provision being made for the extra power and buildings required for making a branch cable line to Paddington, and an extension of the cable to Rose Bay. There was also additional expense due to providing loops and arrangements asked for by the Railway Commissioners, to enlargement and ornamentation of buildings, &c., cost of land, and to other causes. The total cost to June, 1895, was £171,905.

(3.) Estimated cost, £130,500. It is not possible until the final apportionment of the accounts has been completed, to say how much expenditure has actually been incurred on the work authorised by Parliament. The combined expenditure on the George-street tramway, the Power-house and carshed, Ultimo, exclusive of land, has been about £270,000, but as more than half of this has been spent in providing power for the conversion of previously existing tramways, buildings to house the power plant, and car accommodation, the cost of the work as originally authorised appears to come well within the estimate.

(4 and 5.) These Questions should be addressed to my honorable colleague the Colonial Treasurer, as the matters therein referred to are for the Railway Commissioners to deal with.

(6.) Deputation to the Railway Commissioners :—Mr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that residents of Wee Waa and West Narrabri, through their Member, asked the Railway Commissioners to receive a deputation from these towns?

(2.) Did the Railway Commissioners refuse to receive such deputation?

(3.) What was their reason for refusing to receive such deputation?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the Railway Commissioners received a letter from the Honorable Member asking them to see a deputation relative to the retention of refreshment-room at Narrabri in place of Narrabri West. In order to meet the convenience and save the time of the residents of Narrabri and through-passengers beyond, the Commissioners had previously decided to run direct into Narrabri, and they informed the Honorable Member to that effect. They did not decline to receive the deputation, but anticipated that the Honorable Member would consider their decision as a sufficient answer to his request.

(7.) Net-fishing in Port Jackson :—Mr. Garland asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the fact that the whole of the waters of Port Jackson are closed to net-fishing, and the Fisheries Commissioners have intimated that they will only re-open them for net-fishing when a measure is passed prohibiting the use of sunk nets, will he, in the interest of the fishermen, introduce such a measure this Session?

Mr. See answered,—Provision was made in a Bill, which was introduced last Session, for the prevention of the illegal use of any kind of sunk net in the waters of Port Jackson and elsewhere, but the Bill was not passed through all its stages before the prorogation of Parliament. The matter, however, will receive attention.

(8.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th August, 1900.

- (8.) Duplication of South Coast Railway from Hurstville to Helensburgh:—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Mcagher*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Upon what date was the duplication of the South Coast railway from Hurstville to Helensburgh authorised?
 - (2.) Was the work submitted to the Public Works Committee?
 - (3.) By whose authority was the work carried out?
 - (4.) Did the Railway Commissioners concur in the execution of the work?
 - (5.) What was the cost of the work?
 - (6.) Is it proposed to carry the duplication further south?
 - (7.) What rate of interest upon the cost of the duplication does the traffic induced by the duplication yield?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1.) I am informed that the duplication referred to was authorised in 1889.
 - (2 and 4.) The work was carried out by the Commissioners with the approval of the Government, under the powers conferred on them by the Railway Act, in regard to the duplication of existing lines. Parliament voted funds for the work.
 - (5.) £112,787.
 - (6.) There is no intention at present to proceed further south with the duplication.
 - (7.) The duplication has been a great factor in the convenient working of the Illawarra Line, particularly between Hurstville, Como, and National Park. The net financial result has not been worked out.
- (9.) Provision in Early Closing Act:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Does the provision in the Early Closing Act, specifying sixty hours as a week's work, apply to the wholesale warehouses in the city?
 - (2.) If so, have specific and definite instructions been given to the police to stop the violation of the Act by leading Sydney firms who are in the habit of openly working their hands thirteen or fourteen hours a day?
 - (3.) Has he any information from the police or others of the infringements of the law in this particular by large establishments; or is it that, so far, the authorities have only been able to devote their attention to struggling and unimportant shopkeepers?
- Mr. Perry* answered,—
- (1.) This provision applies only to scheduled shops.
 - (2 and 3.) Instructions have been given to the inspectors under the Act, and to the police appointed inspectors under the Act, to prosecute in all cases in which the provisions of the Act are infringed.
- (10.) New South Wales Lancers:—*Mr. Watkins*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to last gazetted list of promotions and appointments in the New South Wales Lancers?
 - (2.) Is he aware that men who have done training in England, and have seen service during the whole of the present South African war, and who have been recommended for commissions by the Officer commanding the Regiment, have been passed over, and boys without any military knowledge and experience appointed?
- Mr. See* answered,—I am informed by the Military authorities that no one recommended by the Commanding Officers of the Lancers has been passed over. The only youth in the list referred to, recently invalided from South Africa, went with the First Contingent, and has been favourably reported upon by his immediate Commanding Officer at the front.
- (11.) Decision of His Honor Judge Simpson, respecting Randwick Rifle Range:—*Mr. Watkins*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has his attention been drawn to the decision of *Mr. Justice A. H. Simpson* in granting an injunction preventing rifle practice from being carried out at the Randwick Rifle Range?
- Mr. See* answered,—Yes; and the matter is receiving attention. I may inform Honorable Members that there was an action to restrain riflemen from shooting on the range in consequence of alleged danger to certain persons in the neighbourhood. It was heard by the Chief Judge in Equity, and he issued an injunction which applied to the state of affairs which existed at the time it was asked for. Since then the Government have given instructions that there is to be a very high fence put up, which will prevent bullets from going in the direction in which the injunction was sought to restrain them from going. I think that hereafter no danger will accrue in that respect.
- (12.) Friendly Societies Act:—*Mr. McLean* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that great delay has taken place in bringing the new Friendly Societies Act into operation?
 - (2.) How many applications have been received from societies desiring to be registered under the Act?
 - (3.) How many societies have been registered?
 - (4.) When will the Registrar be able to deal with applications for registration?
 - (5.) Is it intended to continue the administration of the Act under *Mr. Coghlan*; or will a Registrar be appointed to deal solely with Friendly Society matter?
- Mr. See* answered,—
- (1.) Yes. This delay occurred owing to the difficulty of securing a Registrar. No delay, that I am aware of, has occurred since the appointment of the present Registrar.
 - (2.) Two.
 - (3.) None. The rules of one society are ready, and registration will be effected this week. In the other case the Registrar is waiting for further information from the society applying for registration.
 - (4.) In all cases as soon as the requirements of the law are complied with.

30th August, 1900.

2. **LIQUOR ACT**:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—
 (1.) By Mr. Spence—From G. N. Scalette, Chairman, and Lewis L. Cockburn, Secretary, of Rechabites Tent 35, Cobar.
 (2.) By Mr. Spence—From George Dry, Chairman, and M. Buckley, Secretary, of Good Templar Lodge, 128, Cobar.
 (3.) By Mr. Sawers—From Currabubula United Lodge, Independent Order of Good Templars.
 Petitions received.
3. **ALFRED AUSTIN SAMPSON'S SETTLEMENT LEASE, GUNNEDAH**:—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 3rd July, 1900; together with Appendix.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. **NAMES FOR ELECTORATES, FEDERAL PARLIAMENT**:—Mr. Piddington, as Chairman, brought up the Report from, and laid upon the Table the Minutes of Proceedings of, the Select Committee for whose consideration and report this subject was referred on 16th August, 1900.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Tenth Report from the Printing Committee.
6. **SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
7. **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL**:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—
- (1.) **Consolidated Revenue Fund Bill (No. 3)**:—
 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 1900-1901,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
Legislative Council Chamber, W. J. TRICKETT,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900. Deputy-President.
- (2.) **Crimes Bill**:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to Criminal Law,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber, W. J. TRICKETT,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900. Deputy-President.
 Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
- (3.) **Witnesses Examination Bill**:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to the Examination of Witnesses and Production of Documents in certain cases,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber, W. J. TRICKETT,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900. Deputy-President.
 Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
- (4.) **Sheriff Bill**:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the office of Sheriff,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber, W. J. TRICKETT,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900. Deputy-President.
 Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
- (5.) **Public Watering Places Bill**:—
 MR. SPEAKER,—
 The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts regulating Public Watering Places and protecting certain reserves from trespass,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.
Legislative Council Chamber, W. J. TRICKETT,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900. Deputy-President.
 Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
- (6.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th August, 1900.

(6.) Newcastle Pasturage Reserve Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Newcastle Pasturage Reserve*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(7.) Trade Marks Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Trade Marks and Fraudulent Marks*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(8.) Oaths Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Oaths, Affirmations, Statutory Declarations, and Affidavits*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(9.) Mining Partnerships Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to limiting the Liability of Mining Partnerships*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(10.) University and University Colleges Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the University of Sydney, and Colleges within the University of Sydney*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(11.) Noxious Microbes Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the communication of Infectious Diseases to Animals*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(12.) Partition Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Partition*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(13.) Public Works Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Public Works*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(14.)

30th August, 1900.

(14.) Supreme Court and Circuit Courts Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to the Supreme Court and Circuit Courts,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

(15.) Real Property Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Declaration of Titles to Land and the Facilitation of its Transfer,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th August, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

8. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION 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, 31 AUGUST, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Watson, Temporary 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:—Mr. Watson explained that during the discussion of Clause 2, an amendment was proposed to insert the words "The Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners" at the end of line 9, and objection being taken that such a body was not in existence, and, therefore, could not be included in a definition clause,—he ruled that the amendment was in order, to which ruling objection was taken, and the matter was referred for the decision of the House. Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that he thought the ruling of the Temporary Chairman was perfectly correct, as the proposed amendment was relevant, and within the scope of the Bill.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Wise, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Committee resumed.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
Ordered, that the report be adopted on Tuesday next.

9. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 3):—

The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 72.

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 1900-1901,*" 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, 30th August, 1900.*

10. STOCK DISEASES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 prevention and cure of diseases in stock.

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 prevention and cure of diseases in stock.

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

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th August, 1900.

(2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make provision for the prevention and cure of diseases in stock,*"—which was read a first time.

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

11. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 37.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 73.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to validate certain notifications of appropriation and resumption in connection with a system of public wharves and approaches thereto; to provide for other appropriations and resumptions and purchases for the extension of such system; to provide for the compensation for resumptions and purchases made or to be made for those purposes; and for the raising of loans for such resumptions and purchases, and in respect of certain public works and services; to authorise and sanction the commencing and constructing of certain public works; to fix the interest payable under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act; to amend the Public Works Act of 1888; and to validate certain proclamations of quarantine stations, and certain acts done within such stations,*"—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, 1900.

- (2.) The Rock to Green's Gonyah Railway (Amendment) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 74.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend The Rock to Green's Gonyah Railway Act, 1898, and 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, 4th September, 1900.

- (3.) Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway (Amendment) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 75.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Koorawatha to Grenfell Railway Act, 1898, and 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, 4th September, 1900.

(4.)

4th September, 1900.

(4.) Byrock to Brewarrina Railway (Amendment) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 76.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to amend the Byrock to Brewarrina Railway Act, 1898, and 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, 4th September, 1900.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) License Fee Payable by Amateur Fishermen:—Mr. Ewing asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to introduce legislation which will render it necessary for all amateur fishermen to pay a license fee for the right to fish in any river or stream in the Colony?

Mr. See answered,—No. Such is not intended, and I am unaware how the report originated. I am surprised at such statements getting into the Press.

(2.) Postmasters acting as Registrars at Federal Elections:—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Cook, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Postmasters in the country have been instructed to act as Registrars in connection with the forthcoming Federal elections?

(2.) Is it a fact that, amongst other duties, they have been ordered to write to the electors in their respective divisions asking them to call and have their rights renewed for a further three years, and to keep records in alphabetical order?

(3.) Has any additional remuneration been offered them for these extra duties?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1 and 2.) Some time since a number of Postmasters were required by the Public Service Board, with the concurrence of the Post Office Department, to act as Electoral Registrars, and in such capacity they have, I am informed, been called upon to undertake some very heavy work in connection with the forthcoming Federal elections.

(3.) Not that I am aware of, but I am giving instructions that Postmasters must, on no account, neglect their postal and telegraphic duties, and that if the additional work thrown upon them cannot be done within reasonable hours they should engage clerical assistance at the cost, of course, of the Electoral Department.

(3.) Recreation Reserves between Glenbrook and Mount Victoria:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) How many recreation reserves are there between Glenbrook and Mount Victoria?

(2.) What sums were granted to each of these reserves for improvements for the last financial year?

(3.) What sums is it proposed to grant for the purchase of parks, recreation reserves, and bathing-places; and where are they situated?

(4.) How much of the money stated in answer to the last Question is to be taken from the vote of £17,500 voted in the Supply Bill?

(5.) What is the area of each of the parks or recreation reserves; and what will be the cost of each?

(6.) What special grants are to appear on the Estimates, when the same are placed upon the Table of this House, for the purchase of parks or recreation reserves; and what will be the cost of each?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Seventy-four areas of land have been dedicated or reserved for recreation purposes between Glenbrook and Mount Victoria.

(2.) A Special Vote of £500 was passed by Parliament for the improvement of the reserves between Glenbrook and Mount Victoria for the financial year ended 30th June last, which has been allotted as shown in the following schedule:—

Nepean Electorate.

		s.	r.	p.	£
Glenbrook	... Recreation Reserve, near Railway Station	20	0	0	8
Springwood	... Hawkesbury View Park	214	0	0	13
Do	... Lomatia Park	7	0	0	7
Do	... Sassafras Gully	723	0	0	10
Lawson	... Grand Reserve, No. 27,339	0	0	16½	5
Do	... North and South Lawson Parks	179	3	0	10
		367	1	0	
Do	... Recreation Reserve, opposite Railway Station	2	1	14	10
Do	... do	12	0	0	10
Do	... do	0	2	4	5
Wentworth Falls	do	45	0	0	110
Do	do Section 25	5	2	0	5
Do	do No. 27,656	7	0	0	7

Hartley Electorate.

Katoomba	... Leura, Katoomba, and Banksia Parks, Echo Point, and Recreation Reserve No. 143	136	0	17½	150
		60	3	27	
		17	2	13	
		1	3	22	
		7	1	12	

Blackheath

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th September, 1900.

Blackheath	...	Govett's Leap Recreation Reserve	...	...	445	0	0	40
Do	...	Recreation Reserve No. 175	...	...	5	3	30	15
Do	...	do	176	...	4	1	3	15		
Do	...	do	18-743	...	1	3	33	15		
Do	...	do	along Railway Line	...	1	2	22	15		
Mount Victoria...	Mount Victoria Recreation Reserve	...	...	...	17	1	21	10
Do	Mount Piddington	do	...	...	380	0	0	20
Do	Mount Yorke	do	...	...	150	0	0	20
Total								£500

(3, 4, and 5.) This will depend upon what acquisitions will ultimately be approved. The Questions are somewhat anticipatory, as what lands will be purchased and what sums expended are questions not decided at one and the same time, but individual cases arise from time to time throughout the year. My intention, however, is not to allow the purchase of new sites to prevent ample provision being made for existing reserves.

(6.) It is not usual to give any Estimates until laid upon the Table of the House.

(4.) Increments to Officers of the Customs Department:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that fifteen officers of the Customs Department, in the Clerical and General Divisions, who were recommended for full increments under the Increment Regulations (Nos. 254 to 275) for last year, have not yet received them?

(2.) If so, will he say when the increments to which these officers are entitled will be paid?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) Twenty-nine officers in the Customs Department received increments under the Increment Regulations for the last financial year. Fourteen officers did not receive increments—of those thirteen were recommended for such by the Permanent Head.

(2.) As was stated in reply to a Question asked by the Honorable Member for Rylstone, on Thursday last, the Public Service Board have not yet completed the consideration of the appeals of the officers who did not receive increments, but that they hope to be able to do so shortly. In any case, no further amounts can be paid until funds are available for the purpose.

(5.) Increase of Wages to Tramway Guards:—Mr. Garland asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Are there a number of guards on the tramways who are entitled to a statutory increase of wages who have not received the same?

(2.) If so, will he cause representations to be made to the Commissioners that the increase to which the men have a right should immediately be granted to them?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed the tram conductors are receiving the wages provided for under the regulations. If any employee considers he has not received an increase to which he is entitled, it is suggested he should represent his case to the Railway Commissioners.

(6.) Water and Sewerage Rates at Double Bay:—Mr. Garland asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Does he intend to take any steps to secure an alteration of the excessive rates imposed upon the ratepayers of Double Bay by the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to prevent similar excessive rates being imposed in future?

Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague has a Bill all ready to introduce which deals with this matter, but it must wait over until other equally urgent business now in hand has been disposed of.

(7.) Roads on the Banks of the Clarence:—Mr. McFarlane asked the Secretary for Public Works,—In view of the destruction to roads on the banks of the Clarence caused by erosion, will he make provision on next Estimates for a sufficient sum to carry out some scheme for protecting the roads endangered?

Mr. Perry answered,—If the Road Vote for the current year be considerably increased, it is possible that a portion of the vote may be available for this purpose.

(8.) "On Service" Envelopes supplied to Water and Sewerage Department:—Mr. Haynes asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it or is it not a fact that "On Service" (free postage) envelopes are supplied to members of the Water and Sewerage Department?

(2.) If such envelopes are supplied, by whose authority was free postage extended to the members of the Board?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) Answered by No. 1.

(9.) Electors' Rights:—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Watkins, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it a fact that Notices have been sent to Electoral Registrars stating that all existing Rights must be brought to them personally by the holders to be stamped; if so, will he give instructions to have such Notices withdrawn, and adopt some method that will ensure every man having an opportunity to vote?

Mr. See answered,—Notices are being issued by the Registrars, under the provisions of the Electoral Act, to all holders of Electors' Rights, that their Rights must be presented to be stamped on or before the 31st December, 1900, and that personal or written application may be made. Forms of Declaration accompany the Notices, as required by the Act. This is technically required by the law, but a Bill will be prepared to enable the Police to deliver the Notices.

3. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Cohen presented a Petition from M. J. Wise, Presiding Officer at a public meeting of residents at Petersham, on 20th August last, praying that the law as to the closing of public-houses on Sunday may be made thoroughly effective, and that the hours of closing of public-houses and wine-shops be brought into harmony with those for ordinary shops.]

Petition received.

4th September, 1900.

4. PAPERS:—
 Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Convictions under Section 42 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1883.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
 Mr. See laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Papers respecting reduction of hours of duty and increase of sick and annual leave to Attendants in Hospitals for the Insane.
 (2.) Return showing attendances of various Volunteer Regiments at the Easter Encampments of 1899 and 1900.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
 Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) By-laws of the Borough of Wollongong, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.
 (2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Cooma, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.
 (3.) Fees and Allowances paid to the Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, from 12th June, 1888, to 31st July, 1900.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
5. FLOUR SHIPPED TO SOUTH AFRICA FOR THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT—(*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House the certificates and reports of the Committee of Master Bakers' Association of New South Wales on flour shipped to South Africa for the British Government.
 Question put and passed.
6. BRODIE'S ENABLING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That Brodie's Enabling Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Wood, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Archer, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Nicholson, Dr. Ross, and the Mover.
 Question put and passed.
7. DUBBO PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—
 Mr. Phillips moved, pursuant to Notice,—
 (1.) That the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Perry, Mr. Moore, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. W. W. Young, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Nicholson, Mr. Huxley, Mr. Anderson, and the Mover.
 Question put and passed.
8. REPORTS FROM RAILWAY COMMISSIONERS ON TRAMWAY PROPOSALS (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. J. H. Young moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House the most recent reports from the Railway Commissioners on the following tramway proposals:—The Spit-road tramway, the Kensington tramway, the Rose Bay and Dover Point tramway, the Dawes Point extension, the Enfield to Mortlake tramway, the Adamstown tramway, and the Waratah tramway.
 Question put and passed.
9. RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Hawthorne moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The names of all clergymen who have given religious instruction in the Public Schools of this Colony.
 (2.) The names of the schools, and the number of times each of the abovenamed clergymen have attended for the year ended 30th June, 1899.
 Question put and passed.
10. FRUIT CASE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to regulate the size of cases used in the sale of fruit; and for other purposes connected therewith.
 Question put and passed.
11. ADMINISTRATION (VALIDATING) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Wise 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 validate certain orders of the Supreme Court giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation.
 Question put and passed.
12. HOTELS DIMINISHING BILL:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of this Bill, on motion of Mr. Austin Chapman, discharged.
 Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.
13. 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.—“The unsatisfactory condition of the Act dealing with Forestry.”
 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.
 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,—namely, Mr. Affleck, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Law, Mr. McFarlane, Mr. McLean, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Piddington, Mr. Price, Mr. Ross, Mr. Waddell, and Mr. Wood,—
 Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at eight minutes after Seven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

New South Wales.

No. 38.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Boating Accidents on the Harbour:—*Mr. Brunker*, for *Mr. Whiddon*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the great number of boating disasters that occur every season, attended with fatal results, in Port Jackson and other pleasure resorts, will he take into his earnest consideration the urgent necessity of at once introducing a short Bill to Parliament having for its object the regulating and supervising, as far as possible, the letting out and hiring of pleasure boats of every description, whether sailing or pulling, with the view of preventing the serious loss of life that occurs every boating season through the letting out of boats to inexperienced persons?

Sir William Lyne answered,—In No. 6 of the regulations relating to the registration and licensing of all sailing-boats an endeavour has been made to prevent accidents by placing upon the owner or other person having charge of a sailing-boat the responsibility of seeing that the person who applies for the hire of the boat is capable of properly managing her under sail. No doubt accidents will occur whatever measures or precautions are taken, and it is impossible, by Act of Parliament or by regulations, to protect persons from the consequences of their own acts; but an attempt can be made, and has been made, to lessen the risk of accident as much as possible by placing upon the licensee of sailing-boats (under a penalty of £20) the onus of seeing that the person to whom the boat is let is capable of managing her under sail. It is the intention of the Superintendent of Navigation to see that these regulations are carried out as far as possible, and to instruct the inspectors to make periodical inspections of the various boatsheds for the purpose of inspecting the boats, &c. An inspector has also been specially instructed to inquire into the circumstances surrounding the recent disaster to the sailing-boat "Ruby," in which four lives were lost.

(2.) Extra Work performed by Country Postmasters:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Are the various country Postmasters now given a large amount of extra work in connection with the renewal of electoral rights and the issue of notices?

(2.) Will he see that such officers are recompensed for such extra labour?

Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague answers,—I can only refer the Honorable Member to the replies given yesterday to the Honorable Member for Hartley to Questions of a similar character.

(3.) Mr. Holmes, Secretary to the Water and Sewerage Board:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What salary does Mr. Holmes, as Secretary to the Water and Sewerage Board, receive?

(2.) To what pay, allowances, &c., was this same gentleman entitled whilst on service in South Africa?

(3.) How many years has Mr. Holmes been in the Public Service; and during that time has he not enjoyed the same privileges as other Public Servants in the matter of holidays?

(4.) Has this gentleman received his official as well as his military pay for the period during which he has been absent from the Colony?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) £550 per annum.

(2.) Mr. Holmes was entitled to and received an allowance of 10s. per diem from the New South Wales Military Department from the date of his departure from Sydney until his return from South Africa. I am informed he was also paid an allowance of 7s. 8d. per diem by the British Government from the day he arrived in South Africa until the day he returned to Sydney.

(3.)

5th September, 1900.

(3.) Twenty-two and a quarter years, and, excepting during the period of his absence in South Africa, he has only been away on holidays for recreation two weeks during his service.

(4.) Mr. Holmes received his full salary for five months whilst he was absent from the Colony. The Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage granted him six months' leave of absence on full pay. This was given without the authority of the Government, but the Cabinet subsequently decided that any Public Servant who volunteered and was accepted for service in the Transvaal War should not be allowed to draw civil as well as military pay, consequently, so soon as the fact that this officer was drawing pay from two sources was brought under the attention of the responsible officers of the Treasury, the civil pay was stopped.

(4.) Mr. Bennett:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the position occupied in the Public Service by the late Mr. Bennett; and for how many years was he altogether in the Service?

(2.) What was the salary of which he was in receipt at the time of his death; and for how long did he draw such salary?

(3.) Was he a contributor to the Superannuation Fund; and, if so, what sum (if any), did his widow receive from the Fund?

(4.) Was the Public Service Board in existence at the time when Mr. Bennett died; and, if not, how long after his death was the Board appointed?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Honorable the Secretary for Public Works has furnished me with the following information—if these Questions relate to the late Mr. William C. Bennett:—

(1.) Commissioner and Engineer for Roads and Bridges. Date of first appointment, 18th January, 1854.

(2.) £1,160; from 1st January, 1886, to 30th June, 1889.

(3.) Yes. There is no record in the Public Works Department of his widow having received any amount from Superannuation Fund.

(4.) No. The Public Service Board was appointed in January, 1896.

(5.) Examinations for Females for Positions in the Public Service:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In regard to the matter of allowing females to sit for examinations, with the view of qualifying for positions in the Public Service, is it to be understood that, when appointments are made of successful competitors, they will receive salaries of the same value as are paid to male officers occupying positions of the same nature and importance?

(2.) If not, why not?

Sir William Lyne answered,—In cases where male and female candidates have been allowed to sit for the same examination, viz., for the positions of Postal and Telegraph Assistants and Junior Clerkships in the Public Service, the salary paid to the successful candidates when appointed has been the same in the case of both sexes.

(6.) Letter-carrier at Merrylands:—Mr. Nobbs asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that an unnaturalised foreigner has recently been appointed as letter-carrier at Merrylands?

(2.) Is it not also a fact that he only arrived in the Colony from the Transvaal just prior to the breaking out of the South African War?

(3.) Has not this young man now or recently had two brothers—who are Boers—fighting in the Boer Army against the British and Colonial Troops?

(4.) Is it not a fact that this person and his parents are notoriously disloyal, and the latter also unnaturalised?

(5.) If such appointment has been made, who recommended the applicant?

(6.) Were there not other and well recommended applicants for such position?

(7.) Were not such other applicants natives of the soil, and sons of British and loyal subjects?

(8.) Was such appointment a Departmental one; or was it made by the Public Service Board?

(9.) What do the Government intend to do in the matter?

(10.) Will the Government, in considering applications for employment in the Public Service, give the preference to British subjects and sons of British subjects over aliens and sons of aliens?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Two youths have recently been appointed to deliver telegrams and letters at Merrylands, but my honorable colleague is not aware that either of them is an unnaturalised foreigner.

(2.) My honorable colleague thinks not; one of the appointees having stated that he had been educated at the Public School at Goughtown, and that he had resided in the district for many years, and the other that he had lived in the district since he was two years old.

(3 and 4.) My honorable colleague is not aware.

(5.) Both candidates were recommended by local residents.

(6.) Yes.

(7.) My honorable colleague is not aware.

(8.) The appointments were made on probation, on the recommendation of the Public Service Board, after the ballot prescribed by the regulations had been held, and in accordance with the provisions of the 29th section of the Public Service Act.

(9.) This will depend on the information obtained in reply to inquiries which will be made prior to the question of recommending confirmation of the appointments being considered, but should it be found that an unnaturalised subject has inadvertently been appointed, the appointment will be annulled, in terms of the 23rd section of the Public Service Act, which enacts that "no person shall be admitted to the Public Service unless he shall be a natural born or naturalised subject of Her Majesty."

(10.) See reply to No. 9.

(7.)

5th September, 1900.

(7.) Case of Josephson v. Young:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Referring to the reply to Mr. Austin Chapman's Question on the 15th August, *re* Josephson v. Young, will he be good enough to say if the retrenchments by the Public Service Board, showing a saving of £301,827 1s. 11d., have been sustained?

(2.) If so, what, respectively, was paid to the Civil Servants in 1895 and in the last financial year?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Public Service Board have furnished me with the following information:—There seems to be some misapprehension in regard to the case of Josephson v. the Crown. Mr. Josephson was not retired by the Public Service Board. His retirement from the Service was effected early in 1895, before the Public Service Act came into operation. With regard to the decision given in that case, it is pointed out that the pension awarded to Mr. Josephson is payable not from the Consolidated Revenue but from the Superannuation Fund, which is made up of contributions from the salaries of Public Servants. As to the effect of the judgment on other similar cases, the Board, at the request of the Honorable the Attorney-General, recently obtained a report on the subject from the Actuaries. They state that, after a careful scrutiny of the cases of retirement, some hundreds in number, only five appear to be similar to that of Mr. Josephson, and that the total of the pensions payable in these cases, namely, £149 18s. per annum, represents the added liability to the Superannuation Fund.

(8.) Wharfage Rates on Wool, Meat, and Coal:—*Mr. Hawthorne*, for Mr. Neild, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Are wharfage rates—outwards—charged upon goods shipped from the Pymont jetties?

(2.) If so, what rates are charged per ton on wool, meat, and coal?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The outward wharfage rates charged in accordance with the Second Schedule to the Wharfage and Tonnage Rates Act of 1880 on wool, meat, and coal are—on wool, per bale, 4d.; on meat, 10d. per ton of 2,240 lb.; and on coal, 3d. per ton of 2,240 lb. A reduction in wharfage on coal is allowed to the Railway Department on coals brought by rail from the southern collieries and shipped from Pymont wharf into over-sea ships.

(9.) Duplication of Railway Line—Hurstville to Helensburg:—*Mr. Hurley* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Upon what date was Executive approval given to the duplication of the South Coast railway line—Hurstville to Helensburg?

(2.) Did the Commissioners for Railways give a formal approval to the duplication?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is not necessary to obtain formal Executive approval for duplicating portions of existing lines. Parliament voted the money, and the Commissioners approved of the work to meet traffic requirements.

(10.) Payments to Members of the Public Works Committee:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) The total payments to the Members of the Public Works Committee for fees and travelling allowances during August, 1900?

(2.) The number of meetings held in Sydney in same month, and the number of witnesses examined?

(3.) The number of meetings held in the country in the same month, and the number of witnesses examined?

Mr. See answered,—This information is being prepared, and will be laid upon the Table, in the form of a return, as soon as possible.

(11.) Maintenance Men on Road, Gosford to Wallsend:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it true that the Sydney section of a gang of men employed on the road, Gosford to Wallsend, were told by their superintendent to shift camp on Saturday last, to another job, the local men at the same time being told they were discharged?

(2.) If so, what are the reasons for the preference given to the Sydney men as against the local men?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I have not heard of this, but inquiries will be made at once, and a reply sent to the Honorable Member.

(12.) Ministerial Communications respecting Commonwealth of Australia Bill:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he yet received detailed information by mail to enable him to lay before the House, in accordance with his promise of 19th June, a copy of all the communications which have passed since June, 1898, between the Government of New South Wales and the Governments of the Australian Colonies and the Imperial Government and Mr. Edmund Barton, Q.C., on the subject of framing a Constitution for the proposed Commonwealth of Australia; and, if so, when does he expect to be in a position to lay a return upon the Table of this House?

(2.) In view of the assurance given, on the 26th June, by the Premier of South Australia to the House of Assembly, that all the cablegrams despatched at public expense to and from Mr. C. C. Kingston, Q.C., on the subject of amending the Commonwealth Bill, had been laid before that House, has he any objection to lay upon the Table of this House a copy of all cablegrams despatched to and from Mr. Barton, Q.C., at the cost of the taxpayers of New South Wales?

Sir

5th September, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—On considering this matter, I do not think that any good purpose would be served by laying a portion of the papers upon the Table of this House. The documents are very voluminous, and some of them, as I have already stated to the House, are of an exceptionally confidential character. If these were omitted the continuity of the remainder would be lost, especially in respect of the correspondence with Mr. Barton.

(13.) Police at Shearing-sheds:—Mr. Spence asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1) Is he aware that the police are present at roll-call at shearing-sheds?
- (2) Have instructions been given that police are to attend every employer in the country when he is engaging labour; if not, why are squatters privileged?
- (3) Does the squatter pay the necessary expense incurred?
- (4) Will he see that the police are sent after the Bree-long murderers instead of being used to irritate honest working men?

Mr. See answered,—The following replies have been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police:—

- (1.) Not as a rule.
- (2 and 3.) No.
- (4.) The police only attend on such occasions to shearing sheds when it is represented that their services may be necessary to preserve the peace.

(14.) Instalments on Conditional Purchases and Additional Conditional Purchases:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—In view of the inconvenience and annoyance caused to landholders by the present system of collecting instalments on conditional purchases and additional conditional purchases, and land revenue generally, at different periods of the year, is it his intention to comply with the request of the Farmers' and Settlers' Conference to so alter such system as to permit of payments being made on a given date; and, if so, when does he propose bringing such alteration into operation?

Mr. See answered,—The matter is engaging attention, but any alteration will disturb the Treasury arrangements somewhat largely, and bring about a congestion of work in land agents' offices during particular parts of the year. An alteration would benefit the large holder more than the small holder. It used to be the practice to adjust all conditional purchase accounts up to 31st December, but since 1889 the date of commencement of a holding regulates the date when payments are due. In this way payments are distributed throughout the year. When the extremely large number of existing holdings is taken into account, and the fact that the number is increasing every year, it will be recognised that to make all amounts payable during one period would necessarily mean a considerable pressure of work during that period.

(15.) Transfer of Conditional Purchases:—Mr. Thomas Brown asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it his intention to proceed during the present Session with the Bill enabling the transfer of conditionally-purchased lands being placed on the same footing with respect to such transfers as freehold lands under the Real Property Act?

Mr. See answered,—I feel a difficulty in fully understanding the object of the Honorable Member's Question, as the Crown Lands Acts provide for the transfer of conditional purchases, and all transfers of conditional purchases received in the Lands Department are recorded in the Registrar-General's Department.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Wise laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulation No. 41, under the Public Service Act of 1895 (privilege leave to Medical and other Resident Officers).
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) 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 section 7, Public Trusts Act, 1897.
- (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 Alterations and Cancellations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (4.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
- (5.) 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.

3. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) 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 further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879 and the Acts amending the same,*"—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 September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

SYDNEY

5th September, 1900.

SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 5th September, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 2, clause 3, line 20. *After* "city" *insert* "which areas shall be known as Fitzroy, Belmore, Cook, Phillip, Lang, and Gipps Wards"
- Page 2, clause 3. At end of clause *add* "which areas shall be known as Bligh, Flinders, Denison, and Pyrmont Wards."
- Page 2, clause 5, line 37. *After* "natural born" *insert* "or naturalised"
- Page 2, clause 5, line 38. *Omit* "or naturalised person"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 11. *After* "leaseholders" *insert* "In the case of properties owned by public companies, or bodies corporate, or trustees, the directors of such companies or bodies corporate, or the trustees, shall have power to nominate their manager or secretary, or one of their own number, as the person to be placed on the roll in respect of such property; or, failing such nomination, the manager or secretary of any such company or the trustee whose name first appears in the instrument creating such trust, shall be so enrolled"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 12. *After* "natural born" *insert* "or naturalised"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 13. *Omit* "or naturalised person"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 28. *After* "ward" *insert* "In the case of properties occupied by public companies or bodies corporate, or trustees, the directors of such companies or bodies corporate, or the trustees shall have power to nominate their manager or secretary, or one of their own number, as the person to be placed on the roll in respect of such property; or, failing such nomination, the manager or secretary of any such company, or the trustee whose name first appears in the instrument creating such trust, shall be so enrolled"
- Page 3, clause 5, lines 29 to 34. *Omit* "(c) Any person, male or female, being a natural-born British subject or naturalised person, who as a lodger has continuously during the six months next preceding the first day of September in that year, occupied jointly or severally any lodgings in the same dwelling-house in the said ward, of a clear yearly value of ten pounds or upwards."
- Page 3, clause 5. *After* subsection (1) *insert* the following new subsection:—
" (ii) For the purposes of this Act the word 'female' shall include married women."
- Page 3, clause 5, line 36. *Omit* "or a joint occupation as a lodger under subsection (c)"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 37. *Omit* "or joint lodgers"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 39. *Omit* "under subsection (b)"
- Page 3, clause 5, lines 40 and 41. *Omit* "or unless such lodgings are of the clear yearly value of twenty pounds or upwards"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 41. *Omit* "cases" *insert* "case"
- Page 3, clause 5, line 42. *Omit* "or lodgers"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 1. *Omit* "or lodgers"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 2. *Omit* "or lodgers"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 7. *Omit* "or lodgers"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 11. *Omit* "or subsection (c)"
- Page 4, clause 5, lines 16 and 17. *Omit* "or subsection (c) or under both those subsections"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 25. *Omit* "a statutory declaration" *insert* "and subscribe a declaration before the Presiding Officer"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 26. *After* "owner" *insert* "or manager or trustee for the beneficial owner"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 29. *Omit* "subsection (b) or (c)" *insert* "subsection (b)"
- Page 4, clause 5, line 31. *After* "Act" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 4, clause 5. At end of clause *add* the following new subsection:—
" (6) Any person who shall wilfully make a false declaration under this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanour"
- Page 4. *After* clause 6 *insert* the following new clause:—
Notwithstanding anything in section six the appointment of collectors for each ward of the city for the year 1900 may be made as soon as practicable after the commencement of this Act.
- Page 5, clause 7, lines 10 and 11. *Omit* "and kept so affixed until the roll for the ward has been prepared" *insert* "and at some convenient place in each ward where there may be no Court of Petty Sessions"
- Page 5. *After* clause 7 *insert* the following new clause:—
The said lists shall contain the names and qualifications of all persons qualified to vote, alphabetically arranged according to the form in Schedule Four, and shall be signed by the chamber magistrate, and exhibited at the places provided for under the last preceding section from the first to the fifteenth day of October in each year. Twice at least during such time the Town Clerk shall cause notice to be published in two daily papers of such lists being so open to inspection.
- Page 5, clause 8, line 18. *Omit* "Four" *insert* "Five"
- Page 5, clause 8, line 21. *Omit* "Five" *insert* "Six"
- Page 5, clause 8, line 29. *Omit* "house" *insert* "of petty Sessions"
- Page 5, clause 8, line 29. *After* "city" *insert* "and at such places in each ward where the lists have been affixed"
- Page 5, clause 9, line 38. *After* "city" *insert* "and at such places in each ward where the lists have been affixed"
- Page 6, clause 12, line 43. *After* "sessions" *insert* "in the city"
- Page 7, clause 13, line 10. *Omit* "twenty-four"
- Page 7, clause 14, line 14. *Omit* "the mayor and"
- Page 7, clause 14, line 15. *Omit* "mayor and"
- Page 7, clause 14, line 18. *Omit* "mayor or"

Appointment
collectors for
1900

5th September, 1900.

Election of
mayor.

Pages 7 and 8, clause 15. *Omit* clause 15 *insert* the following new clause:—

On the ninth day of December in every year the aldermen shall assemble at the Town Hall for the purpose of electing one of their own number to be mayor of the city for the forthcoming year. The mayor shall enter into office on the first day of January next following his election, and shall hold office until the thirty-first day of December following, and shall be eligible for re-election if still qualified.

Page 8, clause 17, lines 19 to 21. *Omit* "and each such person shall give as many votes as there are aldermen to be elected and"

Page 8, clause 17, line 24. *Omit* "alderman" *insert* "candidate"

Page 8, clause 17, line 26. *Before* "expenditure" *insert* "such"

Page 8, clause 17, line 26. *After* "expenditure" *insert* "verified by statutory declaration"

Page 8, clause 17, line 27. *After* "election" *omit* remainder of clause.

Page 8, clause 18, line 38. *After* "election" *insert* "or shall fail to furnish the details of his expenditure within the time limited in the last preceding section"

Page 8, clause 19, line 41. *Omit* "a mayor and"

Page 8, clause 19, line 42. *Omit* "such member of the Council or other person" *insert* "the Town Clerk or such other citizen"

Page 9. *After* clause 20 *insert* the following new clause:—

At every election of aldermen every voter shall vote for the full number of aldermen to be elected for the ward, otherwise the vote shall be rejected as informal.

Page 9, clause 22, line 26. *Omit* "a mayor or of"

Page 9, clause 23, lines 32 and 33. *Omit* "municipal purposes including"

Page 9, clause 23, lines 35 to 37. *Omit* "including the whole of any land of which part is required for the said purposes. The Council shall have power to enter upon and survey any lands within their jurisdiction" *insert* "If portion only of any parcel of land is so resumed, and if the owner of such parcel of land requires the Council to resume the remainder thereof along with the other land required for the purposes of this Act, the Council shall resume the same accordingly. For the purposes aforesaid, the Council shall have power by their officers or servants to enter upon and survey any lands within their jurisdiction."

Page 11, clause 23, line 24. *Omit* "Minister" *insert* "Constructing authority"

Page 12, Schedule One, line 24. *After* "6" *insert* "7"

Page 12, Schedule One, line 24. *Omit* "11"

Page 12, Schedule One, line 25. *After* "24" *insert* "32"

Page 12, Schedule One, line 27. *Omit* "Sections 1, 2, 3, and 5" *insert* "The whole"

Page 13. *After* Schedule Three *insert* the following new Schedule:—

SCHEDULE FOUR.

"WARD.

"List of citizens for the year.

"Number in rate-book.	Number.	Christian and surname and residence.	Nature of qualification."

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

4. 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 long hours worked by the employees of the ferry and tug-boats of the ferry services in Sydney, Newcastle, and other harbours of the Colony, and the danger to the travelling public as a result."

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.

5. SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

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 clause 12," 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

5th September, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 52.

Mr. Garland,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Ferris,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. FitzGerald,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. See,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Piddington,	Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Levien,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. T. H. Griffith,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Cohen,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Meagher,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Quinn,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Archer,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. McFurlane,
Mr. Spence,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Ewing.
Mr. Nielsen,	
Mr. Wright,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Rose,
Mr. Dight,	Mr. Spruson.

Noes, 17.

Mr. Lee,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Millard.

Tellers,

Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Lees.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those 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 make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5th September, 1900.*

6. FIRE BRIGADES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

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

(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—which was read a first time.

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

7. MUNICIPALITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of See, 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 further and better provision for municipal government; and to amend the law relating to Municipalities.

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

5th September, 1900.

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 further and better provision for municipal government; and to amend the law relating to Municipalities

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

(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make further and better provision for municipal government; and to amend the law relating to Municipalities*,"—which was read a first time.

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

8. **INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Sir William Lyne moved, That the report be now adopted.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
9. **CRIMES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
10. **WITNESSES EXAMINATION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
11. **SHERIFF BILL**:—The Order of the day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
12. **PUBLIC WATERING PLACES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
13. **NEWCASTLE PASTURAGE RESERVE BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
14. **TRADE MARKS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

5th September, 1900.

15. **OATHS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
16. **MINING PARTNERSHIPS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
17. **UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
18. **NOXIOUS MICROBES BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
19. **PARTITION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
20. **PUBLIC WORKS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
21. **SUPREME COURT AND CIRCUIT COURTS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
22. **REAL PROPERTY BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

5th September, 1900.

23. **LENDFIELD—ST. LEONARDS RAILWAY CROSSINGS BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares. 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 enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares. On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
24. **LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time. Question put and passed. Bill read a second time. On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted. Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
25. **GUNDAGAI TO TUMUT RAILWAY BILL:**—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 Gundagai to Tumut; 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, and to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; 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 Gundagai to Tumut; 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, and to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes. On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Gundagai to Tumut; 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, to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time. Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
26. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this House do now adjourn. Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at ten minutes after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 39.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 6 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Steam-motor Drivers:—Mr. W. W. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Referring to answers to Questions Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, by Mr. McGowen, on 29th August, *re* the steam-motor drivers—is not the exact wording of the regulations, “Before being appointed as “driver, each man must hold a certificate,” &c., &c.; if so, how can each man hold a certificate if, as is stated, it is put with his papers?
- (2.) Have these regulations force of law?
- (3.) Will he obtain for W. W. Young a sight of one of such certificates?
- (4.) Referring to answers to same set of Questions Nos. 7, 8, 9, 10, do not these regulations state that such increases shall be considered half-yearly, &c., and that the regulations speak of increases as maturing; if so, is it correct that the Railway Commissioners only deal with increases upon recommendation from the head of branch?
- (5.) In the case of *Searle v. Railway Commissioners*, as decided in the Full Court by their Honors the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Owen on 25th May last, was not the finding against Searle on the grounds that he had not obtained and produced a certificate of efficiency and good conduct, which was an absolute condition?
- (6.) If so, are the Railway Commissioners correct in treating recommendations from the head of the branch as certificates of efficiency and good conduct, and in withholding such certificates from the employees?
- (7.) Referring to answers to same set of Questions 9 and 10, why should any misunderstanding exist; what is the particular form of these certificates, and why are they not issued annually to men whose increases of pay should be annual?

Sir William Lync answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that the words quoted are a part of the regulations. A man is considered to hold a certificate, although it is kept with his papers.
- (2.) The Commissioners have always acted upon these regulations, assuming that they had the force of law.
- (3.) A copy of certificate will be forwarded to the Honorable Member.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) In this case the Full Court decided that the District Court Judge who tried the action was right in finding a verdict for the defendants, the Railway Commissioners. The ground named was amongst those set out in the case submitted to the Court of Appeal.
- (6.) Yes.
- (7.) No misunderstanding should exist. It is not necessary that certificates should be annually issued.

(2.) “On Service” Envelopes supplied to Water and Sewerage Department:—Mr. Nielsen, for Mr. Haynes, asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) With respect to the denial by the Postal authorities that free postage or “On Service” envelopes had been supplied to members of the Water and Sewerage Board, will he state whether it is not a fact, as recorded in the report of the Board’s proceedings, that such “free postage” envelopes had been supplied, but had not been used by all the members of the Board?
- (2.) Will he make strict inquiries, and inform the House as to the results?

Mr.

6th September, 1900.

Mr. Perry answered,—It is a fact, as stated in the answer to the Honorable Member's Question of the 4th instant, that "O.S." envelopes are not supplied by this Department "to members of the "Water and Sewerage Department"; but it was stated, in reply to the Honorable Member's previous Question of the 2nd ultimo, that the Water and Sewerage Board is entitled to use such envelopes on official business. The Department accepts in good faith any correspondence covered by "O.S." envelopes, and it is considered to be the duty of the Departments using them to adopt safeguards against their use for other than official purposes.

- (3.) Hinton Bridge:—*Mr. J. H. Young* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he please state the date at which he expects the Hinton bridge to be finished, and the steam punt now working there removed to Taree?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Hinton bridge will probably be completed in about two months' time, when a steam punt will be sent to Taree.

- (4.) Allowance to Warders of Gaols on Retirement:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Attorney-General,—
 (1.) Are warders of gaols on their retirement from the Public Service entitled to an allowance of one month's salary for each year of service?
 (2.) If not, will he insert a provision in his proposed amending Bill securing to them that allowance they claim they are entitled to under the old Civil Service Act?

Mr. Perry answered,—Gaal warders who contribute to the Superannuation Account, or have ceased to contribute thereto, have the same claims upon the Account as other members of the Public Service. Warders who have not any time contributed to the Account have no claim to a gratuity, but may, at the discretion of the Comptroller-General of Prisons, be allowed three months' leave on full pay prior to retirement.

- (5.) Duty on Machinery under Federation:—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. Hayner*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What will be the duty on machinery under Federation?
 (2.) Can the New South Wales or Federal Government grant any concession, remission, or extension of time for the entry of machinery contracted for during this year but which will land early next year?
 (3.) Would the concession sought under preceding Question 2 be in any way advanced if a statement of value of machinery now being ordered were lodged at once with the New South Wales Government?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) That is a question entirely for the Federal Parliament to decide.
 (2.) There is no duty on machinery in force under the present Customs Tariff of this Colony, and therefore any concession by this Government in the direction indicated is not necessary. Concessions by the Federal Government are matters which come entirely within the province of that Government.
 (3.) No. If a duty on machinery be imposed by the Federal Parliament all such goods arriving in the Commonwealth from foreign ports after the imposition of the duty will be liable thereto. A clause is generally inserted in an Act imposing *ad valorem* duties to the effect that "all contracts or agreements made on or before a date to be named for the sale or delivery of any goods otherwise than in bond the duty on which is increased or decreased by the Act shall be subject to any increase or decrease, as the case may be, in the contract price of such goods corresponding in rate and amount with the rate and amount of such increase or decrease of duty as aforesaid actually paid."

- (6.) Newcastle-Adamstown Tramway:—*Mr. J. H. Young* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When was the Newcastle-Adamstown tramway opened for traffic?
 (2.) What has been the gross revenue received from this line?
 (3.) What has the working expenses been?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Commissioners for Railways that sufficient notice has not been given to enable the information to be prepared. It is suggested that the Question be postponed until next week.

- (7.) Regulations respecting Railway Employees:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Does Regulation No. 19 of the general regulations for the guidance of Government railway servants prohibit employees for trading directly or indirectly for themselves or others?
 (2.) If so, is he aware that Frederick Richardson, station-master at Orange, acted as agent or representative for the sale of the Reedy Creek Copper Mine?
 (3.) And for his services in that capacity did Richardson receive a specified number of shares in the property?
 (4.) Furthermore, did Richardson, in this connection, use the telegraph service of the country without payment, the said telegrams being sent and received "on the railway service"?
 (5.) Is it with Ministerial or official sanction that the services of the country are used to further the private speculations of Public Servants?
 (6.) In regard to this same station-master, has his attention been called to certain proceedings at Orange Police Court, on the 4th instant, wherein Mr. Richardson was summoned for using insulting words to one Thomas Fardell, in the station-master's office at the railway station, the words having reference to certain mining matters in which both were interested; was the plea raised by the defence that the station-master's office was not a public place in the meaning of the Act; and did the magistrate, agreeing with that contention, state at the close of the case that he could do nothing else but dismiss the action?
 (7.) In view of the proceedings disclosed in the Orange Police Court, and other matters referred to, what action does he propose to adopt in dealing with Station-master Richardson?

Sir,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th September, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am not aware of the circumstances to which the Honorable Member refers, and the Railway Commissioners, whom I have consulted, are not acquainted with all the facts to which he has drawn attention. I will refer the matter to the Railway Commissioners, under whom Mr. Richardson is employed, for the purpose of full and searching inquiry being made, and will let the Honorable Member know the result of the inquiries.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—Dr. Ross presented the following Petitions, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing:—

- (1.) From certain residents of Molong,
 - (2.) From certain residents of Meranburn and Manildra.
 - (3.) From certain residents of Dilga and Cumnock.
 - (4.) From certain residents of Barragan.
 - (5.) From certain residents of Lockwood.
 - (6.) From certain residents of Red Hill and Reedy Creek.
- Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Wollongong, county of Camden, for the construction of a Deepwater Harbour at Port Kembla.
- (2.) Return to an Order, made on 15th August, 1900,—“Land Exchange at Larras Lake, District of Molong.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of arrangements under which telegrams will be transmitted to and from members of the united Forces to serve in China.
- (2.) Return to an Order, made on 25th July, 1900,—“Prosecutions and Convictions under Early Closing Act.”
- (3.) Report of Trustees of the Australian Museum for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Report of the Returning Officer for the province of South Australia on a proposed scheme of effective voting.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. CRIMES BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to Criminal Law.*”

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to Criminal Law,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th September, 1900.*

5. WITNESSES EXAMINATION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to the Examination of Witnesses and production of Documents in certain cases.*”

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to the Examination of Witnesses and production of Documents in certain cases,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th September, 1900.*

6. SHERIFF BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the office of Sheriff.*”

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the office of Sheriff,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th September, 1900.*

6th September, 1900.

7. PUBLIC WATERING PLACES BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to consolidate the Acts regulating Public Watering Places and protecting certain Reserves from trespass.*”
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to consolidate the Acts regulating Public Watering Places and protecting certain Reserves from trespass,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th September, 1900.
8. NEWCASTLE PASTURAGE RESERVE BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Newcastle Pasturage Reserve.*”
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Newcastle Pasturage Reserve,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th September, 1900.
9. GRANVILLE RAILWAY STATION (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Nobbs moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all letters, petitions, reports, plans, and other documents relating to the overhead passenger crossing at Granville Railway Station, and to the openings to such station, and matters in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.
10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday next:—
(1.) Paton's Settlement Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.
(2.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
11. INSCRIBED STOCK (REGISTRAR) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
BEAUCHAMP, *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 expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to authorise the Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom, in respect of the Stock of the Colony.
Government House,
Sydney, 4th September, 1900.
Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
12. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Northumberland, Mr. Norton, 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 maladministration of the Lands Department in the matter of Exchanges.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Norton moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Points of Order:—
(1.) Mr. Dacey submitted that this subject had been discussed during the present Session, namely, on the 31st July, 1900, on the motion of Mr. Hayes, and that the present motion was therefore irregular.
Mr. Speaker decided that the two subjects were quite distinct, one referring in general terms to land exchanges, the other to the maladministration of the Department of Lands as to such exchanges. This motion was, therefore, in order.
(2.) Mr. Quinn took exception to this motion, on the ground that its discussion now would anticipate the Debate upon Mr. Chanter's motion for the appointment of a Select Committee, to inquire into and report upon all land exchanges, standing on the Business Paper.
Mr. Speaker said that although the two motions were somewhat alike, yet they were different, because the essence of this one was the charge of maladministration against the Lands Department.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
13. LANDS FOR SETTLEMENT BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 acquisition of private lands for purposes of settlement, and to provide for dealing with and disposing of such lands.
Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th September, 1900.

14. OLD AGE PENSIONS BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 for Old Age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of, or consequent on, the aforesaid object.
Question put and passed.
15. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 some and disagreed to other of the Council's amendments.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
16. LINDFIELD—SAINT LEONARDS RAILWAY CROSSINGS BILL:—Sir William Lyne, pursuant to leave granted on 5th September, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the Railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction; and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
17. CASINO TO LISMORE 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 Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.
Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 6th September, 1900.
- W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.
18. INDUSTRIAL ARBITRATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time.
Mr. Wise then moved, That the Bill do now pass.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Whereupon Mr. Wise moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the registration and incorporation of industrial unions and the making and enforcing of industrial agreements; to constitute a court of arbitration for the hearing and determination of industrial disputes, and matters referred to it by conciliators; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of such court; to provide for the enforcement of its awards and orders, and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 provide for the registration and incorporation of industrial unions and the making and enforcing of industrial agreements; to constitute a court of arbitration for the hearing and determination of industrial disputes, and matters referred to it by conciliators; to define the jurisdiction, powers, and procedure of such court; to provide for the enforcement of its awards and orders, and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.

19. LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read, Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, passed.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment-books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section eleven of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 amend the provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment-books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section eleven of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.

6th September, 1900.

20. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Electric Tramway along Pitt-street, Sydney*):—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 electric tramway along Pitt-street, City of Sydney.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
21. TRADE MARKS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.
Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Trade Marks and Fraudulent Marks.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Trade Marks and Fraudulent Marks,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*
22. OATHS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.
Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Oaths, Affirmations, Statutory Declarations, and Affidavits.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Oaths, Affirmations, Statutory Declarations, and Affidavits,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*
23. MINING PARTNERSHIPS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.
Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to limiting the Liability of Mining Partnerships.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to limiting the Liability of Mining Partnerships,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*
24. UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY COLLEGES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.
Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the University of Sydney and Colleges within the University of Sydney.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the University of Sydney and Colleges within the University of Sydney,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*
25. NOXIOUS MICROBES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.
Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the communication of Infectious Diseases to Animals.*"
Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th September, 1900.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the communication of Infectious Diseases to Animals*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*

26. PARTITION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.

Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Partition*."

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Partition*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*

27. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the third reading of the Public Works Bill (*Council Bill*), postponed until Tuesday next.

28. SUPREME COURT AND CIRCUIT COURTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.

Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to the Supreme Court and Circuit Courts*."

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to the Supreme Court and Circuit Courts*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*

29. REAL PROPERTY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.

Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the declaration of titles to land and the facilitation of its transfer*."

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the declaration of titles to land and the facilitation of its transfer*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th September, 1900, a.m.*

30. EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Perry, 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 Early Closing Act, 1899.

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 Early Closing Act, 1899.

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

31. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Government Business, and the Orders of the Day of General Business, postponed until Tuesday next.

32. CASE OF QUARTER-MASTER SERGEANT TROY:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice,—(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the case of Quarter-master Sergeant Troy.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Sec, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Henry Chapman, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. Neild, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

6th September, 1900.

33. PROPOSED GOVERNMENT ALIGNMENT OF FLOOD-STREET, LEICHHARDT:—Mr. Hawthorne moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all matters affecting the interests of property-owners on the west side of Flood-street, Leichhardt, by the proposed Government alignment of the said street.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Nielsen, Mr. Millard, Mr. Archer, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. Hassall, Mr. Holman, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Ferris, and the Mover.
Question put and passed.

34. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

WILLIAM McCOURT,

Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 40.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

ELECTORATE OF BOURKE :—Mr. Speaker informed the House that, upon the passing of the resolution of the 28th August, 1900, declaring the seat of William Walter Davis, Esquire, vacant, he had issued a Writ for the election of a Member to serve in the room of Mr. Davis, and that such Writ had been duly returned, with a Certificate endorsed thereon by the Returning Officer of the election of William Walter Davis, Esquire, to serve as Member for the Electoral District of Bourke.

2. **MEMBER SWORN** :—William Walter Davis, 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 Bourke.

3. **QUESTIONS** :—

(1.) **Stock for Slaughtering Purposes** :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What is the approximate number of cattle, sheep, and pigs, respectively, which arrived in Sydney by water last year for slaughtering purposes?

Mr. See answered,—The approximate number of cattle was 1,333. No record is kept either by the Board of Health or by the City Council in regard to calves, sheep, and pigs arriving by water, but the following is a return of all animals received at Sussex-street Yards, either by rail or water, viz. :—Pigs, 98,613; calves, 13,220; cows, 55; lambs, 129; suckers, 136 coops. The majority of the above were, it is believed, intended for slaughter, though many of the pigs are used for store purposes.

(2.) **Police Engaged on the Plague Areas** :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Quinn, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Have the police who were engaged on the plague areas received any extra consideration in the way of increased remuneration?

(2.) If not, is it the intention of the Government to grant them such consideration?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police :—I propose to make a recommendation in the matter, but if an allowance of 2s. per diem for Officers, and 1s. per diem for Non-commissioned Officers and Constables were made, it would involve an expenditure of about £600, for which a special vote will be necessary.

(3.) **Warders in Lunatic Asylums** :—*Mr. Waddell*, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it his intention to place the sum of £1,100 on the Estimates for the purpose of enabling warders in Lunatic Asylums to obtain an extra week's holiday in the year?

Mr. See answered,—The matter is under the consideration of the Government; and it has not yet been decided.

(4.) **Refreshment Rooms in the Botanical Gardens and Domain** :—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Jessep, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What is the name of the tenant of the refreshment-room in the Botanical Gardens?

(2.) What rent is chargeable for the same?

(3.) Does the tenant pay for gas used on the premises?

(4.) What is the name of the tenant occupying the kiosk in the Outer Domain; and what is the amount of rent paid by the tenant?

(5.) Does the tenant pay for the gas used in the said kiosk?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Mrs. Mary Jamieson.

(2.) No rent is charged.

(3 and 5.) Yes.

(4.) Mrs. Maud Greenlaw; £52 per annum.

(5.)

11th September, 1900.

- (5.) Transit Officers Transferred to the Police Force:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Spruson*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—The names of officers transferred to the Police Force from the Transit Commission, and the grades which such officers hold respectively in the Police Force?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Inspector-General of Police:—Alfred Edward, superintendent; Frederick Nicholas Brack, sergeant, 2nd class; Robert Edwin Hay, constable, 1st class; Edwin May, constable, 1st class; Edward James Hughes, constable; James Eckford, constable; and Kilner B. Brazier, constable.

- (6.) Rights of British Subjects with regard to Patents for Inventions:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Spruson*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the right is conceded to British subjects resident in the United Kingdom to obtain and hold Letters Patent for Inventions in Japan; and that this right is obtained under the "most favoured nation" article in treaties between Great Britain and Japan?

(2.) Is it a fact that similar rights are not conceded to British subjects resident in Australia (except Queensland); and for what reason is the distinction made?

(3.) For what reason is the right extended to British subjects resident in Queensland, whilst refused to British subjects residing elsewhere in Australia?

(4.) Is it not a fact that the Patent Laws of New South Wales and other Australian Colonies generally grant the same rights to Patents for Inventions to Japanese subjects wherever resident as they do to natives and British subjects?

(5.) Have any representations been made, and if so, with what effect, to obtain for British subjects in Australia the same privileges under Japanese laws, with regard to Patents for Inventions, as Australian laws generally extend to Japanese subjects; if not, will he make such representations to the proper authorities?

Mr. See answered,—The Prime Minister received early in the year, through His Excellency the Governor, a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in which the opinion was expressed that Section 17 of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Great Britain and Japan, which reads as follows—"The subjects of each of the High Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the Dominions and Possessions of the other the same protection as native subjects in regard to Patents, Trade-marks, and Designs upon fulfilment of the formalities prescribed by law"—applies to all British Colonies and Possessions.

- (7.) George-street Electric Tram:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Austin Chapman*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How many hours did the recent completion of the siding connection in the George-street electric tram, before the Royal Arcade, take?

(2.) How many men were employed on this particular work?

(3.) What was the cost of this connection—(a) for wages; (b) for material?

(4.) Why was this work not completed when the line was originally laid?

Mr. See answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed that the work in connection with the removal and provision of altered tramway points in George-street, opposite the Queen Victoria Markets, involved the employment of 43 persons, whose employment throughout averaged 9 days 7 hours.

(3.) Cost of work—wages, £148 19s; value of material put in, £196 8s. 11d.; less credit for value of material removed, £148.

(4.) The points as originally laid in were found to cause considerable jarring to the cars, and to secure better working the Commissioners authorised the ordinary type of points used on the tramways generally being substituted, the points taken out being slightly modified and used elsewhere, where the road would suit them.

- (8.) Payments to Members of the "A" Battery:—*Mr. Thomas Brown* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is "A" Battery now in active service in South Africa in receipt of Imperial pay?

(2.) If so, is it intended to continue the colonial pay in addition to the Imperial during the term of this service?

Mr. See answered,—Yes.

- (9.) Prosecution of the Ackermans at Hill End:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Meagher*, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Who swore the information upon which warrants were issued for two men called Ackerman, arrested at Hill End, for conspiracy to defraud?

(2.) Did the Superintendent of Police at Sydney telegraph any instructions as to the execution of the issue of the warrants, and as to the question of refusing bail?

(3.) At whose instigation did the said Superintendent telegraph any instructions?

(4.) How long were the said Ackermans confined at Hill End Police Station without bail?

(5.) Who prosecuted the said Ackermans at Hill End on the charge aforesaid; and what was the result of the said criminal prosecution?

Mr. Wood answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police,—

(1.) Alexander Totolas.

(2.) Warrant issued by Sydney Bench for arrest of Michael Ackerman, Jacob Ackerman, Adam Ackerman, Alexander Ackerman, Henry Ackerman, and Herbert Groves, for conspiring to defraud. Warrant posted to Police, Hill End, and above information conveyed by telegram to Police, Hill End, by Superintendent Larkins.

(3.) Alexander Totolas.

(4.) Twenty hours.

(5.) *Mr. W. P. Crick*, solicitor, appeared to prosecute, but the case was settled out of Court.

(10.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th September, 1900.

- (10.) Railway from Jerilderie to Deniliquin:—Mr. Chanter asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Does he intend to recommend the House to pass a Bill for the construction of a railway from Jerilderie to Deniliquin during the present Session?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Government has not yet decided to recommend this line, and I therefore cannot at present make any promise in the matter. I may, however, give the Honorable Member a more definite reply after I have visited the district, in response to his invitation.
- (11.) Long-service Medals for Military Service:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—When does he propose to place upon the table of the House the return promised of names of officers and men of the Military Service entitled to long-service medals?
- Mr. Sec answered,—This return cannot be prepared until the regulations which govern the issue of the medals, as approved by the Home Government, have been published in the *Government Gazette*, which will be done shortly.
- (12.) Resumptions under the Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Act:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) In the matter of the resumption of wharf and other properties under the Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Act, has the decision been arrived at that advances to owners "in necessitous circumstances" shall be made a charge upon the principal, *i.e.*, the value determined upon, after investigation, as being that associated with the respective properties so resumed?
- (2.) Under the circumstances, will he see that all advances so made be paid from the accumulated interest upon such values—advances not to exceed the former rental of properties resumed, thus leaving intact the principal?
- Mr. Sec answered,—The suggestions of the Honorable Member will receive due consideration, but at the present stage it is inadvisable to lay down any hard and fast rule; owners in "necessitous circumstances" are, however, being dealt with in as liberal a manner as possible.
- (13.) Tenders for Police Quarters at West Maitland:—Mr. Cohen asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What is the name and address of the contractor for the erection of the Police quarters at West Maitland?
- (2.) Was the acceptance of his tender publicly announced?
- (3.) Was not George F. Cole the lowest tenderer?
- (4.) Did the Tender Board recommend that his tender should not be accepted?
- (5.) If so, why was his deposit money retained for nearly three weeks?
- (6.) Has not George F. Cole carried out several works to the satisfaction of the Department?
- (7.) Why was his tender not accepted?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) W. H. Noad, of Newcastle-street, East Maitland.
- (2.) It was announced in the ordinary manner.
- (3.) Yes.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) There was no unnecessary delay. The deposit was returned, so soon as the officers of the Department were notified, in the usual way, that another tender had been accepted.
- (6.) I am informed he has carried out work satisfactorily.
- (7.) As there was such a trifling difference, only £15, between Noad's and Cole's tenders, I determined to let the contract to the former, and the opportunity would thus be afforded for employing local labour, and obtaining material in the district. In adopting this course I am simply following a practice which has before prevailed in the Department, and one which I quite approve.
- (14.) Allowances to Members of the Police Force:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Do all married policemen receive lodging allowance when they occupy houses which are not owned or used by the Government?
- (2.) Is travelling allowance granted to some men and denied to others; if so, what is the reason for making exception?
- Mr. Sec answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police:—
- (1.) One shilling per diem lodging allowance is granted to police unprovided with quarters, but in country districts where there are quarters provided for single men who are appointed as such to their stations, and who marry, the public expenditure is not permitted to be increased thereby, but such men on marrying have to wait either for vacant married men's quarters or until vacancies occur.
- (2.) I am not aware of any exceptions.
- (15.) St. Leonards Superior Public School:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has the overcrowded condition of St. Leonards Superior Public School been frequently reported to the Department by the head master and the Chairman of the District School Board?
- (2.) Was a contract signed nearly four months ago for the purchase of additional land to admit of further accommodation being provided?
- (3.) Why has the long period of nearly four months been allowed to elapse before completing title and utilising the site?
- Mr. Perry answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
- (2 and 3.) A contract was entered into on 27th June last for the purchase of certain land, with a view to the erection of additional accommodation, but owing to certain discrepancies between the boundaries as described by the vendor's surveyor, and the boundaries as enclosed by existing fences, further investigation and survey were found necessary. This has now been done, and the plan is being examined in the Lands Department. Plans and specifications for a new Girls' School are in course of preparation. No unnecessary delay has taken place as far as the Public Instruction Department is concerned.

11th September, 1900.

(16.) Employees at the Clyde Engineering Company :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Has the Clyde Engineering Company a contract from the Railway Department for the construction of certain tram-cars?

(2.) If so, will he inquire if it is true that painters employed in connection with that contract are only paid at the rate of 6s. per day, and that from the sum mentioned deductions are made of 1½d. per week for the Patriotic Fund, 1½d per week for boiling water, and 1½d. per week for the Parramatta Hospital, from each man?

(3.) Does the minimum wage condition apply to this contract?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) I am informed the Clyde Engineering Company has a contract for the construction of tram-cars.

(2.) The Commissioners have no control over the rate of wages paid, and do not interfere between contractors and their workmen in regard to the conditions of their employment. The company, however, intimate that painters receive more than 6s. per day, and the deductions mentioned are not compulsory, but are made at the request of the men. In the case of the deduction towards paying a man to look after the mess-room, the company contribute an equal amount to the men.

(3.) No.

(17.) J. Harrison's Contract for Railway Sleepers :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) With reference to Mr. Norton's Question, No. 36, of the 25th July, to which replies were given that J. Harrison had obtained a contract for the supply of sleepers for the Dubbo-Coonamble Railway; that a final voucher had been sent to the Treasury for payment; that £1,250 had been paid into the Australian Joint Stock Bank at Dubbo; and that the Minister was not aware that Harrison was identical with W. Handover, of the firm of Ewers and Handover; is it correct that Handover has drawn the abovementioned £1,250 from the Australian Joint Stock Bank?

(2.) If so, what representations were made by Handover to get this money?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

The Treasury Department has furnished me with the following information :—The following sums were paid to the credit of Messrs. Ewers and Handover in the Australian Joint Stock Bank, Dubbo, on the order of J. Harrison—

£885 12s. 6d., paid June 7th, 1900.

364 7s. 6d., paid July 2nd, 1900.

£1,250 0s. 0d.

It would be necessary to refer to the Bank to ascertain whether Handover has drawn the money. It is not known what representations were made by Handover to get the money. I have no information before me to show that Harrison is identical with Handover.

(18.) Contracts for Railway Sleepers :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Have contracts for the supply of railway sleepers been granted to small parties at Dubbo?

(2.) If so, have the contracts been carried out to the satisfaction of the Department?

(3.) Will he favourably consider the claims of these small parties of workmen in placing further contracts for railway sleepers?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) I have directed that tenders are to be invited in small lots, which will give small parties an opportunity of tendering.

(19.) Promotion in the Field Battery of the Permanent Artillery :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In connection with the Field Battery of the Permanent Artillery, has a man named Stepto been promoted to acting bombardier?

(2.) If so, is it not correct that this man, who only joined the Artillery in June, has been advanced over the heads of men equally qualified for the post, and of much longer service?

(3.) What reasons are given for the exercise of this particular preference?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces that there is no man of this name in either the Field or Garrison Branches of the Permanent Artillery.

(20.) Employees at the Government Nursery, Gosford :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is there a man employed at the Government Nursery at Gosford, 26 years of age, whose wage is only 3s. 6d. per day; does another man, 24 years of age, receive 4s. 2d. per day; another, 19 years of age, 12s. per week; and one, 18 years of age, 15s. per week?

(2.) If so, does he not consider they have claims to an increase of pay; and will he not grant it accordingly?

Mr. Fegan answered,—This is a matter which is in the Department of Lands :—

(1.) Yes. The men, for the most part, entered without experience of the work they had to perform.

(2.) Yes. The matter has been under consideration, and the Public Service Board has approved of the rates of pay being increased.

(21.) Hawkers' Licenses :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Magistrate at Glen Innes recently refused a renewal of a hawker's license to a European named Wilton because he was not provided with a police report as to his character from the town he had previously lived in?

(2.) Is it not a fact that Syrians, Indians, and other Asiatics are granted hawkers' licenses without question?

(3.) Can he give any reason for this distinction, which operates to the disadvantage of people of our own race?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th September, 1900.

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Wilton's application was for a new license, not a renewal, and the police objected to its being granted without the production of a certificate of good character, as required by the Hawkers and Pedlars Act.

(2.) No.

(3.) Answered by No. 2.

(22.) *Mr. Johnston, J.P., Coroner at Windsor*:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is he aware that at an inquiry held at Windsor recently, on the body of a male infant found dead in Farlow's Paddock, Windsor, before the Coroner, *Mr. Johnson, J.P.*, and a jury of twelve, the following verdict was returned by the jury:—"The child died on or about the 8th day of August, at birth, from insufficient breathing, brought on through exposure to the cold. The mother, being alone and helpless, could not give the necessary attention to the child to preserve its life; and we are of opinion that Elizabeth Woodbridge was the mother of the deceased infant"?

(2.) Is he aware that despite this verdict, which is actually one of acquittal, the Coroner committed this girl, Elizabeth Woodbridge, for trial to the Parramatta Sessions?

(3.) Is he aware that, when asked by a juror upon what charge she was committed, the Coroner replied, "Upon any charge the Attorney-General sees fit to proceed," or words to that effect?

(4.) Is he aware that, when making out the committal papers, the Coroner found he must specify the charge upon which she was being committed, and thereupon charged her with infanticide, a charge upon which she could not be tried at a Sessions Court?

(5.) Is it a fact that the Crown Law Authorities altered the charge to one of concealment of birth, upon which charge she was tried and acquitted?

(6.) Is it a fact that she was charged with concealment of birth before the sixty days allowed for registration of birth had transpired, thus being actually not guilty of concealment of birth, and so should never have been committed?

(7.) In view of *Mr. Johnson's* action in this matter, will he consider the advisableness of removing him from his office as Coroner, in order to prevent a recurrence of a similar sad state of affairs?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) The verdict is quoted fairly correctly.

(2.) I do not agree with the Honorable Member's conclusion. The girl was committed for trial to the Parramatta Sessions.

(3.) The Coroner has reported that he considered it advisable, under all the circumstances of the case, and in view of the evidence, to commit the girl for trial on a charge of infanticide, which, he announced, would be amended, or another charge preferred, which would meet the case, by the Attorney-General.

(4.) The Coroner committed her on a charge of infanticide. Capital charges cannot be tried at Quarter Sessions.

(5.) Yes.

(6.) The law quoted by the Honorable Member has nothing to do with the criminal charge of concealment of birth.

(7.) I see no sufficient reason for taking any action of the kind. I may add that the answers to some of these Questions have been provided by the Attorney-General, in whose Department they come.

(23.) *Transfer of Settlement Leases*:—*Mr. Molesworth* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) How many settlement leases has he objected to being transferred during his term of office?

(2.) On what grounds did he object to such leases being transferred?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Without a good deal of research, I cannot say definitely; but I may state that, although the circumstances of cases differ, the transfer of a settlement lease is refused where it appears that the lease has been taken up less with an intention on the applicant's part to make use of the land than to dispose of the lease at a profit when an opportunity presents itself.

4. **EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—*Mr. McLean* presented a Petition from Elizabeth Renwick, Vice-President of the Women's National Council of New South Wales, praying that the hours of closing public-houses and wine-shops will be brought into harmony with the early closing law for ordinary shops.
Petition received.

5. **PAPERS**:—

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 4th September, 1900,—“Reports from Railway Commissioners on Tramway Proposals.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Pegan laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulations under the Pastures and Stock Protection Act, 1898.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. **BRODIE'S ENABLING 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 the 4th September, 1900; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.
Ordered to be printed.

Mr. E. M. Clark then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.

Question put and passed.

7. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—*Mr. Gormly*, as Chairman, brought up the Eleventh Report from the Printing Committee.

11th September, 1900.

8. **INSCRIBED STOCK (REGISTRAR) BILL** (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Sec 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 Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of the Stock of the Colony. Question put and passed.
9. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
 (2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Wednesday, 19th September.
10. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL**:—Mr. Sec 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 5th September, 1900, in reference to the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill,—

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 5 which omits paragraph (c); to the amendments in that clause from the one on page 3, line 36, to that on page 4, lines 16 and 17; and to the amendment in the same clause, page 4, line 29,—all of which amendments deal with the qualification of lodgers as voters,—because the enfranchisement of lodgers is regarded as a cardinal principle of the Bill, inasmuch as it is considered necessary, in order to secure that measure of reform which is so urgently needed in the interests of the good government of the city of Sydney, to elect the City Council on a liberal franchise, in consequence of the failure of the existing restricted electoral body to place in power a Council composed of gentlemen possessing that capacity for administration which is demanded alike by considerations of the public health, and by the commercial interests of the city.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 5 which inserts a new subsection (ii), defining the word "female,"—because it is considered that this amendment may have an injurious effect in giving an additional and undue property vote.

Disagrees to the amendments in clause 14; to the omission of clause 15, and the insertion of a new clause instead thereof; to the amendment in clause 17, page 8, line 27; to the amendment in clause 19, page 8, line 41; and to the amendment in clause 22, page 9, line 26, all of which amendments deal with the election of Mayor,—because it is considered desirable to give to the inhabitants of the city of Sydney as a body the power to elect the officer upon whose administrative capacity the good government of the city is so largely dependent, thereby placing him in a position of greater freedom and independence in carrying out his public duties, and further preventing the loss to the city of the services of any man whose slight lack of popularity with a section of the citizens may ensure his rejection at a ward election for aldermen, but who otherwise may be declared by the citizens as a body to be, in their opinion, the most suitable person to appoint to the important office of Mayor.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber.

Sydney, 11th September, 1900.

Question put and passed.

11. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Northumberland, Mr. Norton, 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 Station-master at Orange (Mr. Richardson) in using the State telegraph for the purposes of his own private mining speculations."
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Norton moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and negatived.
12. **SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise 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. Wise, 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. Wise, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
13. **WOLLONGONG WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactments amending the same, to the said works.
 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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th September, 1900.

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 Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1890, and any enactments amending the same, to the said works.

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

14. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—
Mr. Fegan 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. Fegan, 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.

15. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-seven minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 41.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 12 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Miners Accident Relief Bill (No. 2):—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Affleck*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Will he consider the propriety of withdrawing the Miners Accident Relief Bill (No. 2); or, if not, will he extend its provisions to apply to all sections of employers and employees?

(2.) Has he taken the opinion of any actuary or actuaries as to whether the provisions for ways and means to carry out the proposals in the schedule will be sufficient, without having to grant large subsidies from the State?

(3.) How many miners (approximately) are there in the Colony that will come under the provisions of the Bill?

(4.) What does he contemplate will be the annual contributions from the miners to this fund; the same with regard to the mine-owners?

(5.) Will he consider whether it is in the interest of the community at large that the Government should subsidise one section of the people while they do not grant any relief to Friendly Societies, more especially seeing that an effort has been made to get rid of pensions?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) No; nor is there any intention to extend its provisions.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Approximately 23,800.

(4.) £23,205 miners, £11,900 owners, approximately.

(5.) The occupation of a miner is one which is subject to grave disaster with consequent heavy distress to widow and orphans; such distress has been dealt with spasmodically in the past, but it is desired to systematise it in the future, and thus aid a large and deserving section of the community who are willing to help themselves in such unfortunate circumstances.

(2.) Retired Civil Servants:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Quinn*, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Have pensions been granted to retired Civil Servants, and afterwards stopped, a gratuity being substituted?

(2.) In how many cases has this occurred?

(3.) What justification exists for such a course?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1 and 2.) As far as the Public Service Board are aware, this has occurred in one case only, viz., that of *Mr. E. Dower*, formerly of the Customs Department.

(3.) My honorable colleague will be glad to let the Honorable Member peruse the papers in this case.

(3.) Lyddite Factory:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Quinn*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a proposition to establish a lyddite factory in Melbourne, the material to be drawn from New South Wales, where, it is stated, such material is abundant?

(2.) Will he inquire if such materials are abundant in New South Wales, with a view to having a lyddite factory started here, instead of allowing Melbourne enterprise to exploit our raw material in this respect?

Mr. See answered,—I will cause inquiries to be made.

(4.)

12th September, 1900.

(4.) Mr. Cadell, Stock Inspector at Hillston:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Stock Inspector at Hillston (Mr. Cadell) is also Secretary of the Lachlan Pastoral and Agricultural Society, and that he receives a commission of 10 per cent. on all moneys received by that body?

(2.) Does this Inspector also receive £30 per annum from the Department for office rent, while as a fact he provides no office, but compels persons having business with him to seek him at his private residence?

(3.) If so, is this Inspector acting with Ministerial sanction and approval in occupying a profitable appointment as secretary of an association, and neglecting to provide proper and convenient office accommodation, for which he receives a Government allowance?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes; the remuneration received by Mr. Cadell, as Secretary of the Lachlan Pastoral and Agricultural Society, is not, I understand, a commission of 10 per cent. on all moneys received, but in the shape of a bonus voted annually by the Show Committee.

(2.) The Inspector receives £15 per annum from the Department as office rent, and as to the office being in his own house, as it is near to both the Post Office and Court-house, it is all the more convenient for the public, as he can be found there at any hour.

(3.) Yes; the office is a very suitable one, and has sufficient accommodation for meetings of his Pastures Board. The local Sheep Board are in accord with the arrangement. I may add that this matter was previously brought under the attention of the Department by a local butcher, who, apparently, is at variance with the Inspector, because, as a member of the Visiting Committee, he had to speak to him about the inferior meat he supplied to the local hospital.

(5.) Mr. Alexander Thomson, Postmaster at Laurieton:—*Mr. Spence* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that Mr. Alexander Thomson, Postmaster at Laurieton, is a registered partner in the Concord Saw-mill, and also interested in the Federal Mill, both at Laurieton?

(2.) Is he aware that Mr. Thomson's active connection with these mills is contrary to the Public Service Act, and unfair to other firms, as he is able to use information, such as telegrams coming under his notice as Postmaster, to the advantage of his firm, and to the detriment of firms in competition?

(3.) Will he cause an inquiry to be held; and if these charges are verified, will he at once remove or discharge the officer named?

Mr. Crick answered,—This matter has been before the Department for some time, and inquiry has so far resulted in favour of the Postmaster. I will cause further inquiry to be made.

(6.) The Government Architect's Department:—*Mr. Nelson* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the Public Service Board called for applicants to fill a position in the Government Architect's Department?

(2.) Is it not a fact the Public Service Act provides that all positions vacant in the Public Service must be filled by the appointment of men in the Service if there are men capable and available?

(3.) Is it a fact that the Government Architect reported that there was no officer in his Department receiving £300 per annum qualified to fill the position vacant, viz., an artistic designer?

(4.) Is it a fact the Public Service Board advertised for a man at £400 per annum to fill the position?

(5.) Is he aware that competitive designs were called in Brisbane for a G.P. Office, and that there were over thirty competitors, including some of the leading Australian architects?

(6.) Is he aware that the Queensland Government requested Mr. Vernon to act as one of the adjudicators, and Mr. Vernon's opinion was that one set of plans was incomparably superior to any of the others, and awarded the prize accordingly, viz., £400?

(7.) Is he aware that the author of these plans is one of the officers in the Government Architect's own Department whom Mr. Vernon had reported as not having a sufficient knowledge of his profession to fill the position then vacant?

(8.) What will the Board do now?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Public Service Board have furnished me with the following answers to Questions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 8:—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Section 28 of the Public Service Act provides that no appointment of any person not already in the Service to any permanent office can be made except upon a certificate by the Board that such appointment is required, and *inter alia* that there is no person in the Public Service fit or qualified and available for the vacant appointment.

(3.) The circumstances are as follows:—One of the most capable men on the Drafting Staff of the Government Architect's Department, namely, Mr. Truefitt, having vacated his position, the Government Architect represented that it was important that this position should be filled, at the earliest possible moment, by someone of equal artistic talents to that gentleman. He stated that he did not think that anyone with the special qualifications desired could be found in the Colonies, and he recommended that steps should be taken to obtain a man from England, and that the salary paid should be £300 per annum. This recommendation was concurred in by the Permanent Head of the Department (Mr. Hickson), and approved by the Minister. The Public Service Board, before taking any steps in the matter, required that the Government Architect should give a certificate that there was no person in the Public Service available who was capable of filling the position. Mr. Vernon gave the required certificate, and Mr. Hickson signified his concurrence. The Board thereupon wrote to the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer, suggesting that the Agent-General might be instructed to advertise for a suitable person, but the Premier thought that before doing this steps should be taken to ascertain whether some one suitable could not be found in the Colony. This minute of the Honorable the Premier was then brought under the notice of the Minister for Works, who concurred in the proposal to advertise locally, and hence the action which has been taken by the Board.

(4.)

12th September, 1900.

- (4.) It is not a fact.
- (5.) I understand that designs were called, but I am not aware of the number of competitors, or whether they included the leading Australian Architects.
- (6.) The Queensland Government asked me to allow Mr. Vernon to act as adjudicator, and I consented, but I have not been informed of Mr. Vernon's opinion of the successful competitor's plans, or how the prizes were awarded.
- (7.) I am not aware.
- (8.) In answer to the advertisement, sixteen candidates have applied. These applications have been referred to the Department, and on receipt of their report the Board will decide as to what further action they will take.
- (7.) Mining on Private Lands:—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Nielsen, asked the Secretary for Mines,—When does he intend to introduce the long-promised Bill to allow mining on private lands for minerals other than gold?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—The Bill referred to was introduced on the 14th ultimo, and it is my intention to proceed with the second reading of it at the earliest possible opportunity.
- (8.) Railway Employees:—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Nielsen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he have prepared and lay upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
- (1.) The number of employes of each class employed by the Railway Commissioners during the present year, including men working on the deviations?
 - (2.) The rates of wages paid to each class of employes?
 - (3.) The hours worked by each class of employes?
 - (4.) The number and classes of employes who work more than forty-eight hours per week?
 - (5.) The number of employes employed at rates below 7s. per day?
 - (6.) The number of new hands put on during each of the last five years?
 - (7.) The number of these new hands who have been put on at rates below 7s. per day, and the number at each rate below this standard?
- Mr. See* answered,—The information should be moved for in the usual way, but it is pointed out that it would entail considerable labour to prepare, and expenditure to print. Probably the Honorable Member is unaware that, as late as June last, a special *Gazette*, No. 551, was issued giving the number and rates of all persons in the Railways and Tramways, and with regard to new hands put on, and pay, the Railway Act requires that they should be reported each quarter to Parliament, and this is done in the Quarterly Report of the Railway Commissioners.
- (9.) Travelling Stock Reserves:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Do stock-owners travelling with sheep and cattle on permit pay anything for the use of grass on travelling stock reserves throughout the Colony?
 - (2.) If no fees for agistment are charged, why do the Government expend public money in employing gangs of the unemployed in clearing these reserves, from which the State receives no adequate return and revenue?
 - (3.) What is the approximate area of cheap grass included within the travelling stock reserves?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—
- (1.) Sheep do not pay any travelling charges for a single journey, but if they, within four months from the time they reach their destination, require to be taken to a fresh destination, they are liable to pay travelling charges at the rate of 2d. per 100 per mile, which are, or are not, exacted according as the reason for going a second time on the road is a *bona fide* one. Travelling cattle are not liable to pay charges.
 - (2.) Travelling stock reserves are in the same position as regards stock traffic as ordinary roads are for general traffic, for which due provision, ranging from (say) six to seven hundred thousand pounds a year, is voted, to enable producers to take their produce to market; and, as the live stock industry of the Colony is by far the most important, it is considered that the amount expended in the interests of travelling stock is very much less than it might reasonably be.
 - (3.) There are about 7,000,000 acres included in the travelling stock reserves, which, however, are largely under lease, and paying rent to the Lands Department.
- (10.) Appointment of Police Magistrate at Molong:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is he aware that Molong is one of the oldest-settled inland townships in the Western interior, and that it is without a resident Police Magistrate?
 - (2.) Is he also aware that no less than four Police Magistrates from adjoining towns pay monthly visits to the Molong District, viz.—the Police Magistrate of Dubbo pays monthly visits to Obley; Orange Police Magistrate visits Molong; Carcoar Police Magistrate visits Canowindra; and Forbes Police Magistrate visits Eugowra?
 - (3.) What is the reason for this, which appears to be an injustice to Molong?
 - (4.) Will he see that steps are taken to have a resident Police Magistrate appointed for Molong, in place of, as at present, being visited by four outside Police Magistrates?
 - (5.) Will he also see that the Police Magistrate is appointed Coroner for the Molong District?
- Mr. Wood answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes, except that Canowindra is visited by the Police Magistrate of Cowra, who also visits Carcoar.
 - (3, 4, and 5.) The business of the Courts within the Molong Police District is, fortunately, very light. Existing arrangements are economical, and appear to meet all reasonable requirements.
- (11.) Soldiers sent to South Africa:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) The number of soldiers, volunteers, &c., who left New South Wales for service in South Africa?
 - (2.) The number supposed to have been killed?
- (3.)

12th September, 1900.

- (3.) The number who have returned invalided?
- (4.) The number that were taken prisoners by the Boers?
- (5.) The number still left in actual service in South Africa?
- (6.) The number of soldiers fit for active service remaining in the Colony?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) 2,684.
- (2.) 27 killed; 40 have also died of disease.
- (3.) 257.
- (4.) 42 officially known and reported in newspapers.
- (5.) 2,357 as far as is known. It has been officially notified that three officers have been invalided to England.
- (6.) 8,230 mostly fit for active service.

(12.) Employees on State Farms:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is he aware of the fact that there are a number of men employed on State agricultural farms and at State nurseries who, after years of service, are receiving pay to the extent of to 18s. per week?
- (2.) Have repeated promises been made to the effect that advances would be effected; and, if so, why have these promises not been redeemed?

Mr. Fegan answered,—There are no men employed on the State Experimental Farms at 18s. per week. A few boys are, however, engaged on some of the farms at wages from 1s. 6d. to 5s. a day on light work, and at the same time are gaining instruction in agricultural pursuits. With regard to the State nurseries, I would draw the attention of the Honorable Member to the reply given yesterday to a somewhat similar Question asked by the Honorable Member for Northumberland.

(13.) Land Exchanges:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) In the case of all future exchanges of land, will he take the precaution, when advertising same in newspapers published in the districts directly concerned, to have set forth in such advertisements full particulars of the several lots of Crown land so proposed to be exchanged, as also of the lands proposed to be handed over to the State?
- (2.) Will he also refuse his sanction to the exchange of reserves, or of any other lands set apart for the use of the general public?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) I will within reasonable limits have the fullest information possible advertised, as I am desirous that public attention should be drawn to any exchange proposal, and that it should be closely investigated. I would like to point out, however, that in some instances it is difficult to enter into a mass of details without incurring very considerable expense in advertising.
- (2.) Yes, unless I am satisfied they are no longer required in the public interest.

(14.) Regulations for the Railway and Tramway Services:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Was Mr. John See, M.P., Colonial Treasurer and Minister for Railways in December, 1892?
- (2.) Did the Railway Commissioners submit to him, before they were gazetted, the Regulations for the Railway and Tramway Services contained in *Gazette* of 23rd December, 1892?
- (3.) Did these Regulations obtain the sanction of the Executive Council before being gazetted?
- (4.) Was the Colonial Treasurer informed, or did he make himself aware of the fact that these regulations would have the effect of reducing the wages of drivers, firemen, guards, and other employees in the Railway and Tramway Services?
- (5.) Was he aware that section 77, Government Railways Act, specially prevented any reduction of wages of these men, except such reduction of wages was made by express regulation, confirmed by the Governor, &c.?
- (6.) Does the Minister for Railways in all or any case carefully examine regulations which are submitted by the Railway Commissioners which even in an indirect manner would allow what the Government Railways Act specially forbids?

Mr. See answered,—It is a fact that the Honorable John See was Minister for Railways when the Railway Commissioners submitted regulations in 1892, and they received the approval of the Executive Council in December of that year. The late Chief Commissioner personally pointed out the necessity for the amended regulations in view of the unprecedented financial troubles then existing throughout the Colonies. I am assured that the Honorable Member is mistaken in assuming that the wages of the men were reduced, the amended regulations having only provided for the stoppage of increases if thought necessary in the public interests. Increases to the lower grades have been continued throughout, and as the financial outlook improves the Commissioners are extending them to the higher grade.

(15.) Increases to Railway Employees:—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In the case *Scarle v. Railway Commissioners*, heard in the Full Court in May last, is it a fact the Full Court decided that, before Scarle could succeed in his action against the Commissioners for the stoppage of the increase of pay to which he was entitled, he should have obtained and produced a certificate of efficiency and good conduct, which was an absolute condition?
- (2.) Has it been the practice of the Railway Commissioners since the stoppage of the increases in 1892 to always put with each man's papers, each period when the man's increases fell due, these certificates?
- (3.) Do they inform the individual concerned of this proceeding; if not, why not?
- (4.) If the claim of the Railway Commissioners be a valid one that, under the terms of the regulations in *Gazette* of 23rd December, 1892, they have the power to withhold increases of pay, even though a man may be both efficient and of good conduct, will he consider the justice of withholding

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th September, 1900.

withholding from the men these certificates which the Chief Justice stated was an absolute condition, and thus deprive them of their rights as British subjects to enter the courts and test the validity of actions which are so much to their detriment and monetary loss?

(5.) Do the regulations for the Railway Service, as gazetted 23rd December, 1892, provide that three years after appointment as fireman, if efficient and of good conduct, such fireman's wages shall be 10s. per day?

(6.) Is this regulation carried into effect?

(7.) If not, by whose authority is it in abeyance; and what is the reason therefor?

(8.) Do these same regulations provide that to be eligible for promotion to engine-driver firemen must serve twelve months in the 1st class?

(9.) Is this regulation carried into effect in all cases; if not, why not?

Mr. See answered,—I have been furnished by the Railway Commissioners with the following replies:—

(1, 2, and 3.) No.

(4.) Nothing is done by the Railway Commissioners which prevents an appeal to law for the enforcement of any of the existing rights.

(5.) Yes, with other conditions.

(6 to 9.) The regulations provide that the increases are subject to the approval of the Railway Commissioners, and they are guided in their action by the financial conditions which prevail. For instance, when reviewing the pay of the employees at the close of last half-year, the Commissioners were able to extend largely the classification increases to men up to 10s. per day. The advances granted to the staff for the half-year ended 30th June last amounted to £46,315. As circumstances warrant, this course will be extended.

(16.) Public Service Amendment Bill:—*Mr. Wright*, for *Mr. T. H. Griffith*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to proceed with the Public Service Amendment Bill (embracing the provision for appeals to be heard by a Judge of the District Court) early enough to ensure a reasonable prospect of its being passed into law this Session?

Mr. See answered,—In view of the fact that the regrading of the Public Service takes place this year under new regulations, and having regard to the state of public business, there is little likelihood of a contentious measure such as that referred to by the Honorable Member becoming law this Session. My honorable colleague would further point out that it is hoped that the new regulations will remove many present causes of complaint, and that even if this expectation be not fulfilled, since the regrading cannot be completed before the end of the year, and would not take effect until next financial year, not much time would be lost by delaying the constitution of an Appeal Court until next Session.

(17.) Maintenance of Roads in the Borough of Marrickville:—*Mr. McLean* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What amount has been paid to the Marrickville Borough Council during the present year for the maintenance of Government roads?

(2.) What was the amount so paid during previous years since 1893?

(3.) What further amount is it proposed to pay for this purpose during the current year?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) Nil.

(2.) Return attached.

(3.) I am unable to say until the Estimates shall have been passed.

Department of Public Works, Account Branch,

12th September, 1900.

Amounts issued to the Marrickville Council from 1st January, 1893, to 30th June, 1900.

Roads.	Amount, 1893.	Amount, 1894.	Amount, half-year, 1895	Amount, 1895-6.	Amount, 1896-7.	Amount, 1897-8.	Amount, 1898-9.	Amount, 1899-1900.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Stanmore-road, from Enmore-road to Canterbury Trust road.....	750	450	275	550	458 6 8	458 6 8	504 3 4	378 0 0	3,823 16 8
Newtown Railway Bridge to Undercliffe Bridge ...	545	350	150	300	250 0 0	250 0 0	183 6 8	191 7 1	2,219 13 9
Special grant of 5s. in the £ on General Rates .....	...	...	...	...	1,768 16 3	.....	.....	.....	1,768 16 3
	1,295	800	425	850	2,477 2 11	708 6 8	687 10 0	569 7 1	7,812 6 8

(18.) Lands for Settlement:—*Mr. Moore* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that three months' notice is to be given to all pastoral lessees before setting apart land for settlement on their holdings?

(2.) If so, does this apply—(a) to cases where lands have already been withdrawn for settlement under section 3 of Crown Lands Act of 1895; and (b) also to cases where the pastoral leases expired prior to the 10th July last?

(3.) Is it also intended to give similar notice where lands have been surrendered by way of exchange?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Where there is an intention to make lands available for settlement, and the pastoral lessee would otherwise be taken by surprise, it has been thought fair that he should receive notice, but the necessity for any special notice would not appear to exist in cases where land had been deliberately withdrawn for settlement, or where the lands were surrendered to the Crown by way of exchange.

(19.)

12th September, 1900.

(19.) Police Superannuation Fund:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the large number of members of the Police Force who are qualified, by age and length of service, to retire from the Service, but who are debarred from doing so by reason of the insolvent condition of the Police Superannuation Fund, will he introduce legislation this Session which will place this Fund upon a sound financial basis, and thus remove all the disabilities under which qualified members of the Force at present labour?

Mr. See answered,—This matter is now under the consideration of the Government.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—

(1.) Mr. Cook, for Mr. Newman, presented a Petition from certain residents of Orange, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.

(2.) Mr. Cohen presented a Petition from certain residents of Petersham, praying that the law as to the closing of public-houses on Sunday may be made thoroughly effective, and that the hours of closing of public-houses and wine-shops be brought into harmony with those for ordinary shops. Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Report of the Government Labour Bureau for the year ended 30th June, 1900, together with Appendices.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wise laid upon the Table,—Report of Public Service Board respecting appointment of Robert Francis Irvine, Esq., M.A., as Secretary to the Board of Examiners for the Public Service, and Examiner to the Public Service Board.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Amended Regulations under the "Centenary Celebration Act."

(2.) Additional By-law of the Municipal District of Broken Hill, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897.

(3.) Regulations, under the Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act, 1894, for the control of the trade of "Knacker."

(4.) Notification of resumption of land, under the Public Works Act, of 1888, for duplication of Balmain Tramway.

(5.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Warialda.

(6.) By-law of the Borough of Woollabra.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Report of the Department of Lands for the year 1899.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. CLAIM BY MESSRS. MADDISON AND EWING, CONTRACTORS:—Mr. E. M. Clark (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That Mr. W. W. Davis be added to the Select Committee now sitting on "Claim by Messrs. Maddison and Ewing, Contractors." Question put and passed.

5. DUBBO PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BILL:—Mr. Phillips, 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 4th September, 1900; together with a copy of the Bill as amended and agreed to by the Committee.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Phillips then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.

Question put and passed.

6. WOLLONGONG WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL:—Mr. O'Sullivan, pursuant to leave granted on 11th September, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled, "*A Bill to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactments amending the same, to the said works,*"—which was read a first time.

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

7. EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Perry, pursuant to leave granted on 7th September, 1900, a.m., presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Early Closing Act, 1899,*"—which was read a first time.

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

8. PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Wise, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 78.

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 further and better provision for the promotion of public health, and for purposes consequent on and incidental thereto.

Government House,
Sydney, 11th September, 1900.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th September, 1900.

9. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday next :—

- (1.) Brodie's Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*) ; second reading.
 (2.) Companies Employees Wages Protection Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to protect the wages and salaries of persons employed by companies.

10. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Dubbo, Mr. Phillips, 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 withdrawal of “Crown lands from settlement after being advertised for application.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

11. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL :—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council :—

(1.) Public Hospitals (Voting) Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend the Public Hospitals Act, 1898,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 12th September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

(2.) Yass Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “*An Act to enable the trustees of a certain allotment or parcel of land in the town of Yass, granted to the Right Reverend William Lanigan and others, as trustees of the Roman Catholic Church at Yass, to sell the said land, and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof,*”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 12th September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

(3.) Legitimation Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend the law by making provision for the legitimation of children born before marriage on the subsequent marriage of their parents,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 12th September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Hogue, read a first time.

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

(4.) Indecent Publications Act Amendment Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend the Indecent Publications Act, 1900,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 12th September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Fegan, read a first time.

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

(5.) Richmond Vale Coal-mine Railway Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled “*An Act to enable John Brown, William Brown, and Stephen Brown, of Newcastle, in the Colony of New South Wales, to construct a Railway from the Richmond Vale Coal-mines to the Minmi and Hexham Railway, constructed under the provisions of the Minmi and Hexham Railway Act of 1854,*”—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, 12th September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Edden, read a first time.

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

12. FRUIT CASE BILL :—Mr. Fegan, pursuant to leave granted on 4th September, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to regulate the size of cases used in the sale of fruit, and for other purposes connected therewith,*”—which was read a first time.

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

12th September, 1900.

13. FIRE BRIGADES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.

Point of Order:—Mr. Dick submitted that this Bill was beyond the Order of Leave, and out of Order, (1) because it makes a serious repeal of the Fire Brigades Act of 1884, and the City of Sydney Improvement Act, without reference in the Title, (2) because it amends the Municipalities Act and imposes a new rate, also without reference in the Title, and (3) because a provision in it conflicts with a clause in the Sydney Harbour Trust Bill passed by this House this Session and sent to the Council.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that two or three important points had been raised. He would, however, first deal with the question of conflicting provisions. On the 6th December, 1892, his predecessor ruled that the Wentworth Electorate Subdivision Bill was out of order, because its provisions conflicted with and were contradictory of certain clauses passed that Session in the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Bill; and inasmuch as the 25th clause of the Bill now before this House is in the same position in relation to the 65th clause of the Sydney Harbour Trust Bill, now before the Upper House, he would follow the decision of the late Speaker, and declare this Bill out of order.

On motion of Mr. See, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered that the Bill be withdrawn.

14. MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2):—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan 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. Fegan, 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, 13 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

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

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

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

15. COAL MINES REGULATION 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.

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

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

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

16. INSCRIBED STOCK (REGISTRAR) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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 Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of the Stock of 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 to authorise the Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of the Stock of the Colony.

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

(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to authorise the Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of the Stock of the Colony*,”—which was read a first time.

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

17. SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise 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. Wise, passed.

Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to amend the procedure of the Supreme Court*.”

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 procedure of the Supreme Court*,”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 13th September, 1900, a.m.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th September, 1900.

18. PUBLIC WORKS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.

Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Public Works.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Public Works,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 13th September, 1900, a.m.

19. ADMINISTRATION (VALIDATING) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Wise, 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 validate certain orders of the Supreme Court, giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation

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 validate certain orders of the Supreme Court, giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation.

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

(2.) Mr. Wise then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to validate certain orders of the Supreme Court, giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation,*"—which was read a first time.

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

20. INEBRIATES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

21. GUNDAGAI TO TUMUT RAILWAY 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 and passed.

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 the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.

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

22. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Belmore to Liverpool*):—

Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Belmore to Liverpool.

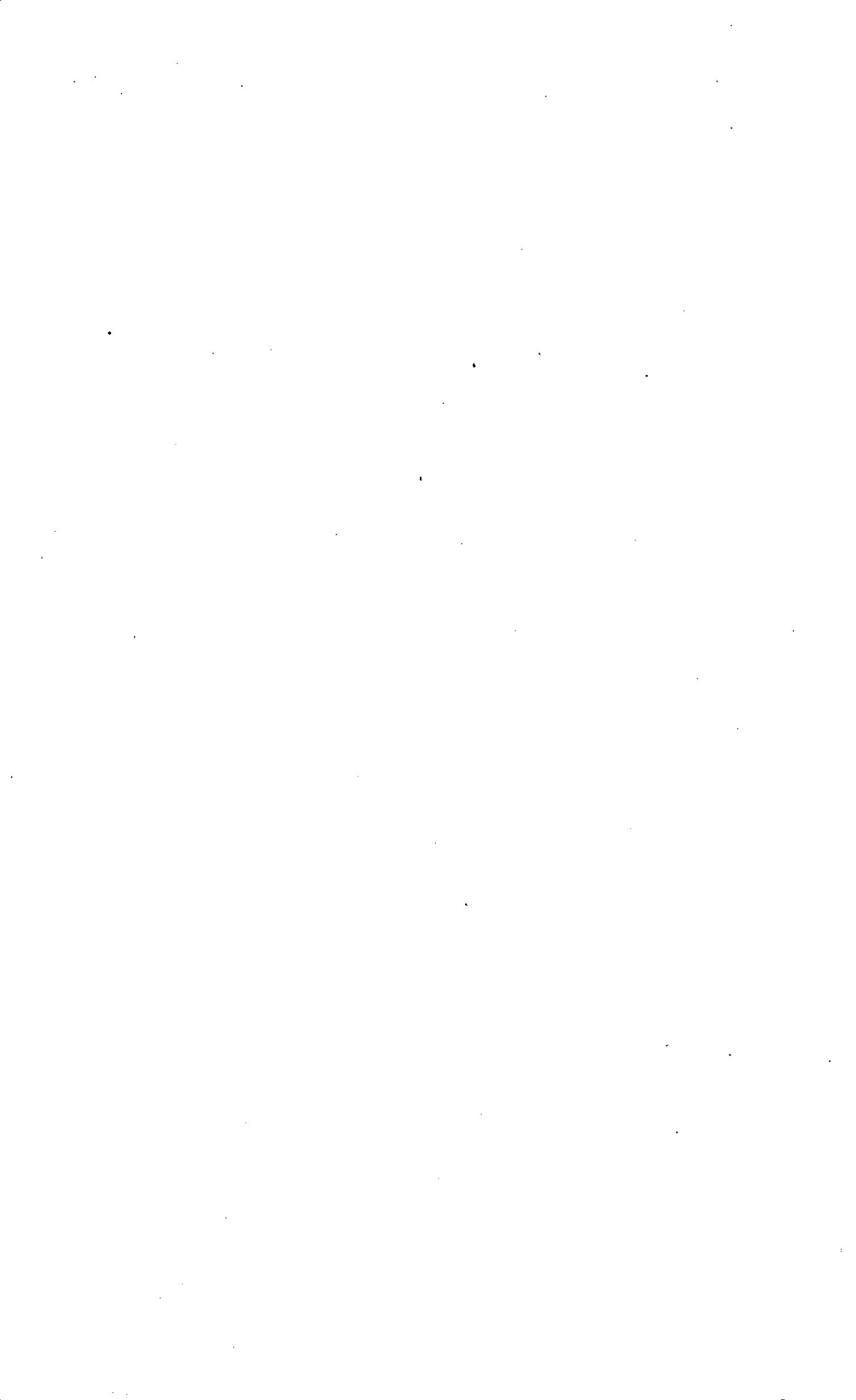
Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at fourteen minutes before Three o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 42.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Botany Water Reserve:—*Mr. Nielsen*, for Mr. Dacey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What is the area of the water reserve in the electorate of Botany?
- (2.) How much of it is fenced?
- (3.) Is there any objection to letting it for grazing purposes?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage have furnished the following replies:—

- (1.) About 775 acres—357 acres of which is freehold and the balance is leased from the Australian Cities Investment Company, Limited.
- (2.) The whole.
- (3.) It is at present leased for grazing purposes to the Military Department.

(2.) Supply of Provisions to Darlinghurst Gaol:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Quinn, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Who is the contractor for the supply of provisions to Darlinghurst Gaol?
- (2.) Have any complaints been made of insufficient or improper food on the part of the prisoners?

Mr. Wood answered,—The Comptroller-General of Prisons has informed me as follows:—

- (1.) For section 1, Mr. J. J. Barnsley; for section 2, Mr. G. Carrie; for section 3, Messrs. Kidman and Kinnaue.
- (2.) No complaints have been made during the present contract. A former contractor caused some trouble, and, in addition to having his goods rejected, was fined £5 as a punishment by the Comptroller-General.

(3.) Information concerning the Natural Resources of the Colony:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Quinn, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of expected developments under Federation, will he have prepared for circulation by the Agent-General pamphlets containing specific information concerning our natural resources, in order to inform British and foreign manufacturers and investors as to appropriate localities for the investment of capital in industrial enterprises?*Sir William Lyne* answered,—A supply of pamphlets on the Timber Resources of New South Wales, the Fauna of New South Wales, the Climate of New South Wales, and Forty Years of Progress of New South Wales, are now ready for transmission to the Agent-General, and to these will shortly be added a pamphlet on the Mining Industry of New South Wales.(4.) Newcastle-Adamstown Tramway:—*Mr. J. H. Young* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When was the Newcastle-Adamstown tramway opened for traffic?
- (2.) What has been the gross revenue received from this line?
- (3.) What have the working expenses been?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) 13th August, 1900.
- (2 and 3.) This is being prepared and will be laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

(5.) Improvements at Parliament House:—*Mr. J. H. Young* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) The amount expended on alterations and improvements at Parliament House and grounds since October last, specifying separately—(a) the several galleries in Chamber; (b) the Opposition Room; (c) the bowling and tennis ground; (d) the billiard-room?
- (2.) The amount spent since same date in furnishings?
- (3.) The estimated further expenditure to complete sub-head items (c) and (d)?
- (4.) The vote of Parliament from which payments to date have been made?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered.—This information can be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual manner.

(6.)

13th September, 1900.

(6.) Collection of Wharfage Rates:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he arranged that the outward wharfage on goods should be collected by Intercolonial steam shipping companies at their respective wharfs?

(2.) Do these companies account, in detail, for actual amounts received from shippers, and for actual quantities and weights of goods exported?

(3.) Are all such wharfages charged on actual weights; or are some averaged at so many bags to the ton?

(4.) If averages are allowed, are they the same as are current in arrangements for computing import wharfage for same class of goods?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes; that is, the books of the companies in question are open to the inspection of an officer of the Government.

(3.) It is the general custom to average the weights of certain lines of produce, but in the case of any person concerned challenging such weight, the actual weight would have to be taken as a basis for wharfage charges.

(4.) Yes, so far as the Government are aware.

(7.) Historical Records of New South Wales:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he seek to devise some plan whereby a wider circulation may be opened up for the Historical Records of New South Wales, now in course of publication, in order that the margin between cost of production and the revenue at present obtained by its sale may be more appreciably narrowed?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This matter is in the control of the Government Printer, who has been instructed to report as to what measures have been taken up to the present, and to make any suggestions he may consider advisable for the future. The information will be conveyed to the Honorable Member later on.

(8.) Imprisonment of Insane Persons:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to that portion of the latest report of the Comptroller-General of Prisons in which reference is made to the fact that a number of demented and insane persons have been sent to gaol at various times, some of them to spend their sentences in gaol, when they should more advantageously have been made inmates of an asylum?

(2.) Will he take steps to prevent a repetition of this condition of things in the future?

Mr. Wood answered,—I have seen the report of the Comptroller-General of Prisons to which the Honorable Member refers. The whole question of the detention in gaol of offenders who are suffering, or suspected to be suffering, in any degree from insanity has been under consideration for some time past. There are, however, many difficulties in the way of an alteration of existing arrangements, one of which is the want of accommodation in the Hospitals for the Insane. There is, moreover, a difference of opinion as to which Department (Prisons or Lunacy) should properly be charged with the care of criminal lunatics, *i.e.*, those persons who are first of all criminals, but who become insane while serving sentences.

(9.) Employees in the Tramway Department:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) The names of those persons who have been employed in the Tramway Department for the last fifteen years, and date of their appointment?

(2.) The wages per day that each at the present date receives respectively according to seniority?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I shall communicate with the Commissioners for Railways and see if it is possible to procure a return that will satisfy the Honorable Member. I find that a return was published in a special *Gazette*, No. 551, on June 5, containing all the information up to last December.

(10.) Recovery of Damages for Seduction:—Mr. Neild, for Mr. McLean, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Has the attention of the Government been directed to the unsatisfactory state of the law with respect to the recovery of damages for seduction?

(2.) Is he aware that the existing law, which only allows damages to be recovered for loss of service, operates with great hardship upon poor people who are compelled to put their children out to service to gain a living?

(3.) Will the matter of amended legislation be considered as one of urgency?

Mr. Wood answered,—It is not the intention of the Government to deal with this matter during the present Session.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. W. W. Young presented a Petition from certain residents of Bathurst and District, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petition received.3. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Fegan, read a third time, and *passed*.Mr. Fegan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 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 amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 13th September, 1900!*

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th September, 1900.

4. GUNDAGAI TO TUMUT RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan read a third time, and passed.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Gundagai to Tumut; 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; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; 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 Gundagai to Tumut; 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; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th September, 1900.*

5. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Legitimation Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday, 27th November.
(2.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday next.
6. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) 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 11th September, 1900, in reference to the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill,—

Insists upon its amendment in clause 5 which omits paragraph (c); upon its amendments in that clause from the one on page 3, line 36, to that on page 4, lines 16 and 17; upon its amendment in the same clause, page 4, line 29, all of which amendments deal with the qualification of lodgers as voters,—

- (1.) Because it is neither just nor expedient that a voice in the expenditure of the Municipal funds should be given to those who make no contribution to those funds.
- (2.) Because the persons to whom a vote would be given under paragraph (c) would constitute a class whose residence in the City is of such an uncertain character as to render it extremely improbable that their knowledge of the qualifications of candidates for the office of Alderman would be sufficient for the exercise of a judicious choice.
- (3.) Because the compulsory six months residence would practically render the proposed franchise of little value.

Insists upon its amendment in clause 5 which inserts a new subsection (ii), defining the word "female,"—Because the amendment simply leaves the law on this point in the form in which it now exists, and in which it was virtually embodied in the Bill as passed by the Legislative Assembly, and because married women are entitled to a vote in respect of their own separate property.

Insists upon its amendments in clause 14; upon the omission of clause 15, and the insertion of a new clause in lieu thereof; upon its amendment in clause 17, page 8, line 27; upon its amendment in clause 19, page 8, line 41; and upon its amendment in clause 22, page 9, line 26,—all of which amendments deal with the election of Mayor,—

- (1.) Because it is a right universally conceded to all elected bodies to choose their Chairman, and no sufficient reason exists for departing from that principle in the present instance.
- (2.) Because the selection of their own Chairman and Chief Administrative Officer is much more likely to be satisfactorily made by the Aldermen themselves than by the general body of citizens.
- (3.) Because the proposed change is one which has not been found to operate satisfactorily where the experiment has already been tried.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 13th September, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Ordered, that the Legislative Council's Message be taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole on Wednesday next.

7. 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 proposed resumption of a certain portion of land (for road purposes) on the Macquarie Fields Estate (owned by one Mrs. Ashcroft), parish of Minto, and county of Cumberland."
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.
8. CLAIM OF MR. J. L. DAVIDSON, PADDINGTON:—Mr. Neild, 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 3rd July, 1900, together with Appendix.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

13th September, 1900.

9. **MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2)**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. Arthur 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 5, 13, and subsection (1) of clause 14,"—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,—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 5, 13, and subsection (1) of clause 14,—put and passed.
On motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 28 with further amendments.
On motion of Mr. Fegan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
10. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the third reading of the Inebriates Bill postponed until Wednesday next.
11. **INSCRIBED STOCK (REGISTRAR) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
12. **WOLLONGONG WATER SUPPLY WORKS 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 and passed.
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 the Bill with amendments.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
13. **INDECENT PUBLICATIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
14. **OLD AGE PENSIONS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 provide for Old Age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of, or consequent on, the aforesaid object.
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 provide for Old Age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of, or consequent on, the aforesaid object.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
15. **LINDFIELD—SAINT LEONARDS RAILWAY CROSSINGS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, 14 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

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

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

16. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-five minutes after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

Acto South Wales.

No. 43.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 18 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Casino to Lismore Railway Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 79.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Casino to Lismore; to authorise the construction of the said line on 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, 15th September, 1900.

- (2.) Public Hospitals (Voting) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 80.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Public Hospitals Act, 1898*,"—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 September, 1900.

- (3.) Yass Roman Catholic Church Trustees Enabling Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 81.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the trustees of a certain allotment or parcel of land in the town of Yass, granted to the Right Reverend William Lanigan and others as trustees of the Roman Catholic Church at Yass, to sell the said land, and to provide for the application of the proceeds thereof*,"—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, 18th September, 1900.

18th September, 1900.

2. QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Amendment of the Law of Libel relating to Newspapers :—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Quinn*, asked the Attorney-General,—When does he propose to introduce the promised measure to amend the law of libel relating to newspapers?

Mr. Perry answered,—The Bill is now ready.

- (2.) Trustees of the Savings Bank of New South Wales :—*Mr. Arthur Griffith* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is the Savings Bank of New South Wales a State-owned institution, with a Government guarantee to the depositors?

(2.) Is it not a fact that this institution lends large sums of the people's money to other money-lending institutions in Sydney?

(3.) Is it not a fact that some of the Trustees of the Savings Bank are directors of the institutions which borrow money from it?

(4.) Is it not a fact that a large sum of money lent by the Savings Bank to a Sydney bank was shut up, owing to the failure and reconstruction of the said bank, and is still unpaid?

(5.) Is it not a fact that one of the directors of the aforesaid defaulting institution is also a Trustee of the Savings Bank?

(6.) Is it not a fact that the information asked for by the Premier several weeks ago as to the total amount of money owing by the Sydney banks to the Savings Bank has been refused by the Managing Trustee?

(7.) Will he notify the Trustees of the Savings Bank that it is most improper that a director of an institution which borrows money from the Savings Bank should be a Trustee of that bank?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Savings Bank of New South Wales is not a State-owned institution, but in view of its constitution, and the nature of its business, the Government could hardly do otherwise than guarantee it should occasion for the giving of such guarantee arise.

(2.) A reference to the balance-sheet of the institution, as published in the *Government Gazette*, shows that it has considerable sums on deposit with banks doing business in Sydney.

(3.) I believe that the Honorable George Thornton, M.L.C., and the Honorable James Watson, M.L.C., two of the Trustees, are also Directors of the City Bank of Sydney and the Australian Joint Stock Bank, Limited, respectively.

(4.) A portion of the Savings Bank's funds was locked up owing to the reconstruction of the Australian Joint Stock Bank, with which such funds were deposited. The amount in question is, however, being repaid in accordance with the arrangements made, with the sanction of the Supreme Court, for the reconstruction of the bank.

(5.) I believe so; but the number of Trustees who are also Bank Directors is small proportionately to the whole of the Trustees.

(6.) An application was made for certain information which could not be obtained. The Managing Trustee pointed out that it is unusual to disclose the nature or detail of the transactions between the bank and its customers.

(7.) The two Trustees named in No. 3, who are also Bank Directors, were appointed many years ago. The Government have no control over the Trustees, and such a notification will have no effect unless it could be enforced. The deposit with Bank of New South Wales, with interest to 31st December, 1899, was £354,179 17s. 3d.; deposit with Commercial Banking Company of Sydney (Limited), with interest to 31st December, 1899, £226,577 18s. 5d.; deposit with Australian Joint Stock Bank (Limited), with interest to 31st December, 1899, £177,822 7s. 2d.; deposit with Union Bank of Australia (Limited), with interest to 31st December, 1899, £176,218 2s. 10d.; deposit with English, Scottish, and Australian Bank (Limited), with interest to 31st December, 1899, £72,732 5s.; deposit with City Bank of Sydney, with interest to 31st December, 1899, £57,280 5s. 10d.; deposit with Commercial Bank of Australia (Limited), with interest to 31st December, 1899, £44,582 8s. 8d.; deposit with London Bank of Australia (Limited), with interest to 31st December, 1899, £31,564 11s. 6d.; deposit with National Bank of Australasia (Limited), with interest to 31st December, 1899, £5,382 10s. 9d.; deposit with Bank of New South Wales "Working Account," £91,892 7s. 10d.

- (3.) Construction of Waggons for the Medical Staff, Victoria Barracks :—*Mr. Cohen* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Who was the contractor for the construction of the last three waggons made for the Medical Staff, Victoria Barracks?

(2.) What was the amount of the tender?

(3.) Were tenders publicly invited?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces :—

(1.) Messrs. Olding and Parker, Paddington.

(2.) £59 10s. each.

(3.) No. These waggons were urgently required, and the order was given to contractors on their previous tender. The lowest tender received for two waggons recently advertised for was £60 each.

- (4.) Appraisalment of Homestead Selections :—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. Thomas Brown*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Have any applications been lodged for appraisalment of the capital values of homestead selection areas, formerly Church and School Lands, under the provisions of the amending Land Act of 1899?

(2.) Is there any known legal objections to this class of homestead selections coming under the appraisalment provisions of the 1899 Act?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No.

(5.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th September, 1900.

(5.) Compensation to Retired Civil Servants:—*Mr. Hogue*, for *Mr. Storey*, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to pay any compensation to those Civil Servants who were dismissed by the Public Service Board, without notice (at the time of the general retrenchment scheme), after lengthened periods of service, and who were entitled in some cases to six months' leave under the Civil Service Act?

(2.) In view of the recent decision of the Supreme Court as to temporary service in the case of *Josephson v. Young*, is it the intention of the Government to pay those Civil Servants who were retrenched by the Public Service Board in their general retrenchment scheme a month's pay for each year's service instead of the two weeks per year allowed by the Board?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) All officers so dismissed received compensation.

(2.) Officers in the same position as *Mr. Josephson* will receive similar treatment.

(6.) Warders in Bathurst Gaol:—*Mr. Nielsen* asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, in gaols other than Bathurst, warders are off duty on Saturday afternoon and Sunday in accordance with the instructions of the Comptroller-General of Prisons?

(2.) Is it a fact that warders in Bathurst Gaol are deprived of Saturday afternoon, and only one man allowed off on Sunday?

(3.) Why is not a list of the warders' names due for monthly leave posted up in this gaol in accordance with the Comptroller-General of Prisons' instructions?

(4.) Is it a fact that, two years ago, *Warder Mote*, whose child died, was refused leave off to bury it?

(5.) Is it a fact that *Warder Cruise* was refused a day off to bury his father-in-law, and had to bury him at night?

(6.) Is it a fact that, in consequence of this, *Warder Cruise* left the Service?

(7.) Why is it that the warders in Bathurst Gaol do not get sixty-three days' leave in the year, as per the annual report of the Comptroller-General of Prisons for 1896?

Mr. Perry answered,—The Comptroller-General of Prisons has informed me as follows:—

(1.) At Bathurst, as at other gaols, warders are allowed off duty on the days mentioned whenever practicable.

(2.) No.

(3.) Instructions have been given to post this information in a more conspicuous position.

(4.) No. *Warden Mote* left Bathurst for *Bourke Gaol* on the 10th May, 1899.

(5.) No.

(6.) No. *Warder Cruise* resigned on the 2nd June, 1898.

(7.) The conditions of leave apply to Bathurst as to other large gaols, but they are liable to interruption from illness, escort duties, and other emergencies. The Comptroller-General of Prisons states that the General Warders staff enjoy more leave under the new conditions than they did before.

(7.) Trinity College Musical Examinations:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Has he seen the last list of successful candidates, published in the daily Press, who have passed the Trinity College Musical examinations?

(2.) Are there no colleges or institutions of music in existence in our midst capable of granting certificates in music without sending to Trinity College for them?

(3.) Can he explain or offer any satisfactory reason for the existence of such a state of things in the face of our alleged popular system of public instruction?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) I understand that there are at least two Sydney institutions—the Sydney College of Music and the Australian Musical Association—which hold annual examinations, and grant certificates in all branches of music.

(8.) Purchase of Darling Island:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Neild*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Upon what date was Darling Island purchased?

(2.) What price was paid for the land?

(3.) What sum has accrued as interest to date upon the purchase price?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) 4th June, 1839.

(2.) £136,930 13s. 8d.

(3.) There is no sum for interest due at the present time. When payment was made for the land on the 30th August, 1839, an amount of £1,930 13s. 8d. was included for interest at 6 per cent. on the purchase money.

(9.) Wages of Navvies on the Newbridge-Blayney Line:—*Mr. Arthur Griffith* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that a large number of navvies employed by the Railway Commissioners on the Newbridge-Blayney line have gone out on strike against the 6s. wage paid by the Commissioners?

(2.) Will he consult with the Commissioners on the subject, and try to obtain for these men the minimum wage fixed by his Government?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I understand that a number of men engaged on the work in question struck work to secure an advanced wage.

(2.) I have consulted with the Railway Commissioners, who point out that these deviations were undertaken at a time when they afforded work to the unemployed. Their construction was largely influenced by the fact that the wages to be paid would be 6s. per day, and the Commissioners consider the obligation attaches to them of completing the work on the original understanding.

18th September, 1900.

3. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—
- (1.) By Mr. Cohen—From certain residents of Petersham.
 - (2.) By Mr. Cohen—From certain residents of Petersham.
 - (3.) By Dr. Ross—From certain residents of Garra.
 - (4.) By Dr. Ross—From E. J. Hamey, Chairman of a public meeting held under the auspices of the Band of Hope Society, at Molong.
 - (5.) By Mr. Wright—From certain residents of Glen Innes.
 - (6.) By Mr. Reid—From the Executive Council of the Sons and Daughters of Temperance of New South Wales.
- Petitions received.
4. WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick presented a Petition from William Dymock, representing that the House had appointed a Select Committee to inquire into and report upon the working of the Free Public Library, and praying that Petitioner may be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before such Select Committee, with leave to examine and cross-examine witnesses.
- Petition received.
- Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
5. CASE OF WILLIAM REID:—Mr. Meagher presented a Petition from William Reid, representing that the House had appointed a Select Committee to inquire into the conduct of Mr. Warden Maitland concerning certain mining tenements situate at Brindabella, in the Colony of New South Wales, and praying that Petitioner may be allowed to appear by counsel or solicitor before such Select Committee.
- Petition received.
- Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
6. DISMISSAL OF MRS. ABRAHAMS, SHAFTESBURY GIRLS ASYLUM:—Mr. Holman (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the correspondence respecting Mrs. Margaret Abrahams, late sub-matron of Shaftesbury Reformatory, laid upon the Table of the House, on 10th July, 1900, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on "Dismissal of Mrs. Abrahams, Shaftesbury Girls Asylum."
- Question put and passed.
7. PAPERS:—
- Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) By-laws in connection with the Water Supply of Kiama, under the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act, 1880.
 - (2.) Statement of Accounts of the South Head Roads Trust for the half-year ended 30th June, 1900.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- Mr. See laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 16th August, 1900,—“Molong Hospital.”
 - (2.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”
 - (3.) Report of the President of the State Children Relief Board for the year ended 5th April, 1900.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. See, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
- BEAUCHAMP, *Message No. 82.*
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 further amend the Electoral Law.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 13th September, 1900.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
9. WOLLONGONG WATER SUPPLY WORKS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, read a third time, and *passed*.
- Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactments 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 Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactments amending the same, to the said works,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
- Legislative Assembly Chamber,*
Sydney, 18th September, 1900

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th September, 1900.

10. INDECENT PUBLICATIONS ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Indecent Publications Act, 1900.*"
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be returned to the Legislative Council with the following Message:—
MR. PRESIDENT,—
The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Indecent Publications Act, 1900,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th September, 1900.*
11. LINDFIELD—SAINT LEONARDS RAILWAY CROSSINGS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares.*"
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 Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th September, 1900.*
12. AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—VISIT OF THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF YORK TO AUSTRALIA:—Sir William Lyne read to the House the following telegram from the Colonial Office which he had received from His Excellency the Governor:—
"H.M. the Queen has been graciously pleased to assent, on the recommendation of the Marquis of Salisbury, to the visit of T.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of York to the Colonies of Australia in the spring of next year.
"H.R.H. the Duke of York will be commissioned by H.M. the Queen to open the first Session of the Parliament of the Australian Commonwealth in her name; although the Queen naturally shrinks from parting with her grandson for so long a period, Her Majesty fully recognises the greatness of the occasion which will bring her Colonies of Australia into Federal Union, and desires to give this special proof of her interest in all that concerns the welfare of her Australian subjects.
"H.M. at the same time wishes to signify her sense of the loyalty and devotion which has prompted the spontaneous aid so liberally offered by all her Colonies in the South African War, and of the splendid gallantry of her Colonial troops.
"H.M.'s assent to this visit is, of course, on the assumption that at the time fixed for H.R.H. the Duke of York's departure the circumstances are as generally favourable as at present, and that no national interests call for H.R.H.'s presence in this country."
13. JUSTICES OF THE PEACE REMOVAL BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 18.

Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Terry,
Mr. Edden.
Tellers,
Mr. Lees,
Mr. Watkins.

Noes, 44.

Mr. Brunker,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Piddington,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. See,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Archer,
Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Dight,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Wright,
Sir Matthew Harris,
Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Raymond,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Carroll.
Tellers,
Mr. Nobbs,
Dr. Graham.

And so it passed in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Hogue, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered that the Bill be withdrawn.

14. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Sydney Coal Delivery Acts Repeal Bill postponed until To-morrow. 15.

18th September, 1900.

15. **MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2):**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Price 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. Price, 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. Price, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
16. **RACING ASSOCIATION BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Gillies moved, That this "Bill" be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Point of Order:—The Honorable Member for Paddington, Mr. Neild, submitted that the Racing Association incorporated under clause 3 was not referred to in the Title, and was therefore beyond the Order of Leave; and that as the Bill related to Trade it should have been introduced in a Committee of the Whole.
Mr. Speaker ruled that the Bill was in order.
Mr. Watkins 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. Hogue, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Crick, Mr. Levien, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Archer, and the Mover," instead thereof.
Question proposed,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
Debate continued.
Mr. Dick moved,—That this Debate be now adjourned,
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 11.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Holman.

Tellers,

Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Thomas Brown.

Noes, 25.

Mr. Crick,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Millard,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Price,	Dr. Graham,
Mr. McLean,	Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. See,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Bennett,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. O'Connor,	

And so it passed in the negative.

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 *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 five Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Dick, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Neild, and Mr. Cook.

Question,—That the words proposed to be inserted be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then put,—That this Bill be referred to a Select Committee for inquiry and report.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Reid, Mr. Hogue, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Crick, Mr. Levien, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Taylor, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Archer, and the Mover.

The House divided.

Ayes, 29.

Mr. Hurley,	Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Cohen,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. See,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Terry.
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Phillips,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Price,	Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Holman,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Law,	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Cann,	

Noes, 2.

Tellers,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Cook.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

17. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Dick moved, That the Honorable Member for Gloucester, Mr. Price, be not further heard.

Question put and negatived.

Debate continued.

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,—namely, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Bennett, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Cann, Mr. Cook, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Ferris, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Holman, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Millard, Mr. Neild, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Price, Mr. See, and Mr. Watkins,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at ten minutes before twelve o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 44.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 19 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Electors' Rights:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Are the Electoral Registrars now engaged sending out notices to electors to bring or send their rights to be stamped?
 - (2.) Will it be necessary for the Electoral Registrars to continue sending out such notices?
 - (3.) Will it now be necessary for the rights to be stamped, seeing that he has promised a new Electoral Bill?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes, until the law is amended.
 - (3.) Yes; but if the proposed amending Bill is passed this will not require to be done. I may add that I hope the Bill will be passed before the date of having the stamping completed.
- (2.) Case of *Drennan v. Gee*:—Mr. Affleck asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a case—*Drennan v. Gee*—was heard before the Police Magistrate at Yass, in March, 1898?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that Gee was convicted on that occasion by the Police Magistrate, and committed to the Quarter Sessions?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that he declined to file a bill against Gee?
 - (4.) If so, why did he decline to do so?
 - (5.) Is he aware that a forged document was produced in Court, and the Police Magistrate refused to admit it?
 - (6.) Seeing that he declined to file a bill, will he inquire into the forgery by obtaining the forged document from the Registrar at Young, and now institute a prosecution against Gee in the case, if such forgery exists?

Mr. Wood answered,—This case occurred before my honorable colleague took office.

- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) A Bill was not filed.
 - (4.) Questions of this nature are never answered, but I will be happy to allow the Honorable Member to peruse the papers.
 - (5 and 6.) There is nothing to show that there is any forged document in existence.
- (3.) Fees to Qualified Medical Witnesses:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Will he see that some steps are taken to have the services of duly qualified medical witnesses attending at Quarter Sessions, Coroners' inquests, &c., remunerated on a higher scale of fees, commensurate with the distance they have often to travel, and loss of time in attending and rendering valuable services on such occasions?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the fee paid at present is only 2s., and 1s. per mile after the first 3 miles when attending as witnesses in such cases?

Mr. Wood answered,—The fee which medical witnesses may claim for attendance at Coroners' Inquests or Magisterial Inquiries is fixed by the Coroners' Act, 1898, at £1 1s., together with 1s. per mile in addition if they reside more than 10 miles from the place where the inquest or inquiry is held. Medical witnesses attending Quarter Sessions and Circuit Courts are paid by the Department of the Attorney-General, who informs me that special consideration is always given to the remuneration of medical witnesses, the fees being increased in many cases. The fees payable to medical witnesses for other services are fixed by regulations published by the Colonial Secretary, to whom I would refer the Honorable Member.

(4.)

19th September, 1900.

(4.) Crown Lands Ringbarked.—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Can he furnish any reliable or approximate information of the area of Crown lands that have been ringbarked up to the present date; and cost of the same?
- (2.) Can he furnish any approximate information of the area of alienated or private land that has been ringbarked compared with Crown lands?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I regret that the information cannot be supplied. Figures might be collected in connection with permissions granted to ringbark, but a permission to ringbark is not always availed of. The figures would, therefore, serve no good purpose, particularly as they would apply to only a limited period of time.

(5.) Lands Available for Selection on Nanami Run.—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) When is the exchanged land on Nanami run, at Eugowra, district of Molong, county of Ashburnham, likely to be thrown open for selection?
- (2.) What is the cause of the delay in withholding the land for settlement?
- (3.) How long has the exchange been under consideration; and when was the exchange finally settled to take place?
- (4.) Did the lessee of the run, pending the exchange, pay any rent for the use of the land; if so, what amount, and for what area?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Pending completion of the exchange it cannot be stated when the land will be available for selection.
- (2.) The fact that the land has not yet been surrendered to the Crown.
- (3.) The application was lodged on the 20th December, 1897. The approval of the Governor and the Executive Council has not yet been given, but the Minister on the 16th March last dealt with the case. On the 27th April the applicants for the exchange were asked to pay the balance of costs, to forward the deeds of land to be surrendered, and to consent to the proposed design for conditional purchase allotment, with a view to the approval of the Governor and the Executive Council to the exchange being obtained and the necessary surrender documents being then prepared. These requisitions have not yet been complied with. On the 16th July the applicants were informed that unless the matter was at once brought to completion the question of declining to proceed with the case would have to be considered. They then wrote that they had decided to turn their conditional purchases into freeholds, and had written to the Treasury for certain particulars. I have now the case to decide what shall be done, but shall press the matter to completion one way or the other.
- (4.) Of the land which the applicants are seeking to acquire, 3,564 acres form part of Back Creek and Nobby's Lagoon preferential occupation license, for which a rent of £2 5s. 4d. per section of 640 acres is paid; an area of 149 acres forms part of Back Creek and Nobby's Lagoon resumed area, and for this area no rent is paid, the occupation license having lapsed. The remainder of the land applied for, viz., 2,654 acres, forms part of Bumbaldry Holding, partly held under occupation license and partly under preferential occupation license; for this a rent of £2 13s. 4d. per section is being paid.

(6.) Wages of Tramway Conductors.—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the regulations under the Railway Act, published 23rd December, 1892, fix the wages of tramway conductors at 8s. 6d. per day for the first twelve months; after twelve months, 9s.?
- (2.) Is it a fact that all conductors lately appointed have been put on at 6s. per day?
- (3.) In view of the fact that the regulations dealing with junior conductors only apply to young men from 18 to 21 years of age, by what authority are men between the ages of 21 and 30 years now being put on at 6s. per day instead of at the rate fixed by the regulations referred to?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that By-law No. 179, introduced in connection with the altered system of tramway working, provides for the rate of wages to be paid to tramway conductors.

(7.) Railway Employees.—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have any regulations been made under the Railway Act fixing the hours of labour of employees of the Railway Commissioners, or fixing the wages of deviation works labourers and plate-layers, and of coal-stage men or other casual labourers?
- (2.) If no regulations have been made dealing with these matters, will he request the Commissioners to make such regulations without delay?
- (3.) If these matters cannot be dealt with by regulation under the present Railway Act, will he bring in an amending Act this Session which will have the effect of preventing the Commissioners from employing these classes of labourers at the rates which now obtain, namely, 6s. per day for deviation works navvies and plate-layers, and 9d. per hour for casual labourers and coal-shovellers?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed it would be impracticable to make detail regulations in regard to casual labour, as suggested by the Honorable Member. The Commissioners, however, follow the intentions of the regulations in giving such men equally as good conditions as prevail in private employ. Labourers and coal-stage men generally (except in a few instances where higher wages are paid for nine hours work) are engaged for eight hours per day.

(8.) Federal Electorates.—Mr. Bruncker, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Can he give any information to the House as to the considerations which guided the Electoral Commission in dividing the Colony into the twenty-six electorates shown on the map furnished by them?
- (2.) What data had the Commissioners before them as to the electors and the population in the various parts of the Colony so divided?

Sir

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th September, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The considerations that are guiding the Commission are those which are contained in the 29th, 30th, and 31st sections of "The Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act."

(2.) The Electoral Rolls of the Colony, from the passing of "The Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act, 1893," and its amendment of 1896; but, upon an examination of these, they were found so utterly unreliable, and revealed such grave and serious errors as to render an immediate personal and house to house canvass an imperative necessity, if the proportionate representation provided for in our state system is to be observed. I may say that, serious as the state of the Rolls appeared to the Commissioners at the time, the actual ascertained facts now coming to hand show an unsatisfactory state of enrolment such as has never been equalled since this Colony obtained Responsible Government.

Collection of New Electoral Rolls.

The following results were obtained in some of the City Divisions:—

Electorate.	On General List for new General Roll, prepared by Registrars to date.	Number of names struck off by the Police.	New names added by Police.	Number on the new Lists prepared by Police.
Sydney—				
Belmore	2,631	1,597	1,339	2,373
Bligh	2,487	1,479	1,465	2,473
Fitzroy	3,003	1,704	1,441	2,740
Flinders	2,389	1,406	1,514	2,497

I may say that there are shown to be 50 per cent., or practically one-half, of the electors who had their Rights at the last General Election, but who were not on the Rolls. The voting, however, showed that the Rights must have been used, and that is rather a serious state of things.

(9.) Examination for Stock Inspector:—*Mr. Bruncker*, for *Mr. Carruthers*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Is it a fact that an examination for Stock Inspector is about to be held when there is not any vacancy, and fourteen men holding the necessary certificate waiting for appointments?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Stock Board passed a resolution at one of its properly-constituted meetings that another examination should not be held until the number of Stock Inspectors waiting appointment were less than ten?

(3.) Is it not a fact that all appointments are made on the recommendation of the local Stock Board to the Minister?

(4.) Is it a fact that he has given a guarantee that the men now awaiting appointment shall be the first to fill any vacancies; if so, what power has he to give such guarantee, seeing the appointments are made on the recommendation of the Local Boards?

(5.) Is it a fact that the supervision of the work in one stock district is being performed by a man who was unsuccessful at the last examination?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes. The Sheep Boards have the nomination of Inspectors under the Diseases in Sheep Acts, and it has always been the rule of the Department to have a full list of applicants holding the certificate of the Stock Board of Examiners from which they might make their selection. There are not more than five eligible candidates upon the list who are without employment.

(2.) No.

(3.) Yes, all permanent appointments are.

(4.) It is not a fact so far as the permanent appointment of an Inspector is concerned.

(5.) No.

(10.) Public Servants:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to correspondence appearing in the public Press protesting against Civil Servants being permitted to enter into competition with professional men outside in the matter of supplying designs for public buildings in this and other Colonies?

(2.) Has the practice alluded to Departmental countenance?

(3.) In the case of the competition for designs for a new Post Office for the City of Brisbane, will he give the name of the New South Wales Civil Servant who was the successful competitor, and also state the salary paid that gentleman?

(4.) Have not complaints been repeatedly made to the heads of the several Departments of State to the effect that certain Civil Servants are in the habit of undertaking professional and other engagements to the detriment of men outside the service who make their living by following the occupations to which they have been brought up?

(5.) Will he take steps in the direction of preventing servants of the State from thus undertaking work outside that for which they are paid by the taxpayers?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No.

(3.) *John Barr*, £200 per annum.

(4.) I am not aware of such complaints.

(5.) Yes, so far as it is not an infringement of clause 64 of the Public Service Act. There is some doubt as to whether this case comes under this clause, but I purpose submitting the matter for the opinion of my honorable colleague the Attorney-General. I have looked up the matter, and from my reading of the clause it appears that in a case such as this—the omission to acquaint the Public Service Board under section 64—the Board have power and authority to give consent if they think it wise to give it.

(11.)

19th September, 1900.

- (11.) The Financial Statement:—*Mr. Brunker*, for *Mr. Reid*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is he able to state when the Financial Statement will be delivered?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I cannot to-night fix the date exactly, but it will be by or before 3rd October.

- (12.) Vehicles Fitted with Standard Draw-gear at Eveleigh Work-shops:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) With reference to the Eveleigh workshops, will he state how many vehicles have been fitted with standard draw-gear?
- (2.) The weight and cost of parts purchased from outside firms?
- (3.) The weight and cost of parts made in the Eveleigh workshops (cost to be given in wages, materials, and charges)?
- (4.) What amount of same has been charged to capital account?
- (5.) And what amount has been charged to working expenses?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.

- (13.) Engine-drivers at Coal-mines:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Does the Coal-mines Regulation Act provide that the engine-driver shall not leave his post while any person is in the workings underground?
- (2.) If so, will he take action in the direction of having inquiries made to ascertain whether engine-drivers at any of the mines are compelled to leave their engines to attend to the steam boilers and other matters away from their post at the engine?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) The Act requires that the person appointed to work the machinery used in lowering or raising persons shall attend for that purpose during the whole time that any person is below ground in the mine.
- (2.) I caused inquiries to be made in regard to this matter some time ago, and had a circular issued to the various mine managers calling their attention to the rule.

- (14.) Fitzroy Dock at Cockatoo Island:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) In connection with the working of Fitzroy Dock at Cockatoo Island, was a Commission appointed about eighteen months ago; and did the Commissioners, among other matters, inquire into the subject of the excessive overtime worked by a number of the hands there?
- (2.) As a result of the Commissioners' findings, was there a material reduction in the amount of overtime?
- (3.) Is he aware that of late there has been a return to the old state of affairs?
- (4.) Are the men informed that they will be required to work overtime only a few minutes before the usual knocking-off time, thus preventing them from getting necessary and needful refreshment?
- (5.) In the interests of the Department and of the men themselves, will he consider the matter of the employees at Cockatoo Island working excessive overtime and under the conditions stated?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) No, not in consequence of the Commissioners' findings; overtime is governed by the exigencies of the Service?
- (3.) Yes; but it was unavoidable through repairs to the dock machinery having to be executed without an hour's delay to permit of the Sutherland Dock being used.
- (4.) The men are always informed as early as it is possible to do so. In the case of the repairs to the dock machinery the men were aware some days before of the necessity for their working overtime.
- (5.) The work turned out at the dock is almost double what it was two or three years ago, and, having no additional appliances, overtime is at times compulsory. New workshops are, however, in course of erection, and when these are finished, and more machinery obtained, overtime will be almost unnecessary excepting in urgent special cases.

- (15.) Prison Allowance to Patrick Maloney:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) With respect to a man named Patrick Maloney, a wheelwright, recently discharged from gaol after serving twenty-one years of a life-sentence, imposed at Darlinghurst Criminal Court in August, 1878, before *Mr. Justice Faucett*, will he institute inquiries as to what sum is properly due to this man under the gaol regulations which permit of the payment, under certain conditions, to prisoners of a small gratuity or allowance?
- (2.) Is it true that Maloney served fifteen years in Berrima Gaol, where he was employed as carpenter, and in attending to the baths, and was only allowed a bonus of £5 upon his release?
- (3.) Was he not entitled to a gratuity and bonus of 1s. per week?
- (4.) As Maloney is now an old man 74 years of age, and as the proper allowance of 1s. per week was paid to him during the other six years he spent in gaol, will the Minister see that this man is paid the full amount to which he is entitled?

Mr. Wood answered,—The Comptroller-General of Prisons has informed me as follows:—

- (1.) £20 11s. 9d.
- (2.) He did not earn a bonus at Berrima Gaol.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) Special consideration has already been given to this man's case, he having been paid a special gratuity of £6 8s. 2d. in addition to the ordinary gratuity of £20 11s. 9d., making in all a sum of nearly £27. The Comptroller-General adds that Maloney has called at his office to thank him for the consideration shown him.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th September, 1900.

- (16.) Metropolitan Traffic Act:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he decided to grant the petition of the licensed cabmen and busmen at Burwood to have the provisions of the Metropolitan Traffic Act extended to that locality?
 - (2.) If yes, when will the proclamation be issued?
 - (3.) If no, can each of the suburbs of Burwood, Strathfield, Enfield, and Concord exact separate license-fees from these men if they drive into their boroughs; and if licensed by these four boroughs, will they be liable if they ply for hire in Ashfield or other suburbs within the Metropolitan Traffic District?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1 and 2.) The matter is under consideration.
- (3.) Yes; unless included in the proclamation.

- (17.) Police Duties in connection with the Metropolitan Traffic Act:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that no additions have been made to the Police Force to enable it to cope with the extra duties in connection with the Metropolitan Traffic Act?
- (2.) What number of extra men is estimated as required to administer the Traffic Act?
- (3.) Was an assurance given, when the Act was before the House, that sixty constables would be detailed to take up traffic regulation?

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

- (1.) No special addition has yet been made to the Force, which, however, is at present thirty constables above the establishment voted on last year's Estimates. The police required for traffic duty have been drawn from the general Force.
- (2.) About sixty police are estimated to be necessary.
- (3.) The subject is under consideration, and will be shortly decided.

- (18.) The Richmond Vale Railway Bill:—Mr. Arthur Griffith asked the Honorable Member for Kabibah,—

- (1.) Are the Messrs. J. and A. Brown, of whose Bill (the Richmond Vale Railway Bill) he is in charge, the same J. and A. Brown who own the Duckenfield Colliery and the town of Miami?
- (2.) Does not the evidence given at the Select Committee of the Legislative Council show that, besides coal, the timber, produce, fruit, &c., which would pass over the line would make it a profitable line for the Government to construct?

Mr. Edden answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) I believe it would. I may state that the promoters of the Bill are quite willing that the Government should construct this railway, and if the Government are prepared to start the work the promoters will be prepared to drop the Bill at once. I may say that I have spoken to the Premier, and requested him to call a Cabinet meeting, so that I can confer with him and my colleagues as to the advisability of constructing this line.

- (19.) Government Architect's Branch:—Mr. Moore asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What was the amount voted from Revenue for Government Architect's Branch for the year 1898-9?
- (2.) What was the amount for the year 1899-1900?
- (3.) What is the amount proposed for the present year (1900-1)?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) £50,000.
- (2.) £42,150.
- (3.) It is impossible to say at present, as the Estimates have not been finally dealt with.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Amended Rates under the Electric Telegraph Act.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 4th September, 1900,—“Flour shipped to South Africa for the British Government.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Grafton to Casino.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. See 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 further amend the Electoral Law.
Question put and passed.

5. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—

- (1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
- (2.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
- (3.) Brodie's Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
- (4.) Richmond Vale Coal-mine Railway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.

19th September, 1900.

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

(1.) Boundary-street Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

*Governor.**Message No. 83.*

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 vest certain land in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of Sydney.

*Government House,**Sydney, 3rd July, 1900.*

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

(2.) Metropolitan Water (Richmond) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

*Governor.**Message No. 84.*

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 vest certain lands and works and certain property in the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage; to apply the provisions of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts Extension Act of 1894, to the water supply of the municipality of Richmond; and to authorise the mayor and aldermen of that municipality to vote at elections of members of the said Board; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.

*Government House,**Sydney, 2nd July, 1900.*

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

7. MINING BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Fegan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

*Governor.**Message No. 85.*

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 consolidate and amend the law relating to Mining; to establish Mining Appeal Courts; to give further facilities for the development of mining; and for other purposes.

*Government House,**Sydney, 19th September, 1900.*

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 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 action of Mr. C. DeJohery, a member of the Public Service Board, in circularising shareholders in the Civil Service Co-operative Society of New South Wales *re* the matter of his son's candidature for a seat on the Board of Directors of that Society.”

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.

9. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—On Motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 13th September, 1900, in reference to the amendments in this Bill.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in the Bill.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

Sir William Lyne 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 13th September, 1900, in reference to the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill,—

Insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in the Bill.

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:—Sir William Lyne, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Gillies, Mr. McLean, Mr. Millard, Mr. Edden, Mr. Reymond, Mr. See, Mr. Wilks, and Mr. Neild.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 19th September, 1900.

Debate ensued.

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th September, 1900.

And Mr. Norton requiring that the Managers be appointed by Ballot,—
Question,—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 September, 1900, in reference to the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill,—

Insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in the Bill.

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,—put and passed.

Whereupon the House proceeded to the Ballot; and Mr. Speaker declared the following to be the Managers duly appointed:—Sir William Lyne, Mr. Edden, Mr. Hughes, Mr. McLean, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Millard, Mr. Neild, Mr. See, Mr. Gillies, and Mr. Reymond.

10. EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Perry proceeding to move, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Point of Order :—Mr. Norton requested Mr. Speaker's attention to clause 7, which proposes to bring hotels and wineshops selling tobacco, cigars, or cigarettes under the same law as tobacconists' shops, and submitted that there being no reference in the Title to these proposed alterations in the Licensing Act and Tobacco Act, the clause was beyond the Order of Leave, and the Bill therefore out of order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that it was in order for this Bill to amend section 23 of the Principal Act by withdrawing those exemptions and bringing railway refreshment rooms, railway bookstalls, public-houses, and hotels within the provisions of the Principal Act. He therefore ruled this amending Bill in order.

Mr. Perry then moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

11. MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2):—The Order of the Day having been read.—Mr. Fegan moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Fegan, *passed*.

Mr. Fegan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those 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 provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 20th September, 1900, a.m.

12. INEBRIATES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wise, *passed*.

Mr. Wise then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the care, control, and treatment of inebriates, and for purposes incidental to the abovementioned objects.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the care, control, and treatment of inebriates, and for purposes incidental to the abovementioned objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 20th September, 1900, a.m.

13. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—

(1.) Inscribed Stock (Registrar) Bill; third reading.

(2.) Fruit Case Bill; second reading.

19th September, 1900.

14. ADMINISTRATION (VALIDATING) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wise moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Mr. Norton moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 5.		Noes, 38.	
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Watson,	Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Archer,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Miller.	Mr. Perry,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. McFarlane,
* Tellers,	Mr. Cann,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. Wise,	Mr. Holman,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Molesworth.	Mr. Cook,	Mr. McGowen	Mr. Carroll,
	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Dight.
	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Aslton,	Tellers,
	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Gillies,
	Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Price,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
	Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Spruson,	
	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Law,	
	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Nicholson,	

- And so it passed in the negative.
Original Question then put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Wise, 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. Wise, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
15. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Government Business postponed until To-morrow.
16. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL (No. 2):—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Price moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Price, *passed*.
Mr. Price then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act for the registration of medical practitioners; the restriction of unqualified persons from practising; and to amend such other statutes as may be inconsistent 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 for the registration of medical practitioners; the restriction of unqualified persons from practising; and to amend such other statutes as may be inconsistent therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
- Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 20th September, 1900, a.m.
- The House adjourned, at twenty-four minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 45.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 20 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Railway from Narrabri to Moree:—Mr. Wright asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) What was the cost of the railway from Narrabri to Moree?
- (2.) What was the cost per mile?
- (3.) What was the cost of the earthworks per cubic yard?
- (4.) Was this line constructed for the estimated cost as submitted to the Works Committee?
- (5.) The like information regarding Parkes to Condobolin?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

Narrabri to Moree Railway.

- (1.) £145,954 13s. 1d.
- (2.) £2,299 15s.
- (3.) General formation, £1 per chain; excavation in cuttings, banks, side ditches, &c., 1s. 6d. and 1s. 3d. per cubic yard.
- (4.) For less than the estimated cost, which was £153,000.

Parkes to Condobolin Railway.

- (1.) £118,041 3s. 11d.
- (2.) £1,881 2s. 7d.
- (3.) First section, general formation, £3 per chain; second section, general formation, £1 13s. per chain; first section, excavation in cuttings, banks, side ditches, &c., 3s. and 1s. 6d. per cubic yard; second section, excavation in cuttings, banks, side ditches, &c., 1s. 6d., 1s., and 7d. per cubic yard.
- (4.) For less than the estimated cost, which was £130,200.

(2.) Conversion of the Steam Trams to the Electric System:—Mr. Wright asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What money has been spent on the conversion of the steam tramways—Sydney and suburbs—into electric tramways?
- (2.) What is the estimated cost to complete the conversion of the whole of the steam tramways to the electric system?

Mr. Sec answered,—I am informed that £235,213 has been spent on the conversion of the steam tramways, and that it is estimated that a further sum of about £415,000 will be required to complete the conversion and equipment.(3.) Increments to Railway Employees:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for Mr. Nielsen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have all drivers, firemen, guards, tram-conductors, fettlers, and other employees of the Railway Commissioners, who are entitled to increments according to scales of wages fixed by Regulations published on 23rd December, 1892, received the increments due to them?
- (2.) If not, why not; and when will this withholding of statutory increments be discontinued?

Mr. Sec answered,—I am informed that the increments referred to are conditional upon approval being given for their payment, but, in view of financial conditions, increases to the lower grades only have been continuously given. As the financial outlook improves the Commissioners are extending them to the higher grades.(4.) Export of Rabbits:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) The number of rabbits exported during the last twelve months ending 31st August, 1900?
- (2.) The cost of and amount paid for freightage of the same?
- (3.) The amount, or approximate amount, realised from the sale of rabbits so exported?
- (4.) The same information with regard to the amount realised from local consumption?
- (5.) Is the industry of exporting rabbits a profitable one for the Colony?

Mr.

20th September, 1900.

- Mr. Fegan answered,—
- (1.) 30,312.
 - (2.) This cannot be given, as the rabbits are not purchased by the Government. Freight, about £320.
 - (3.) Realised about £1,200.
 - (4.) Estimated at £3,750.
 - (5.) The industry is profitable to the Colony, giving employment to a number of trappers, carters, packers, and dealers, besides assisting to get rid of pests which previously cost the Colony large sums for scalp-money and poisoning.
- (5.) Case of Josephson v. Young:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to the reply to Mr. Austin Chapman's Question No. 7, in Votes and Proceedings of 5th September, 1900,—
- (1.) Has the saving of £301,827 ls. 11d., by the retrenchments by the Public Service Board, been sustained?
 - (2.) If so, what respectively was paid to the Civil Servants in 1895 and in the last financial year?
- Mr. See answered,—If the Honorable Member will refer to the return which was laid upon the Table of the House on the 29th of August, in answer to Questions asked some time ago by the Honorable Member for Yass, he will find that full information is given on this subject.
- (6.) Naturalised Subjects on the Electoral Rolls:—Mr. Lee asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the police are instructed to require naturalised subjects to produce their certificates before placing their names on the Electoral Roll?
 - (2.) Is he aware that persons who have been naturalised in this Colony for upwards of thirty years, and whose names appeared on all previous Electoral Rolls, but who have lost their certificates, have in consequence been disfranchised?
 - (3.) Will he cause the police to take the names of such persons, and if they are found to have been naturalised, without the production of the certificates, have them enrolled?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) Yes; the police have been so instructed.
 - (2.) A number of persons who had been enrolled, but who did not possess, and never had possessed, certificates of naturalisation, have had their names removed.
 - (3.) If there are any cases of hardship, in which persons who have received letters of naturalisation have had their names omitted owing to the loss of their certificates, these persons will be enrolled. I shall be pleased to have a list of any such cases.
- (7.) Conserving Water at Lake Cowal, Forbes District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Has any report been received by the Government in regard to the proposal for conserving water at Lake Cowal, district of Forbes; if so, by whom?
 - (2.) Will he lay a copy of the report (if any) upon the Table of this House for the information of Honorable Members?
 - (3.) What is the estimated cost of carrying out this work of water conservation at Lake Cowal?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) Yes, by Mr. F. Cotton, M.P., who gave his services free in a very patriotic and praiseworthy manner.
 - (2.) Yes, if moved for in the usual manner.
 - (3.) Mr. Cotton estimates the cost of the work at £10,000, but the proposal has been postponed pending further information.
- (8.) Loan Money for Construction and Completion of Public Works:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What amount of Loan money will be required to carry out the construction and completion of public works that have been approved of by the Public Works Committee?
 - (2.) The amount of "Loan" money now on hand to carry on the completion of these public works?
 - (3.) The amount that will be required to be borrowed as a fresh Loan, either locally or on the English money market, for the completion of these works?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—This information can be better prepared in the form of a return. Perhaps the Honorable Member will move for it in the usual way.
- (9.) Site for the Federal Capital:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. McLaughlin, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does Mr. Oliver intend to carry out his promise to inspect the Dorrigo country as a Federal Capital site; and, if so, when?
- Mr. See answered,—Mr. Oliver's report is now passing through the Press, and it is, therefore, too late to visit the Don Dorrigo site.
- (10.) Dynamo of the Government Printing Office:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Meagher, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a complaint has been made by the holder of certain property against the nuisance created by the dynamo of the Government Printing Office?
 - (2.) Has any claim been made in reference thereto?
 - (3.) Has he any objection to laying upon the Table of the House all correspondence, papers, and documents relating to the above matter?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) The matter has not yet been decided.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th September, 1900.

- (11.) Cobar Copper-mining Company :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) What were the exact conditions upon which the Cobar Copper-mining Company were granted the lease of land upon which they are working; and when was such lease acquired by the company?
 - (2.) Was the company invested with the right to mine for gold and to retain possession of same?
 - (3.) What is the value of gold taken from the Cobar Copper-mining Company's lease since the company commenced operations?
 - (4.) If the company did not acquire the right to mine for gold under the terms and conditions of the lease granted, why is it that the State has not laid claims to the whole of the value of gold so won?
 - (5.) Are there any other companies in New South Wales occupying a position in regard to the matter of mining for gold similar to that occupied by the Cobar Copper-mining Company; and, if so, will he name such companies?
 - (6.) Will he cause investigation to be made, with the object of discovering the extent to which the Cobar Copper-mining Company have retained full and complete possession of gold mined from their lease prior to 1895, and make demand, on behalf of the State, for payment of royalty thereon?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I am unable to give this information at present as the case is *sub judice*.

- (12.) Withdrawal of Land for Settlement on Collyburl and Haddon Rig Stations :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—Does he propose to recompense the large number of intending selectors for the unnecessary expense to which they were put in going to Dubbo, there only to find that the land advertised for settlement on Collyburl and Haddon Rig stations had been suddenly and unexpectedly withdrawn by the Department?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The lands were to be available on the 13th instant—that is to say, application could not be made until that or a later date. Application could be made by post, and the personal attendance of the applicants was not required until the 26th instant, when the Board was to sit to deal with any applications that might be made. At the time the postponement of date took place it was not understood that intending selectors had gone to Dubbo a fortnight in advance of the date on which their personal attendance would have been actually necessary; and it has to be borne in mind that if a large number of persons had gone, and no alteration of date had taken place, only sixteen could have succeeded with their applications, as there were only sixteen blocks available. It has not been the practice of the Department to compensate unsuccessful applicants, and no application for compensation has been made in the present case.

- (13.) Appointment of Appraisers :—Mr. Moore asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) In view of his statement that all necessary steps have been taken to appoint appraisers in the various districts, and to deal with the appraisalment of the capital value of conditional purchases and conditional leases, will he say—(a) in what districts have appraisers or valuers been actually appointed; (b) what are the steps which have been taken to deal with appraisalment; (c) how many appraisalments have been made?
- (2.) What steps are taken to notify applicants of the sitting of the Land Board to deal with their cases?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) (a) Appraisers have been appointed in the following Land Districts :—Wagga Wagga, Narrandera, Corowa, Urana, Cootamundry, Gundagai, Balranald, Wentworth, Hay, Hillstone, Deniliquin, Tenterfield, Boorowa, Young, Braidwood, Queanbeyan, Bombala, Goulburn, and Gunning. These are the districts in which the majority of the applications have been made. In most districts only very few applications have been made, and in these cases the arrangement is that the District Surveyor shall obtain a valuation from some local expert, the appointment of an appraiser not being warranted. The Department has written to the local officers pointing out the necessity for expedition. (b) The claims of the many applicants for appointment have been inquired into, rates of payment have been decided upon, a special form of report has been printed, and a conference of as many of the District Surveyors as could be spared has been held in Sydney for the purpose of ensuring as far as possible a uniform method of procedure. (c) Appraisalments cannot be made by Land Boards until after the appraisers have inspected and valued the land, and it will be recognised that, while all possible expedition is necessary, the careful inspection of a number of portions must necessarily occupy some amount of time.
- (2.) When the dates of the Land Board sittings are fixed applicants will be served with the usual notice to attend. I would like to assure the Honorable Member that the importance of making the appraisalments as speedily as practicable is fully recognised in this Department, and if he has any case in view in asking the Question, I would be glad if he would furnish me with particulars, so that I can ascertain when it will be disposed of.

- (14.) Medical Bill :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will the Government, for the better protection of the public and in the interest of public health, and to put down the prevalence of quackery, see that steps are taken to bring in a comprehensive Medical Bill dealing with this vital and important matter during the present Session in place of the piecemeal Medical Bill now before Parliament?

Mr. See answered,—Instructions were issued by me some time back for the preparation of a comprehensive Medical Bill; but I cannot at present promise it will be dealt with this Session.

2. LIQUOR ACT :—

- (1.) The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named :—
 - (1.) By Mr. Neild—From certain members of the Herald of Peace Lodge, No. 68, I.O.G.T.
 - (2.) By Mr. Hawthorne—From certain residents of Leichhardt.

(2.)

20th September, 1900.

- (2.) Mr. Reid presented a Petition from F. B. Boyce, Chairman of a public meeting of residents of Sydney and suburbs, held on 24th July last, praying that the law as to the closing of public-houses on Sunday may be made thoroughly effective, and that the hours of closing public-houses and wine-shops may be brought into harmony with those for ordinary shops.
Petitions received.
3. OLD AGE PENSIONS:—Mr. McGowen presented a Petition from F. B. Boyce, Chairman of a public meeting held in St. Paul's School, Redfern, stating that, in the opinion of the meeting, a well-devised scheme of Old Age Pensions will alone satisfactorily meet and relieve the existing conditions of distress and suffering which are so often consequent on old age, and praying the House to take the premises into its favourable consideration, and grant such relief as may seem best.
Petition received.
4. WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick presented a Petition from George Robertson, of the firm of Angus and Robertson, of Sydney, booksellers, representing that the House had appointed a Select Committee to inquire into, and report upon, the working of the Free Public Library, and praying that Petitioner may be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before such Committee, with the right to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses.
Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
5. CASE OF WILLIAM REID:—Mr. Thomas presented a Petition from E. L. Maitland, of Broken Hill, representing that the House had appointed a Select Committee to inquire into and report upon his action as Warden in connection with the case of William Reid, and praying that Petitioner may be represented by counsel or attorney, or in person, before such Committee, with the right to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses.
Petition received.
Ordered to be referred to the Select Committee.
6. PAPERS:—
Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Voting Statistics—City Divisions.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
Mr. Hassall laid upon the the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 27th June, 1900,—“A. Hope's
“Scrub Lease near Condobolin.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, 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 Narrabri to Walgett, with Branch to Collarendabri.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Dugald Thomson brought up the Twelfth Report from the Printing Committee.
9. DISMISSAL OF MRS. ABRAHAMS, SHAFESBURY GIRLS ASYLUM:—Mr. Holman (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on “Dismissal of Mrs. Abrahams, Shaftesbury Girls
“Asylum,” have leave to sit during any adjournment of the House.
Question put and passed.
10. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL (*Free Conference*):—
(1.) 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 19th September, 1900, on the subject of the Council's amendments disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council in the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill, and appoints that the same be held in the Back Library forthwith, and that the Honorable Henry Edward Kater, the Honorable James Norton, the Honorable William Portus Cullen, the Honorable Henry Carey Dangar, the Honorable Alexander Brown, the Honorable Samuel Charles, the Honorable George Henry Cox, the Honorable Andrew Taylor Kerr, the Honorable John Macintosh, and the Honorable Richard Hutchinson Roberts, be the Managers thereof on its behalf,
Legislative Council Chamber, W. J. TRICKETT,
Sydney, 20th September, 1900. Deputy-President.
- (2.) Whereupon the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, called over the names of the Managers appointed on behalf of the Assembly, namely, Sir William Lyne, Mr. Edden, Mr. Hughes, Mr. McLean, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Millard, Mr. Neild, Mr. See, Mr. Gillies, and Mr. Reymond, 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.
The Managers having returned,—
Sir William Lyne, on their behalf, brought up the following report, which was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, as follows:—
The Managers appointed by the Legislative Assembly, by resolution of 19th September, 1900, 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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill, report to this Honorable House that, having met the Managers appointed by the Legislative Council in its behalf,—they have failed to arrive at any agreement.

WILLIAM JOHN LYNE.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th September, 1900.

11. LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) 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 provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment-books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section eleven of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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, 20th September, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 20th September, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 2, line 2. *Omit "relates to" insert "requires"*
Page 2, clause 2, line 2. *After "tax" insert "to be prepared in every fifth year"*

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
Deputy-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.

12. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-three minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



Acto South Wales.

No. 46.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Real Property Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 86.

A Bill intituled, "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the declaration of titles to land and the facilitation of its transfer*,"—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, 1900.

- (2.) Public Works Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 87.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Public 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, 22nd September, 1900.

- (3.) Indecent Publications Act Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 88.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Indecent Publications Act, 1900*,"—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, 1900.

- (4.) Newcastle Pasturage Reserve Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 89.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Newcastle Pasturage Reserve*,"—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, 1900.

(5.)

25th September, 1900.

(5.) Trade Marks Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 90.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Trade Marks and Fraudulent Marks*,"—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, 1900.

(6.) Oaths Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 91.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Oaths, Affirmations, Statutory Declarations, and Affidavits*,"—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, 1900.

(7.) Mining Partnerships Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 92.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to limiting the Liability of Mining Partnerships*,"—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, 1900.

(8.) University and University Colleges Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 93.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the University of Sydney and Colleges within the University of 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, 1900.

(9.) Noxious Microbes Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 94.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the communication of Infectious Diseases to Animals*,"—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, 1900.

(10.) Partition Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 95.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Partition*,"—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, 1900.

(11.) Public Watering Places Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 96.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts regulating Public Watering Places, and protecting certain Reserves from trespass*,"—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, 1900

(12.)

25th September, 1900.

(12.) Sheriff Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 97.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the office of Sheriff*,"—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, 1900.

2. QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Inmates in Newington and Parramatta Asylums :—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Do the same conditions operate as regards treatment of inmates in Newington and Parramatta Asylums?

(2.) What is the practice with regard—(a) to the opening of letters of patients in these institutions; (b) to leave to patients; (c) the matter of supplying patients with fires in their rooms during winter evenings; (d) to the character of the food supplied; and does the same practice operate alike at Newington and Parramatta?

(3.) If not, why not?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Acting Director of Government Asylums :—Yes; the same conditions as to the opening of letters of inmates, leave to inmates, the supply of fires in winter, and the character of the food, operate at both Newington and the Parramatta Asylums for the Infirm and Destitute.

(2.) Electric Tram Service on Glebe Point Line :—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Hogue*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the cause of the delay in starting the electric tram service on the Glebe Point line?

(2.) When may the service in question be expected to begin?

(3.) Is it intended to continue running the steam trams on this line as well as the electric cars; and will there be an increase in the number of trams each day?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that it is not possible to complete the conversion of the Glebe Point line until additional boiler power, which is now being installed at the Power-house, is available. It will probably take about two months to complete.

(3.) It is intended to run the Glebe service wholly by electric cars, and there will be a more frequent service than at present.

(3.) Drivers on the Electric Trams :—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What are the hours that electric tram-drivers sign on and off for morning and evening shifts respectively?

(2.) Is it not a fact that they are allowed no time for meals, and must necessarily have breakfast, dinner, or tea while in the course of duty?

(3.) Are any steps to be taken to provide the drivers with seats and screens for the hot weather?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed that morning-shift men sign on at various times, according to the requirements of the traffic, from 4:45 a.m. to 7:30 a.m., and sign off from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Evening-shift men sign on at various times from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., and sign off from 10:30 p.m. to 12:20 a.m.

(2.) Time cannot always be allowed for meals, but provision is made as far as practicable.

(3.) The question of seats for drivers is under consideration. In the interests of safe working it is considered inadvisable to provide screens.

(4.) The Civil Service Co-operative Society :—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Civil Service Co-operative Society is a public company?

(2.) Is it a fact that the shares of the said company are sold to the public?

(3.) Are there any Civil Servants on the Board of the said Society?

(4.) If so, is it not an infringement of the Public Service rules, viz., that no Civil Servant shall hold any position outside the Service for which he is paid fees?

(5.) Will he see that the Public Service Board has this rule carried out, in regard to the Society in question and in all other cases, irrespective of persons?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) No. It is registered under the Friendly Societies Act.

(2.) I am informed that shareholders have to be in some way connected with the Public Service.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) No. This is specially provided for in section 64 of the Public Service Act.

(5.) Answered by No. 4.

(5.) Scheme for Water Conservation at Lake Cowal :—*Mr. Bruncker*, for *Mr. Reid*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Had he under consideration recently a scheme for water conservation at Lake Cowal, which was also suggested as capable of supplying Wyalong and Marsden?

(2.) Did he direct that preparation be commenced for carrying out that scheme; and whom did he name for taking charge of the work?

(3.) Did the person named proceed to the locality; and was he authorised to call for tenders for a part of the work?

(4.) Was any duly qualified officer of the Department sent to take any part in the work?

(5.)

25th September, 1900.

(5.) Has he not been advised by professional authority that if one part of the scheme, namely a weir across Mannia Creek, 20 chains long and 6 feet high, were carried out, it would be necessary to extend the weir for 2 miles to prevent water escaping round the end?

(6.) Was he also advised that raising Lake Cowal 6 feet would flood a number of adjoining properties?

(7.) Is it not a fact that the 26-foot level mentioned by the Premier to a recent deputation in connection with Lake Cowal would put the township of Marsden, 6 miles south, 10 feet under water?

(8.) Is it not a fact that Wyalong is more than 100 feet above the level of Lake Cowal?

(9.) Did not he send some one to construct embankments at the lower end of Lake Cowal last month?

(10.) Was the gentleman in the Public Service; and, if not, what testimonials of fitness for such works were submitted?

(11.) Is the Minister still going on with the work at Lake Cowal?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—A scheme for draining the flood waters of the Lachlan River into Lake Cowal was brought under my notice by Mr. F. Cotton, M.P., in a public, spirited, and patriotic manner, but owing to protests from residents and official advice, I decided not to carry out the work. It was, however, thought that a weir about 20 chains long across Mannia Creek would keep a sufficiency of water in Lake Cowal in dry seasons to prevent the lake from becoming absolutely dry. Provision could have been made by the use of bye-washes to prevent the flooding of the country. A small body of men were therefore sent up to Mannia Creek, and they worked for a few days only under Mr. R. Cotton, a station manager of experience, who has a thorough acquaintance with dam and weir works, and possesses excellent testimonials. Even this small operation was at once stopped, though there is every reason to believe it would prove a success, in order that the whole proposal may be officially reported upon. Some of the statements made in opposition to the Lake Cowal scheme have evidently emanated from a small number of pastoralists who are desirous of retaining the lands around the lake, or from applicants from scrub leases on a lake in which it would be difficult to discover anything but weeds and bulrushes.

(6.) Bore for Artesian Water at Hungerford:—*Mr. Bruncker*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he authorised sinking a bore for artesian water at Hungerford, in this Colony, at an estimated expense of several thousands of pounds?

(2.) Was the work reported upon by the professional officers of his Department; and, if so, was their report favourable or otherwise?

(3.) Is it not a fact that Mr. Jack, the Government Geologist of Queensland, and Mr. Pitman, the Geological Surveyor of New South Wales, both pronounced the locality chosen for the bore one in which there was no reasonable prospect of success?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The site of the new bore at Hungerford is not the same as that condemned by Mr. Jack and Mr. Pittman. It is a site chosen by Mr. Townsend, who has been successful in locating other bores. According to Mr. Townsend's report, several bores have been successful around Hungerford, one of the wells being only a mile and a half from the town, and another only one mile. There is, therefore, every prospect of the proposed bore being successful. I may add that the work has been started at the request of the Queensland Government, who are finding half of the cost of the bore, notwithstanding the adverse report of their late Geologist.

(7.) Parliamentary Elections,—Canterbury Electorate:—*Mr. Bruncker*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Did the Honorable Member for Burwood, Mr. Archer, interview him during the recent contest or the previous contest for the electorate of Canterbury with reference to the proposed tram extension from Enfield to Mortlake, or with reference to the extension of the railway line from Belmore to Liverpool?

(2.) Did he make any promise during the period mentioned to construct those works, or either of them?

(3.) Did he authorise the Honorable Member for Burwood to use the name of the Minister in connection with those works, or either of them, or in connection with the contest for Canterbury, in any shape or form?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—No. Neither directly nor indirectly did the Honorable Member for Burwood, Mr. Archer, approach me on these matters during the elections for Canterbury. The loop line from Belmore to Liverpool was promised to a deputation in December, 1899, introduced by Mr. Varney Parkes, a Member of the Opposition. For that reason I scrupulously refrained from taking part in either of the contests for Canterbury. Regarding the tramway to Mortlake, that was not promised till a fortnight after the second election for Canterbury, on 28th July. It was the result of a visit to the locality, and the first announcement was made in the most open manner at a public demonstration. It will thus be seen that the railway was promised long before the vacancy for Canterbury occurred, and the tramway not until a fortnight after the second election. Neither Mr. Archer, M.P., nor anyone else was authorised by me to make any announcement concerning these matters while the elections were pending. On the contrary, my actions show that I refused to use these proposals to sway the votes of the electors of Canterbury in the contests referred to; and, by so acting, my conduct was in direct contrast to that of the late Secretary for Public Works.

(8.) Provisions of Aliens Restriction Act respecting American Vessels:—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the fact that at Newcastle, in April, 1899, the master of the American barque "Carrolton" was fined £300 for having permitted three aliens to escape; that upon representations being made by the American Consul, Dr. Golding, who demanded the clearance of the "Carrolton," refused because of non-payment of the fines above referred to, the vessel was allowed to proceed to sea, and the fines were never exacted?

(2.)

25th September, 1900.

(2.) Is he also aware that correspondence was at once entered into between the British Government and the American Government, through the British Consul in London, with the result that Lord Salisbury directed a reply to the Government of New South Wales, through his Excellency the Governor, to the effect that in future "the provisions of the Aliens Restriction Act will not be enforced in connection with American vessels"?

(3.) What steps does he propose to take in connection with this important development?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No. The question was submitted for the opinion of the Attorney-General, who advised that the master of the "Carrolton" could not be held liable to any penalty under the Immigration Restriction Act of 1898, because some of his ship's crew, who were unable to pass the test provided by the Act in respect of immigrants, had effected a landing from the ship against his will or without his connivance. The Secretary of State for the Colonies was informed, in reply to a request for particulars of the case, that it was now recognised that deserting seamen from American vessels could only be dealt with under the provisions of the Treaty between the two Nations for the reclamation of such persons. That information was conveyed to the American Government.

(3.) There is no special need for anxiety. If, however, I find that any improper advantage is being taken of the present unsatisfactory state of the law, immediate steps will be taken with the view of securing some effective provision for preventing the abuse. The question is one, however, which can only be effectively and comprehensively dealt with by the Federal Government.

(9.) Classes at the Technical College :—Mr. Ewing asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Technical College, which, presumably, is an institution for providing handicraft training, has classes for teaching the following :—Black and White Drawing, Still Life Painting, Artistic Anatomy, Antique Drawing, Life from the Semi-nude and Draped Figure, Landscape Painting, Animal Painting, and Modelling from Antique and Life?

(2.) Can such subjects be regarded as coming within the province of technical training?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes, to the extent now taught.

(10.) Subsidies to the Society of Artists and the Art Society :—Mr. Ewing asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Would he inform the House if it is his intention to take away the subsidies at present given to the Society of Artists and the Art Society; if so, will he please to state what provision he proposes to make—(1) for the continuance of the Travelling Scholarship given by the Society of Artists out of its subsidy, and (2) for the teaching of higher art in the Colony?

Mr. Perry answered,—A sum of money will be placed on the Estimates for the encouragement of Art, to be expended under the joint supervision of the Art Society and the Society of Artists.

(11.) Improvements on the Parliamentary Premises :—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—From what Vote of Parliament has he paid for the various improvements made on the Parliamentary premises since November last?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—“Parliamentary buildings improvements, &c., lighting Government lamps, and attending to gas and ventilation, Parliamentary buildings,”—Revenue Estimates, Government Architect's Branch.

(12.) Collection of Wharf Dues by Intercolonial Shipping Companies :—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did he grant the use of the public wharfs to the Intercolonial Shipping Companies free of charge during the cleansing operations consequent on the plague scare, and prior to the 1st July last?

(2.) Did the Intercolonial Shipping Companies collect wharfage dues from consignees of imports or shippers of exports prior to 1st July?

(3.) Have such collections of wharfage prior to 1st July been paid into the Treasury?

(4.) If not, does he intend to insist on these collections being so paid?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) No.

(4.) This matter will be decided by the Harbour Trust Commissioners when appointed.

(13.) Timber condemned by Roads Engineers :—Mr. Nielsen asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the fact that bridge contractors, who get their timber inspected and passed by a Government timber expert before it leaves Sydney, are put to great expense by some of this timber being condemned, after it reaches its destination, by the Roads engineers?

(2.) In view of the fact that the timber expert who passes the timber in Sydney is admittedly more competent to judge of the soundness or otherwise of timber bought by contractors, will he see that in future no timber is condemned by the local engineers which has been stamped by the Government timber inspector, and has by him been certified to be sound and up to the required standard?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) I understand that, occasionally, timber which has been inspected, and branded by the inspector before it leaves Sydney, is rejected by the officer in charge of the work for which it was intended by the contractor; but as such cases are comparatively rare, and the timber so rejected forms an infinitesimal portion of the timber sent forward, I am not informed that this step has resulted in any serious loss to the contractors.

(2.)

25th September, 1900.

(2.) The inspection of timber in Sydney, or at any place other than on the work for which it is intended, is undertaken largely in the interests of the contractors. The inspection is for class only, as it would be impossible for the Sydney Inspector to know for what purpose each piece is intended. If, therefore, undersized timber is sent forward by the contractor, it can only be rejected upon arrival at the work. The Department must reserve the right to reject any piece of timber at any time until a contract is completed.

(14.) Duties of Crown Land Agent at Walgett, Urana, and Casino:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Ashton* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) From what date have the duties of Crown Land Agent at Walgett, Urana, Casino, Barmedman, and Wagga Wagga, respectively, been performed by other than a permanently-appointed officer?

(2.) Since what date has each of these positions been vacant?

(3.) What is the cause of delay in filling these positions?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) The duties at Casino are already being performed by a permanently appointed officer; the duties at Urana and Barmedman (until the last four days) by fully qualified members of the Permanent Staff of Relieving Crown Land Agents. The duties at Walgett are being performed by a permanent officer from Headquarters, and at Wagga Wagga by a permanent officer of the Land Board Clerical Staff.

(2.) Walgett was not vacant until the case of the late Land Agent had been disposed of by the Executive, viz., 5th June, 1900. Wagga Wagga, in the same manner, did not become vacant until 24th July, 1900. Barmedman has been vacant since 3rd July, 1900. Urana since 1st February, 1900.

(3.) In one case the trial of the late Agent and consequent proceedings caused most of the delay. In another case an inquiry had to be conducted by the Public Service Board, which, with the action arising therefrom, occupied a considerable period, but it has to be pointed out that these and other vacancies cannot be settled independently, but have to be dealt with as a whole, and a readjustment of the staff of the Department has to be made which involves a good many considerations as to the qualifications of officers for special positions. The matter is, however, in hand.

(15.) Glebe Island Abattoir:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Glebe Island Abattoir is used as a sweating establishment by being opened to work before the regulation hours, and kept open regularly after the closing hours; and that butchers are compelled to work over seventy hours per week?

(2.) And, if so, will he take steps to have this state of affairs stopped?

Sir William Lyne answered.—The abattoir is occasionally opened before regulation hours, on special request of butchers. When this is done increased fees are paid for all animals slaughtered. The exigencies of the trade require this arrangement. The abattoir is never open after hours. The Board of Health has no knowledge of the butchers and their hours of work. It leases houses to carcase butchers, who employ their own slaughtermen.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Minutes respecting the granting of further sick leave to, and the retirement of, *Mr. H. R. Carleton*, Principal Assistant Engineer, Harbours and Rivers Branch, Department of Public Works.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for the construction of a Stormwater Channel at Marrickville.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Mining Laws Amendment Act of 1896, of Portions 3 and 4, in the parish of Brolga, county of Gipps.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Borough of Hillgrove.

(2.) Report respecting manufacture of Lyddite.

(3.) Return respecting Payments to Members of the Public Works Committee during August, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Return respecting the Newcastle-Adamstown Tramway.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL:—*Sir William Lyne* (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House will, To-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the report of the Assembly's Managers of the Free Conference on the subject of its disagreements to certain of the Legislative Council's amendments in the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill; and also to consider what further steps should be taken in respect to such amendments. Question put and passed.

5. TECHNICAL COLLEGE (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. McGowen* moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The names, ages, and occupations of all students attending the classes in engineering at the Technical College—viz., fitting, turning, pattern-making, and blacksmithing.

(2.) Like information with regard to boiler-making, iron and brass moulders, and carpenters.

Question put and passed.¶

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th September, 1900.

6. CABLE BETWEEN CANADA AND AUSTRALASIA:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the following resolutions:—
- (1.) That this House approves that the Government of New South Wales be authorised to co-operate with the Governments of Great Britain, Canada, Victoria, Queensland, and New Zealand, in raising the required capital and adopting such other measures as shall be found best calculated to give effect to the construction and maintenance of an all-British submarine cable between Canada and Australasia across the Pacific Ocean.
 - (2.) That the New South Wales proportion of the cost thereof shall not exceed one-ninth of the whole amount involved.
 - (3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor,—discharged, on motion of Mr. Crick.

7. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
- (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
 - (2.) Richmond Vale Coal-mine Railway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Thursday next.
 - (3.) Paton's Settlement Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday next.

8. WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 98.

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 Parliamentary Franchise to women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

Government House,

Sydney, 25th September, 1900.

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

9. DISSENT FROM MR. SPEAKER'S RULING—EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Norton moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House dissents from Mr. Speaker's ruling on the 19th September upon the Point of Order, raised by the Member for Northumberland, to the effect that the Bill to amend the Early Closing Act of 1899 was beyond the Order of Leave.
- Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

10. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Affleck moved, without Notice, That it is a case of urgent and pressing necessity that the consideration of the Government Railways Act Amendment Bill (Order of the Day No. 1, on the Business Paper No. 45) should be proceeded with forthwith.
- Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 19.

Mr. Cook,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Storey,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. Dight,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Price.

Tellers,

Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Meagher.

Noes, 37.

Mr. Wise,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. See,
Mr. Crick,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Quinn,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Richards,
Mr. Byrne,

Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Archer,
Mr. Sawers,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Piddington.

Tellers,
Mr. Fitzgerald,
Mr. Millard.

And so it passed in the negative.

11. LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, 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 provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment-books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section eleven of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 25th September, 1900.

25th September, 1900.

12. **EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Perry, "That this Bill be now read a second time,"—
And the Question being again proposed,—
The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
Mr. Quinn moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.
13. **METROPOLITAN WATER (RICHMOND) BILL**:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 vest certain lands and works and certain property in the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage; to apply the provisions of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts Extension Act of 1894, to the water supply of the municipality of Richmond; and to authorise the Mayor and Aldermen of that municipality to vote at elections of members of the said Board; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.
Question put and passed.
14. **BOUNDARY-STREET BILL**:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 vest certain land in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney, for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of Sydney.
Question put and passed.
15. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The remaining Government Business, and the remaining Orders of the Day of General Business, postponed until To-morrow.
16. **CONDITIONAL PURCHASE OF GEORGE HUMPHRIES COWLED**:—Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Conditional Purchase of "George Humphries Cowled," brought up on 26th July, 1900, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
17. **PAPERS**:—Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Return to an Address, adopted on 18th July, 1900,—“Case of the Bishop of Goulburn v. The Comte de Rossi.”
(2.) Despatch from Secretary of State for the Colonies respecting Mutual Extradition of Fugitive Criminals.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

WILLIAM McCOURT,

Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 47.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Inspection of Meat-preserving Works and Slaughter-houses:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware no inspection is done at Parramatta, Auburn Meat Works, and North Shore, and that only on one day in the week one of the Government experts from the Abattoirs attends dead-meat market in Sydney?

(2.) Will he see that more men are regularly engaged in inspection at this place; and also that more men be sent to the different meat-preserving works and to the suburban slaughtering-houses?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The inspection at Parramatta, Auburn Meat Works, and North Shore is carried on by the local authorities, and no complaints of inefficiency have been received. Within the last few days a veterinary inspector has visited these places and reported favourably on them. The market for country-killed meat is only held on Friday in Sydney, and it is regularly attended by an Abattoir inspector.

(2.) The small business carried on at so many scattered places would not justify the expense of retaining inspectors for this work. If Government inspectors are to be employed in all these suburbs they should with equal justice be employed in every slaughtering-place all over the Colony.

- (2.) Appeals from Officers of the Public Service:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) When will result of appeals of officers of the Public Service receive consideration?

(2.) Will he have the matter expedited, in view of overlapping with increment reports by heads of Departments which are now in course of preparation?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Public Service Board inform me that they have come to a decision in the matter, but there are no funds available at present to meet further payments. The question of providing further funds is now under consideration in connection with the Estimates.

- (3.) Export of Rabbits:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) In answer to sub-questions Nos. 2 and 3 of Question 4, by *Dr. Ross*, on the 20th September, regarding export of rabbits, the reply was that the amount realised was about £1,200, and freight about £320, in other words the average price obtained (as alleged) was 9½d each, with a freight charge of 2½d. per rabbit, leaving 7d. net balance?

(2.) Was the 7d. net, as above stated, returned to the sender of the rabbits from country districts; or have railway freights, cases, freezing, cartage, wharfage, insurance, exchange, and London commission and handling to be deducted; or, to put it briefly, what did the trapper or trappers who sent the rabbits down get actually paid for them per head?

(3.) Is it not a fact that exporters cannot pay the price of 7d. without a certain loss on exporting?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I regret I am unable to give any definite reply to the Honorable Member, as I before stated the Department has nothing to do with either the purchase or the sale of the rabbits. The information asked could, therefore, only be given by those who engage in the trade. All the Department does is to grade the rabbits, pack, freeze, and ship them.

- (4.) Hours of Railway Employees:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Can nothing be done to give railway porters on suburban lines a short meal hour?

(2.) Is he aware that such porters, while on duty, have to publicly eat their meals while issuing or checking tickets?

(3.)

26th September, 1900.

- (3.) Is it a fact that the examining staff for railway carriages, &c., on the Southern line have to work ten hours a day ?
 (4.) Is it a fact that there are night telegraph operators in the railway service working a ten-hours' shift for seven nights per week ?
 (5.) If yes, cannot something be done to abolish such long hours ?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that time for meals is allowed at such times as can be arranged most conveniently for the staff, and with due regard to the public requirements.
 (2.) Booking porters in some cases take their meals at the stations, as it would be obviously inconvenient to arrange for the appointment of responsible officers temporarily, and the checking of cash, tickets, &c., each time an officer would leave the premises for meals.
 (3.) Yes, a number so work.
 (4 and 5.) In the case of night telegraph operators in the country, they are required to be on duty ten hours per night where the work is light. The actual time taken by the work is invariably less than that worked by the city operators who work an eight-hour shift. As a rule the ten hours duty, however, applies only to five nights per week, as short shifts are worked on Saturday and Sunday nights.

- (5.) Collection of the Electoral Rolls:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it not a fact that after the collection of the Electoral Rolls they will have to be printed and revised at the Revision Courts ?
 (2.) Is it not a fact that, subsequent to the Revision Courts, approximately 300,000 electors' rights will have to be prepared and distributed ?
 (3.) Is he aware that similar work to the above, upon the last redistribution of the electorates, occupied five months ?
 (4.) Under the circumstances, does he recognise the urgency of at once passing the amended Electoral Bill into law, so that electors may have their electors' rights not later than January, 1901 ?
 (5.) With the view of commemorating the first Federal Parliamentary Election, will the rights be printed on parchment to a special Australian design ?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1 and 2.) Yes.
 (3.) I am informed that the time occupied was nearly four months.
 (4.) I fully recognise the urgency of the matter.
 (5.) Section 35 of the principal Electoral Act provides that electors' rights shall be printed upon paper specially prepared. Parchment cannot, therefore, be used for the purpose without an amendment of the Act. I am informed by the Government Printer that parchment is at the present time practically unobtainable in either the local or English market, and that at normal rates parchment rights would involve an extra expense of at least £2,000, or, in the present state of the market, considerably over £3,000.

- (6.) Australian Commonwealth National Ode:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) If he is in favour of an Australian Commonwealth National Ode, will he communicate with the Premiers of the other States comprising the Commonwealth, to see if they favour such ; and, if they do, will they agree that each State subscribe £50 each as a prize for the best composition, the production of a citizen of any of the six States ?
 (2.) If he does not agree with this proposal, will he give this House an opportunity of expressing an opinion whether this Colony should undertake such a matter by itself before committing the Colony to the same ?

Sir William Lyne answered,—No ; I think not. This is a matter to be dealt with by the Celebration Committee.

- (7.) Cedar Timber:—Dr. Ross asked Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Can he furnish any estimate or approximate estimate of the quantity and area of land at present under cedar timber that remains in the Colony uncut and fit for building purposes, and the value of the same ?
 (2.) The approximate value and area of cedar timber that has been cut and sold during the last ten years, and how long our valuable cedar forests are likely to last ?
 (3.) The number of cedar plants (if any) that have been cultivated and transplanted during the last ten years, to replace the valuable cedar timber that has been cut and sold, and the cost of the same ?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) No. Scattered patches of cedar are still to be found on outlying Crown lands that are difficult of access, but good timber of the species is very scarce.
 (2.) The information cannot be supplied ; broadly speaking, forests of cedar are exhausted.
 (3.) About 20,000 plants in a plantation at Hogan's Brush, near Gosford, some of which are already from 9 inches to 1 foot in diameter.

- (8.) Re-erection of Bridge at Copper Hill:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) In consequence of the delay of the Government in re-erecting the bridge at Copper Hill, near Molong, on the main road to Wellington and the Bogan, that was destroyed by floods in March last, is he aware that traffic on the road has been suspended for months past owing to the want of a bridge and the dangerous nature of the crossing ?
 (2.) Is he further aware of the fact (or has he received any report from the local officer) of the serious nature of the accident that occurred during the week to one Mr. McLean, farmer, from Baldery, in bringing his produce to Molong, and when crossing the creek with his waggon loaded with wheat the dray was stuck in the creek for hours, causing the loss of one of his valuable horses and the loss of his wheat, while he and his son had a narrow escape of being drowned besides ?

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th September, 1900.

(3.) Will he see that the Government take steps to indemnify Mr. McLean for the heavy and serious loss he has sustained in the loss of his property owing to the delay of the Government in causing the bridge to be re-erected?

(4.) How often did the flying gang visit the locality, and the amount of money that has been expended in trying to keep it in proper repair since the flood?

Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague has supplied the following answers:—

- (1.) I am not aware.
- (2.) No such report has been received.
- (3.) A report will be called for, and a further communication made.
- (4.) I will ascertain, and let the Honorable Member know.

(9.) Annual Leave in the General Division of the Public Service:—Mr. Rose, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Attorney-General,—When will the General Division of the Public Service be placed on the same footing as the Clerical Division as regards annual leave?

Mr. Wood answered,—The Board have obtained the necessary particulars to enable a decision to be come to, and are bringing the question under the attention of the Government. It will receive the necessary consideration at an early date.

(10.) Railway and Tramway Employees:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Questions *re* increases to railway and tramway employees by Mr. McGowen, on 12th September last,—

- (1.) What are the other conditions which are required in answer to Question No. 5?
- (2.) Do the regulations as gazetted 23rd December, 1892, speak of some increases as "maturing"?
- (3.) If so, which are the increases "maturing"?
- (4.) Do the regulations provide that the only firemen who are eligible to undertake the duties of engine-drivers are those who have been not less than twelve months in the first class?
- (5.) Is this regulation strictly enforced; if not, why not?
- (6.) How many firemen have been promoted to the first class since 30th June, 1892?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners supply the following replies:—

- (1.) Primarily the approval of the Commissioners.
- (2 and 3.) Yes; those approved and maturing between the 1st day of July and the 30th of June in each year.
- (4 and 5.) The conditions are—as vacancies for drivers occur, firemen who have been not less than twelve months in the 1st class, or firemen who have previously served as engine-drivers on other railways, will be promoted, according to efficiency, provided their general conduct has been satisfactory. No person will be allowed to undertake the duties of engine-driver unless he has previously served as fireman on the New South Wales Railways, and is eligible for promotion. Before being appointed as driver each man must hold a certificate from the Locomotive Engineer, showing that he has passed the necessary examination, and is competent to take charge of a locomotive engine.
- (6.) In consequence of the classification increases having been suspended firemen have not been increased to the maximum first-class rate since the 30th June, 1892, but in December last a general advance was given where due, and it is intended to increase to the first-class maximum when financial conditions permit of it.

(11.) Railway Employees Insuring their Lives:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners compel all their servants to insure their lives before giving them permanent employment?
- (2.) Do the Railway Commissioners hold the policies?
- (3.) If so; for what reason?
- (4.) Do any of the Assurance Societies pay any bonuses on their policies?
- (5.) If so; who receives the bonuses?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners give the following replies:—

- (1.) Yes; in accordance with the Railway Act.
- (2 and 3.) Yes; in accordance with the regulations made under the power given in the Railway Act. See By-law No. 35.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) The assured.

(12.) Excise Duty on Spirits and Tobacco:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the amount of excise duty chargeable respectively in New South Wales and Victoria upon (a) spirits, and (b) tobacco?
- (2.) Does he propose at once to take steps in the direction of reducing the scale of excise duties at present operating in New South Wales to the level of those in force in Victoria?
- (3.) What would be the approximate loss to the revenue if such reduction were effected?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The duties are as follows:—New South Wales—Spirits, 14s. per gallon; tobacco, 1s. 3d. per lb.; cigars, 2s. 6d. per lb.; cigarettes, 2s. 6d. per lb. Victoria—Grape and pure barley malt spirit, 8s. per gallon; other spirits, 10s. per gallon; tobacco, 9d. per lb.; cigars, 9d. per lb.; cigarettes, 1s. 6d. per lb.

(2 and 3.) I am considering the matter; but the total possible loss will be governed by the date upon which the Federal excise duties are imposed. The approximate rate of the loss will be over £300,000 per annum provided the excise duties were reduced to the level of those of Victoria.

(13.)

26th September, 1900.

(13.) Regrading of Officers, Land and Income Tax Department:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Do officers employed in the Land and Income Tax Department enjoy the advantages of the regrading system introduced by the Public Service Board?

(2.) If not, will he take steps in the direction of enabling their wishes in this matter to be respected and satisfied without delay?

Mr. Wood replied,—In consequence of representations made to the Colonial Treasurer, the Attorney-General has had interviews with the Staff of the Land and Income Tax Department, and been in communication with the Commissioners of Taxation and the Public Service Board. In consequence, a short Bill has been prepared, and will be at once introduced to remedy the grievance complained of.

(14.) Marriages Celebrated at Matrimonial Agencies:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Taylor, asked the Minister of Justice,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

(1.) The number of marriages celebrated at the two matrimonial agencies of the city, viz., Weldon's, 57, Phillip-street, and World's, 471, Pitt-street, since their first establishment?

(2.) The names of the clergymen by whom those marriages were celebrated?

(3.) The number of divorces and cases of bigamy arising out of such marriages within the Colony?

Mr. Wood answered,—The information desired by the Honorable Member will be obtained as early as practicable, and laid upon the Table in due course.

(15.) Resumption of the Reservation of Webb's Grant:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Government have received an application from Woy Woy for the resumption of the 100 feet of the reservation of Webb's grant now owned by James Cox?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to entertain this application, if such application has been made?

(3.) Is he aware that the said reservation is Government property, and that its resumption for the purpose of sale to James Cox would greatly prejudice the residents and fishermen of Woy Woy, as well as the thousands of Sydney and other tourists who visit that place in search of pleasure and health?

(4.) Is he also aware that residents of Woy Woy, fishermen, and others have applied for portions of this reservation, in accordance with the provisions of the Land Act governing the granting of leases, and were given to understand that their applications would be favourably considered?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) On 17th April last an application was received for the rescission of part of the 100 feet reservation on the frontage of portion 125, parish of Patonga, county of Northumberland, originally granted to James Webb.

(2 and 3.) The case is in the hands of the District Surveyor for report, and until such report is received no decision can be arrived at. In any case, before the application could be granted, the proposed sale would have to be notified in the *Government Gazette* and local newspapers, in order that the interested parties might lodge objections if they so desired. An inquiry by the Local Land Board would also have to be held.

(4.) I am not aware.

(16.) Rents of Annual Leases:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Are the rents of annual leases computed as from 1st January to 31st December in each year?

(2.) If so, are holders of leases now being asked to pay up from the 30th September, thus compelling them to pay three months' rent twice over?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The rent is payable under the law in advance. The rent paid in September last year was for the period 1st January, 1900, to 31st December, 1900, and the rent payable in September of this year would apply to the period 1st January, 1901, to 31st December, 1901. The 4th subsection of section 85 of the Crown Lands Act of 1884 is in the following terms:—"The rent of all renewed leases shall be paid on or before the 30th day of September for the ensuing year." As a matter of fact, however, the Departmental practice is to accept annual lease rents as late as possible before the leases run out; but the law requiring rents to be paid in advance is founded on the consideration that the Crown is entitled to know, before the leases expire, whether they will be renewed for the ensuing year.

(17.) Commission of the Peace:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) How many names are on the Commission of the Peace for the whole Colony?

(2.) When was the list last revised?

(3.) And what process of revision (if any) exists?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) 6,638.

(2.) In December, 1898, and is now again under revision.

(3.) Inquiry by the police throughout the Colony.

(18.) Amounts due to Contractors at Dubbo for Sleepers:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that there are sums still due to small co-operative contractors at Dubbo for sleepers supplied in connection with the Dubbo-Coonamble railway?

(2.) If so, will he have the money remitted at once, in order to relieve some of the men who are in actual want of the amount due to them?

Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague supplied the following answers:—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Payment is withheld owing to the fact that more than one person claims the moneys due, and the advice of the Crown Solicitor has been sought as to who is legally entitled thereto.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th September, 1900.

- (19.) Lease of Reserve at Molong :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) During the Reid Administration did a man named Keenan apply to the Molong Land Board for and obtain the lease of a small reserve at Molong, adjoining the station property of McMahon, carrier, of Sydney ?
 - (2.) Did Mr. Carruthers, who was then Minister for Lands, subsequently revoke the lease ?
 - (3.) Has the Minister now agreed to give Keenan half the area of his former lease, and the balance to McMahon; is Keenan's portion a barren, rocky, valueless portion; and has that given to McMahon a water frontage comprising the best parts of the block ?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the area in question has been held by Keenan or his family for fifty years; and what are the reasons for his not being allowed to hold the whole area ?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—As the papers in this case are not at present in the head office, the information asked for cannot at present be supplied, and I am therefore compelled to ask the Honorable Member to postpone the Questions. In the meantime the papers will be recalled.
- (20.) Clark's Snagging Gang at Menindie :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Have a number of men belonging to Clark's snagging gang, at Menindie, been discharged from their employment since the 14th instant ?
 - (2.) Have they made application for the money due to them; and have they been refused any reply ?
 - (3.) If these men have any claims against the Department, why have they not been settled before now ?
- Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague has supplied the following answers :—
- (1.) Yes; since the 15th instant.
 - (2.) Yes; but no reply has been sent, as Loan Vote from which their wages have hitherto been paid is exhausted.
 - (3.) The Treasurer has arranged to provide funds from his Advance for payment of the amounts due.
- (21.) Appointment of Mr. Parry as Comptroller of Stores :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Parry has been appointed Comptroller of Stores in the Railway Department, and Mr. H. Richardson will act as Superintendent of the Lines instead of as Out-door Superintendent ?
 - (2.) What are Mr. Parry's qualifications for his new position ?
 - (3.) Did he not come out to this country with a patent lock-bar and signalling apparatus, when he was given a position in the railways, and rapidly advanced to Traffic Manager, and now Comptroller of Stores ?
 - (4.) After the debate which took place on Tuesday, 11th September, when Mr. Norton moved the adjournment of the House to discuss the question of the maladministration of the Railways, and cited instances affecting Mr. H. Richardson, and the Colonial Secretary promised that an inquiry should be held;—does the Minister regard the action of the Railway Commissioners with approval in making administrative changes in the higher official staff while an inquiry of this kind is pending ?
 - (5.) If not, what course does he propose to adopt to mark his sense of disapproval of the Commissioners' action in their covert, if not open, defiance of the Government and Parliament by interfering with and presumably advancing an official who is practically to be put on his trial before an independent commission ?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that Mr. Parry has been appointed Comptroller of Stores, and Mr. H. Richardson Superintendent of the Lines. The appointments referred to are made by the Railway Commissioners, who are in the best position to judge as to the duties to be performed and the officers most suitable for the positions. The Commissioners accept the responsibility of making the appointments as being in the best interest of the service.
- (22.) Agricultural Societies :—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) In view of the report of the Board specially appointed by him to inquire into the administration of the affairs of agricultural societies, will he say whether it is his intention to act upon the following recommendation of the Board with regard to the granting of Government subsidies, especially to the Royal Agricultural Society, namely :—“ A drastic reform of the present “unsatisfactory state of affairs is necessary if the interests of the high educational elements of the “agricultural industry in all its branches is to be considered. This, after due consideration, can “best be obtained by advising the Government to cease giving any more subsidies or grants ” ?
 - (2.) If not, why not ?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—I do not feel justified in adopting the drastic changes advocated by the Board, but hope to obtain the necessary reforms by more gradual steps. Some of the Agricultural Societies have incurred liabilities, and they would be placed in a critical position if Government aid were suddenly withdrawn.
- (23.) Road from Bulga to Upper Colo :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What amount of money was recently expended upon the road from Bulga to Upper Colo; and how was it expended ?
 - (2.) Was the whole grant spent upon this work ?
- Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague informs me that he will instruct the local officer to furnish replies to these Questions, which will be forwarded to the Honorable Member.
- (24.) The Breelong Blacks :—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he advise the guaranteeing of a State pension to the widows and children of any of the men who may lose their lives while engaged in the pursuit of the Breelong blacks ?
- Mr. See answered,—It would not be practicable to give any such State guarantee, but due consideration would be given by the Government to any such claims should they unfortunately arise.
- (25.)

26th September, 1900.

(25.) Conviction of Frank Fitzgerald at Warwick Police Court:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the conviction of a man named Frank Fitzgerald, at the Warwick Police Court, on 18th September, for selling an indecent publication, entitled "Fitzgerald's Home Physician; the Poor Man's Doctor," by Frank Fitzgerald?

(2.) Is he aware that this indecent production was published from or at Narrabri, New South Wales?

(3.) Is he also aware that this shameful publication has been allowed to be sold in this Colony, without any attempt by the police to stop it, to the extent of 5,000 copies?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that the Police at Narrabri were instructed on the subject. Further inquiry will be made, and any action necessary will be taken.

(26.) Berth for Steamers of the North German Lloyd Company:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Spruson, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the berth for steamers of the North German Lloyd Company was removed from the west side of Circular Quay because of interference with ferry traffic and want of room in Sydney Cove?

(2.) Is it a fact that the berth referred to in the previous Question has been given to the White Star Line, whose vessels are larger than the North German Lloyd Company's vessels?

(3.) Is it intended to continue the berthing of these large vessels at the wharf now occupied by the White Star Company?

(4.) If so, is it intended to make any alteration in the ferry wharf accommodation, or to remove the Sydney Ferries Company from the wharf now occupied by them?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1 and 2.) Yes. The position of the bunkers of the Norddeutscher Lloyd Company's vessels is such that the colliers have to berth on both sides to enable the coal to be properly loaded. These conditions do not obtain in the White Star vessels, and there is not, therefore, the same interference with the ferry traffic.

(3 and 4.) Accommodation is being provided as quickly as possible for these large vessels at the eastern side of Woolloomooloo Bay by extending the wharf beyond the place where the Norddeutscher Lloyd steamers lie now.

(27.) Appeals by Railway Employees:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Hughes, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Does the Railway Act provide for three Commissioners to hear all appeals?

(2.) Is he aware that appeals are heard before two Commissioners only?

(3.) Are the Commissioners acting within their powers in refusing permission to any appellant to call any witnesses?

Mr. Wood answered,—This Question should be addressed to the Honorable the Colonial Treasurer.

(28.) Rifles, Ammunition, Vicars-Maxims, and 4.7 Guns:—Mr. Neild, for Mr. Quinn, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Have the rifles, ammunition, Vicars-Maxims, and 4.7 guns ordered yet arrived?

(2.) Have any of these orders been placed with Kynock and Co., of Birmingham?

(3.) Will he find out whether this firm has supplied any orders from this Colony for ammunition, small arms, &c.?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

(1.) Some carbines have just arrived, also a large amount of small-arm ammunition. Vicars-Maxim and 4.7 guns have only been ordered recently.

(2.) Not as far as known.

(3.) A supply of 303 ammunition was obtained through the War Office and Agent-General, ordered in January and February, 1898. The War Office obtained it from Kynock & Co., subject to War Office inspection.

2. NAMES FOR ELECTORATES, FEDERAL PARLIAMENT:—Mr. Reymond presented a Petition from certain residents of Parkes and Bogan Gate, stating that in the opinion of Petitioners one of the Federal electorates of this Colony should perpetuate the name of the late Sir Henry Parkes, to whose patriotic labours the early union of the Australian Colonies under one grand Commonwealth is largely due; and praying that, as the town of Parkes is situated almost in the centre of the proposed electorate of Calare or Canoblas, such electorate should be named after the deceased statesman.

Petition received.

3. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—Mr. Rose presented a Petition from certain residents of Crookwell, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.

Petition received.

4. MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LAMBTON BILL:—Mr. Haynes presented a Petition from the Commercial Bank of Australia, Limited, and certain persons resident in New South Wales, praying for leave to bring in a Bill to secure the repayment of moneys due by the Municipal District of Lambton; to provide for the imposition and recovery of rates in the said district, and for the application of such rates; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the said objects.

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

Petition received.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th September, 1900.

5. CASE OF WILLIAM REID:—Mr. Holman (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Case of William Reid" have leave to sit during the sittings of the House, or any adjournment thereof.
Question put and passed.

6. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall 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. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Papers respecting the Breelong Blacks.

(2.) By-laws of the Borough of Petersham.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. PACIFIC CABLE ENABLING BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 99.

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 enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such object.

Government House,

Sydney, 25th September, 1900.

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

8. ADMINISTRATION (VALIDATING) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to validate certain orders of the Supreme Court giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation.*"

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 validate certain orders of the Supreme Court giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th September, 1900.

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

(1.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.

(2.) Brodie's Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.

10. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Neild, as a matter of privilege, submitted that the following entry in the Votes and Proceedings, No. 42, of Thursday, 13th September, 1900, viz:—

"8. CLAIM OF MR. J. L. DAVIDSON, PADDINGTON:—Mr. Neild, 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 3rd July, 1900, together with Appendix.
" Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee."

was incorrect, inasmuch as he had moved that that document be printed, and the Question had been put and passed; and he also drew attention to the fact that according to the Sessional Order and practice of the House, Reports from Select Committees were referred to the Printing Committee under that Sessional Order, although certain of the Standing Orders expressly provided that they might be, or should be, ordered to be printed on the motion of the Members presenting them.
Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that the entry by the Clerk was correct. He had a clear recollection of what took place. He put the motion after the Honorable Member moved it; but, before he declared that the Ayes or the Noes had it, the Clerk intimated to him that these documents went to the Printing Committee, and therefore he did not declare one way or the other. In regard to the point raised as to the Sessional Order, it would be his duty in future, where a Sessional Order clashed with a Standing Order, to see that the Standing Order was carried out; and where motions were moved under Standing Order 110 and Standing Order 372, it would be his duty to put them to the House, and it would be for the House to decide. In regard to the Printing Committee, most of the documents laid upon the Table were laid on by Ministers, and, of course, Ministers might, or might not, move that they be printed; if a Minister did not move that the papers be printed they would go on to the Printing Committee under the Sessional Order.

26th September, 1900.

11. **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 reply given to his Question No. 6 on the Business Paper to-day, That the Question of a National Ode would be referred to the Committee for the carrying out of the celebration demonstration.” 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.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.

12. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL**:—

- (1.) Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Report of the Managers on its behalf of the Free Conference with the Legislative Assembly, held on the 20th instant, in reference to the Council's amendments in the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill, disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council,—still insists upon its said amendments, but wishes to intimate that it would be willing to consider any further proposal which would have the effect of deciding the matters in dispute.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 26th September, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

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

- (2.) The Order of the Day having been read for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Report of the Assembly's Managers of the Free Conference on the subject of its disagreements to certain of the Legislative Council's amendments in this Bill, and as to what further steps should be taken in respect to such amendments,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 considered the Report brought up by the Assembly's Managers from the Free Conference, and the Council's Message of this day's date; and reported the following resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That the Committee still insists upon its disagreement to the Council's amendments which deal with the qualification of lodgers as voters; but no longer insists upon its disagreement to the Council's amendment defining the word “female,” and the Council's amendments dealing with the election of Mayor.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

Ordered, 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 26th September, 1900, 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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill, disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council,—still insists upon its disagreement to the Council's amendments which deal with the qualification of lodgers as voters; but no longer insists upon its disagreement to the Council's amendment defining the word “female,” and the Council's amendments dealing with the election of Mayor.

The Legislative Assembly thus waives its objection to several of the Legislative Council's amendments, with the view of affording a further opportunity for reconciling the differences between the two Houses.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th September, 1900.*

13. **EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Perry, “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,—

THURSDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Perry, 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.

14. **CLAIM BY MESSRS. MADDISON AND EWING, CONTRACTORS**:—*Mr. Norton*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, 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 3rd August, 1900, a.m.
Ordered to be printed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

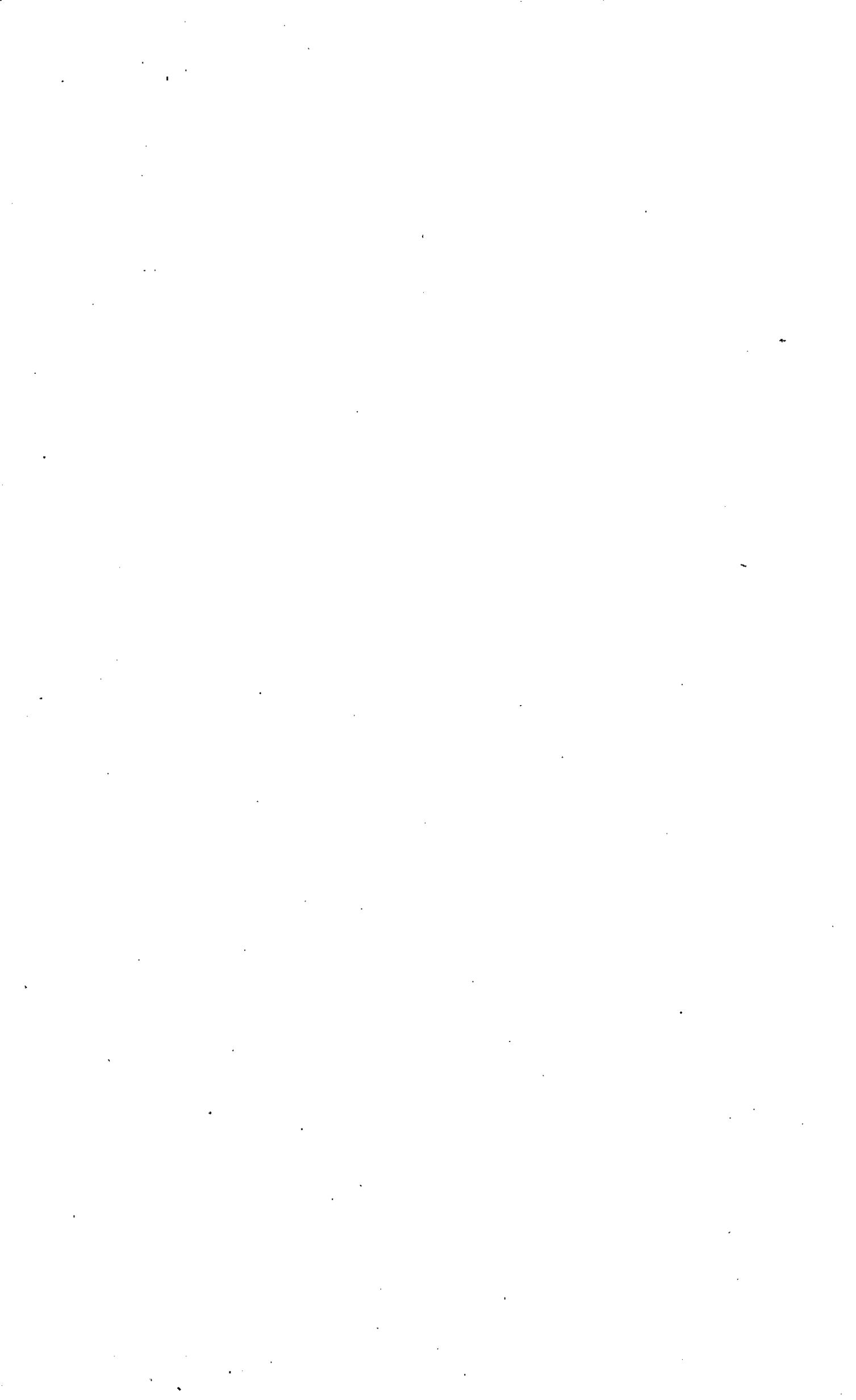
26th September, 1900.

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15. PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION BILL:—Mr. Wise 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 further and better provision for the promotion of public health, and for purposes consequent on and incidental thereto.
Question put and passed.
16. POSTPONEMENTS :—The remaining Government Business postponed until To-morrow.
17. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION 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.

The House adjourned, 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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 48.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Appointment of Judge Murray as Deputy Railway Commissioner:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Was Judge Murray appointed Deputy Railway Commissioner during Mr. Oliver's absence from the Colony; if so, what was the date of such appointment?
 (2.) How many appeals of employees have been heard since Mr. Oliver left the Colony; and on how many of these appeals has Judge Murray sat with the other Commissioners?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Railway Commissioners:—

- (1.) Yes, on the 4th May last.
 (2.) There have been 107 appeals heard since Judge Murray was appointed, and he attended forty-nine of them. In the other cases his judicial duties prevented his attendance, but it was agreed that any appeal on which there might be a difference of opinion between the other two Commissioners should be postponed for Judge Murray's attendance.

- (2.) Railway Regulations:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have the Railway Regulations, published 23rd December, 1892, the force of law?
 (2.) Do these regulations not contain provisions fixing scales of wages for the various classes of employees, including engine-drivers, firemen, guards, tram-conductors, fitters, and porters?
 (3.) Have the wages and increments fixed by these scales been granted to employees who have the length of service specified in such regulations to entitle them thereto?
 (4.) If not, will the Government step in at once and compel the Railway Commissioners to keep faith with their employees by paying them the rates of wages fixed by these regulations?
 (5.) If the law is defective, will the Government introduce an amending Railway Act this Session to protect railway employees in this direction?
 (6.) If not, why not?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Railway Commissioners:—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) Yes.
 (3 and 4.) The regulation provides that increases shall be considered half-yearly, and, if granted, shall date from the 1st day of January or the 1st of July in each year.
 (5 and 6.) The law is not considered to be defective.

- (3.) Tramway Conductors' Wages:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Do not the regulations dealing with Tramway conductors' wages contain these words:—"The employees comprised in the general out-door staff will be classified and paid as follows:—Junior conductors, young men between the age of 18 and 21 years, will be eligible for appointment as junior conductors, and will be paid: First year, 5s. per day; second year, 6s. per day; third year, 7s. per day; fourth year, 8s. per day. After four years' service they will be appointed to the position of conductors as vacancies occur. Conductors: 8s. 6d. per day first twelve months, after twelve months 9s."?

- (2.) How many conductors have been put on during the past two years at 6s. per day who were over 21 years of age at date of appointment?
 (3.) In view of the regulation quoted, by what authority have these men been put on at 6s. instead of at the statutory rates fixed by this regulation, viz., 8s. 6d. first year, after first year 9s.?

Sir

27th September, 1900.

- Sir William Lyne answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Railway Commissioners:—
- (1.) The regulation referred to is not in operation, having been superseded.
 - (2.) 552 men.
 - (3.) The by-law which rules the rates of pay for conductors provides as follows:—6s. per diem for first year's service; 6s. 6d. per diem for second year's service; 7s. per diem for third year's service; 7s. 6d. per diem for fourth year's service.
- (4.) Stonemasons Employed by the Colonial Architect's Department:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Dacey*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) The names of all stonemasons employed by the Colonial Architect's Department, under the day-labour system, from the 1st of January, 1895, to the 1st of January, 1900, in the order of their seniority of service?
 - (2.) The total amount of time which each man has worked?
 - (3.) For what reason, outside that of incompetence, does a man forfeit his position on the list?
- Mr. Fegan* answered,—
- (1 and 2.) The return asked for by the Honorable Member would be very expensive, and take a very long time to compile, and, in my opinion, would not answer any practical purpose.
 - (3.) A man does not forfeit his position on the list except for incompetence.
- (5.) Cedar Timber:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Can he furnish any estimate or approximate estimate of the quantity and area of land at present under cedar timber that remains in the Colony uncut and fit for building purposes, and the value of the same?
 - (2.) The approximate value and area of cedar timber that has been cut and sold during the last ten years, and how long our valuable cedar forests are likely to last?
 - (3.) The number of cedar plants (if any) that have been cultivated and transplanted during the last ten years, to replace the valuable cedar timber that has been cut and sold, and the cost of the same?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—I have the honor to invite the Honorable Member's attention to the reply given to the Question by my honorable colleague, the Secretary for Mines, yesterday evening, to which I am not in a position to add any further information at present.
- (6.) Regulations for the Railway and Tramway Services:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to Questions "Regulations for the Railway and Tramway Services" by *Mr. McGowen*, on 12th September last, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, will he kindly give categorical replies thereto?
- Mr. See* answered,—This Question should be asked of the Honorable Colonial Treasurer, in whose Department the Railway and Tramway Service is.
- (7.) Lease of Reserve at Molong:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) During the Reid Administration did a man named Keenan apply to the Molong Land Board for and obtain the lease of a small reserve at Molong, adjoining the station property of *McMahon*, carrier, of Sydney?
 - (2.) Did *Mr. Carruthers*, who was then Minister for Lands, subsequently revoke the lease?
 - (3.) Has the Minister now agreed to give Keenan half the area of his former lease, and the balance to *McMahon*; is Keenan's portion a barren, rocky, valueless portion; and has that given to *McMahon* a water frontage comprising the best parts of the block?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that the area in question has been held by Keenan or his family for fifty years; and what are the reasons for his not been allowed to hold the whole area?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—As explained to the Honorable Member yesterday, the materials for a reply are not to hand. A telegram has been received that the papers have been despatched, but they have not yet been received.
- (8.) Appeals by Railway Employees:—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Does the Railway Act provide for three Commissioners to hear all appeals?
 - (2.) Is he aware that appeals are heard before two Commissioners only?
 - (3.) Are the Commissioners acting within their powers in refusing permission to any appellant to call any witnesses?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Railway Commissioners:—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Judge Murray was appointed as a Commissioner to hear appeals; but, owing to his judicial duties preventing his attendance, he has not been able to attend a number of appeals.
 - (3.) In all appeals evidence is before the Commissioners prior to hearing the appeals; but where they have any doubt they do not refuse permission for further evidence from witnesses. Frequently cases are deferred for further special inquiry.
- (9.) Officers of the Taxation Department:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Cook*, asked the Attorney-General,—When will he bring in the promised Bill providing for the gazettement of the officers of the Taxation Department as officers of the Public Service?
- Mr. Wood* answered,—I would refer the Honorable Member to my honorable colleague's reply to Question No. 13 yesterday.
- (10.) State of the Wool Market in England:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has his attention been directed to an article in yesterday's *Herald* having reference to the uncertainty and depressed state of the wool market in England; if so, can he furnish any information for the existence of the present depressed state in the wool market, especially on the eve of the present wool season?
- Mr. Fegan* answered,—I am unable to account for the present state of the market, unless it is that the decreased price has been caused by the traders holding over a large quantity of last season's wool.

27th September, 1900.

- (11.) Conversion of Annual Leases into Scrub Leases:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a number of applications have been made for conversion (without public competition) of annual leases for grazing purposes into scrub leases; if so, how many?
 - (2.) Under what section of the Crown Lands Acts have such applications been made?
 - (3.) Has any such application been granted, or is it intended to grant any; if so, under what section of the Crown Lands Acts?
 - (4.) Is it intended, in carrying out the conversion of annual leases into scrub leases, to secure to the lessee an extended period of twenty-eight years; if not, for what other public purposes are these proposed conversions now being made?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Apparently very few applications are made for scrub leases over annual leases, but there is nothing to prevent the Department being moved to grant leases of this character. No scrub lease can be granted without reference to the Land Board, and each case has to be dealt with on its merits under the provisions of section 35 of the Crown Lands Act of 1889.

- (12.) Runs in the Central Division:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he, when dealing with the land question, and for the information of Honorable Members, cause a list of runs in the Central Division to be laid upon the table of this House, showing—(1) the number and area of each run respectively; (2) the rental of the same; (3) the number of sheep and cattle depastured on each run respectively; (4) the amount of improvements on each run respectively?

Mr. Hassall answered,—When the necessity arises I will place before the House whatever information appears to be necessary.

- (13.) Margarine Bill:—Mr. Ewing asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he be able to deal with the proposed Margarine Bill this Session?

Mr. Fegan answered,—The Bill is now in the hands of the Parliamentary Draftsman, and I hope to be able to get it from him in time to introduce this Session.

- (14.) Dairy Industry:—Mr. Ewing asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he be in a position to deal with the proposed legislation in connection with the dairy industry this Session?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I hope to be able to do so.

- (15.) Refund of Deposits in connection with Ballots for Land:—Mr. Ewing asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the delay in refunding application deposits in connection with ballots for land is a serious inconvenience to men of limited means?
- (2.) Will he consider whether it is not possible to refund the deposited amounts to unsuccessful applicants at the conclusion of the ballot?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) I recognise that it is desirable to refund deposits as promptly as possible.
- (2.) This arrangement is already practically in force in regard to homestead selection and settlement lease applications, and it is anticipated that the Department will shortly be able to extend it to applications for conditional purchases and other holdings.

- (16.) Inspector of Stock at Deniliquin:—Mr. Brunker, for Mr. Carruthers, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is not the position of Inspector of Stock at Deniliquin vacant?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that the following fifteen men, holding the Board's certificate of competency, namely, F. V. Blomfield, Hellman, Shaw, J. Collman, E. P. Foster, G. B. Elliott, K. E. Ellis, J. F. Pollard, E. R. Scott, James Faulkner, jun., G. R. Freeman, R. D. V. Bucknell, J. G. R. Bocking, D. G. Dunnett, Anderson, besides others, who are holding temporary positions as Acting Inspectors, are now awaiting appointments, and not one of them has been appointed permanent Inspector of Stock, for which they obtained their certificate from the Board?
- (3.) Is it not a fact that temporary appointments to fill vacancies in sheep districts, caused by death, dismissal, or resignation, are made without regard to seniority or the number of marks obtained at the examinations, and that the person so sent obtains an undue advantage over all other applicants for the permanent appointment by becoming personally known to the Directors of the Local Board?
- (4.) Is not the holding of another examination misleading to the intending applicants for examination for appointment as Inspectors of Stock, and an injustice to those fifteen men now awaiting, who have obtained their certificates for appointment as Inspectors of Stock, and are still awaiting appointments as such?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) No, but there is a vacancy in the Urana district.
- (2.) The majority of applicants mentioned who passed are now in the Service, and if they were to obtain permanent appointments qualified men would have to be appointed in their places. Some of the names given do not appear in the list of those to whom certificates have been granted, and some are not in the Colony, which leaves less than the number previously stated as not in employment.
- (3.) Yes; but someone must be sent to do the work, and the applicant who obtained the highest marks at the examination is the one usually sent to fill the vacancy temporarily.
- (4.) No; those who have passed have no more grounds for complaint, because they had spent their time in preparing for those examinations, than persons who go up for other examinations and are unsuccessful. Applicants holding the certificate of the Stock Board of Examiners have no such prescriptive claim as that here raised. It would be unfair to others who wish to qualify for appointment to curtail the number of examinations, and it would also be disadvantageous to the Stock Boards to limit the number of applicants from whom they can select inspectors for appointment.

27th September, 1900.

(17.) Arrest of a man named Pike at Gunnedah:—Mr Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Did Constable Trevathen, stationed at Gunnedah, arrest a young man named Pike, on the evening of the 6th July last, at Gunnedah, on a charge of being drunk and disorderly?

(2.) After taking the man to the watch-house, did the constable decline to allow his father to see him; and, further, did Trevathen refuse to allow the prisoner to be seen by a doctor and a Justice of the Peace whom the father called to see the lad Pike, to examine him with a view of seeing whether he was drunk or sober?

(3.) Although ample bail was offered, did the constable refuse to accept it for the young man's release?

(4.) Was young Pike liberated the following morning without bail being asked for?

(5.) Why was a fortnight allowed to elapse before Pike was brought up before the Court?

(6.) Was not the charge dismissed?

(7.) In view of the fact that witnesses are available to prove that Pike on the night of his arrest took part in a concert as a performer, and that he was sober at the time he was locked up, will he institute full inquiries into the constable's conduct?

Mr. See answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table the papers respecting this case, which will furnish the Honorable Member with the information desired.

(18.) The Taxation Department:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Watkins, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) In view of the confidential and arduous nature of the work in connection with the Taxation Department, is it the intention of the Government to bring in a Bill this Session to place the officers on the permanent staff?

(2.) If so, on what date?

Mr. Wood answered,—I would refer the Honorable Member to my honorable colleague's reply to Question No. 13 yesterday.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. McGowen, for Mr. Smith—From G. F. Noad, Chairman of a meeting of members of the "Centennial Lodge, No. 564, of the Independent Order of Good Templars," Pyrmont.

(2.) By Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. Henry Chapman—From certain residents of Sydney. Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Notice of intention to declare that Homestead Selection 1900-8, Warialda, portions 5 and 153 (a block within Homestead Selection Area No. 646), Land District of Inverell, applied for by William Allen Love, shall cease to be voidable.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Papers relating to dismissal of Mr. James S. Inch, Clerk, Registrar-General's Office, from the Public Service.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Reports respecting the arrest of a young man named Pike by Constable Trevathen, of Gunnedah.

Ordered to be printed.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Thirteenth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT:—Mr. Sleath (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee appointed during the present Session to inquire into and report upon "Administration of the Military Department," have leave to report its opinions or observations, accompanied with Minutes of Evidence, from time to time.

Question put and passed.

6. BEE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to prevent the spread of contagious diseases among bees, and to provide for the protection of the wild bee.

Question put and passed.

7. PASTURES AND STOCK PROTECTION (RABBIT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide that the expression "noxious animals" in the Pastures and Stock Protection Act, 1898, shall include rabbits.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to provide that the expression 'noxious animals,' in the Pastures and Stock Protection Act, 1898, shall include rabbits,"—which was read a first time.

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

8. MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF LAMBTON BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to secure the repayment of moneys due by the Municipal District of Lambton; to provide for the imposition and recovery of rates in the said district, and for the application of such rates; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the said objects.

Question put and passed.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th September, 1900.

(2.) Mr. Haynes 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 secure the repayment of moneys due by the Municipal District of Lambton; to provide for the imposition and recovery of rates in the said district, and for the application of such rates; and for other purposes incidental to and consequent upon the said objects,*"—read a first time.

9. **POSTPONEMENTS:**—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
 (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday next.
 (2.) Ministerial Election Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 27th November.
10. **EARLY CLOSING (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, 28 SEPTEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill with amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Perry, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.

11. **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:**—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 26th September, 1900, in reference to the Council's amendments in the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Bill, disagreed to by the Assembly and insisted on by the Council,—no longer insists upon its amendments disagreed to by the Assembly which deal with the qualification of lodgers as voters.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 27th September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

- (2.) Lindfield-Saint Leonard's Railway Crossings Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the Railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 27th September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

- (3.) Fisheries Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Fisheries Act, 1881, the Net-fishing in Port Hacking Prohibition Act of 1886, and Acts amending the same,*"—forwarded to the Legislative Assembly for concurrence during the 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 September, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

And the 296th Standing Order 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 next.

12. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty minutes before five o'clock a.m., until Tuesday next at four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
 Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 49.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 2 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

LAND TAX (ASSESSMENT BOOKS) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 100.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the provisions of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 with respect to land tax assessments and assessment-books and the collection of land tax; to add certain exemptions to those specified in section eleven of the said Act; to provide for better defining the persons liable to land tax and the deductions therefrom; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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, 1st October, 1900.

2. VACANT SEAT:—Mr. Speaker reported that he had received a certificate, under the hands of two of the Members of this House, notifying the death of William Henry Burgess Piddington, Esquire, and then read the same to the House, as follows:—

"We, whose names are underwritten, being two Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, do hereby certify that William Henry Burgess Piddington, Esquire, lately serving in the said Assembly as Member for the Electoral District of Uralla-Walcha, died on the 27th day of September, 1900.

"We give you this notice, to the intent that you may issue a new Writ for the election of a Member to serve in the Legislative Assembly for the said Electoral District, in the room of the said William Henry Burgess Piddington.

"Given under our hands, at Sydney, this 2nd day of October, 1900.

"J. G. CARROLL.
"ROBERT PYERS.

"To the Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly."

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the seat of William Henry Burgess Piddington, Esquire, lately serving in this House as Member for the Electoral District of Uralla-Walcha, hath become and is now vacant by reason of the death of the said William Henry Burgess Piddington, as certified under the hands of two of the Members of this House, in the notice now communicated to it by the Honorable the Speaker.

Question put and passed.

3. DEATH OF WILLIAM HENRY BURGESS PIDDINGTON, ESQUIRE, MEMBER FOR URALLA-WALCHA:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House desires to place on record its sense of the loss it has sustained by the death of William Henry Burgess Piddington, Esquire, Member for Uralla-Walcha.
Question put and passed.

4. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Regulations for the Railway and Tramway Services:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. McGowen, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Questions "Regulations for the Railway and Tramway Services," by Mr. McGowen, on 12th September last, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, will he kindly give categorical replies thereto?
Sir

2nd October, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(2.) The regulation in question was forwarded to the Treasury under cover of a letter addressed to the Under Secretary for Finance and Trade in the following terms, namely:—" I have the honor to ask that you will be good enough to obtain Executive approval, under the 75th section of the Government Railways Act of 1888, for the enclosed By-laws Nos. 77 and 78 being amended regulations in respect of permanent appointments and conditions of employment of staff in the Railway and Tramway Services respectively."

(3.) Yes.

(4.) The Colonial Treasurer of the day was furnished with the following report by the officer at that time in charge of the railway business, namely:—" It does not seem to me that the proposed amendments in the Railway and Tramway By-laws can prejudicially affect the men. The appointment of Messrs. Richardson and Neale as the Board of Examiners expired on the 12th instant, and their reappointment is now recommended. The paragraph referring to the periodical increases is not new, as it was approved by His Excellency-in-Council on 26th October last, and is consequently now in force. The other alterations speak for themselves, but in no case does an existing concession or right appear to me to be removed, but quite the contrary—in some cases, at any rate. I understand that most of the proposed alterations are now being recognised by the Commissioners, and that a re-issue of the Staff Regulations is desirable, with a view to bringing the whole of the by-laws affecting the staff under one by-law (*i.e.*, one by-law for the railways and one for the tramways)."

(5.) I presume so.

(6.) No, certainly not. He is guided by the recommendations of the Railway Commissioners.

(2.) Mr. Hugh Gordon, J.P.:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Was Mr. Hugh Gordon, J.P., summoned at the Burwood Police Court, with others, on the 11th instant, charged with neglecting to send his children to school the requisite number of days during the quarter?

(2.) Did Mr. Gordon induce the authorities to withdraw the charge?

(3.) Did Mr. Gordon, after such withdrawal, sit upon the Bench and adjudicate in the other cases of a similar nature set down for hearing at the same Court, joining in the imposition of heavy fines upon the defendants therein?

Mr. Perry answered—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) I understand that, at Mr. Gordon's request, the Department of Public Instruction authorised the withdrawal of the information pending inquiry into representations as to alleged inability of the children to attend school on account of sickness.

(3.) No.

(3.) Appointments in the Railway Department:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) After the debate which took place on Tuesday, 11th September, when Mr. Norton moved the adjournment of the House to discuss the question of the maladministration of the Railways, and cited instances affecting Mr. H. Richardson, and the Colonial Secretary promised that an inquiry should be held;—does the Minister regard the action of the Railway Commissioners with approval in making administrative changes in the higher official staff while an inquiry of this kind is pending?

(2.) If not, what course does he propose to adopt to mark his sense of disapproval of the Commissioners' action in their covert, if not open, defiance of the Government and Parliament by interfering with and presumably advancing an official who is practically to be put on his trial before an independent commission?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners are responsible for the management of the railways, and should be the best judges of what administrative changes are necessary, and when they should be made. The opportunity which the Minister for Railways has of forming an opinion upon such matters is necessarily very limited. The action of the Commissioners in the matter under notice is not regarded as a defiance of the Government and Parliament.

(4.) Old Gold-fields:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he consider definitely the proposal made to him to ask Parliament to sanction an amount for rewards to discoverers of the old gold-fields, if any surviving; applications to be considered by a Select Committee of this House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I should be glad if the Honorable Member would postpone this Question until the debate on the Financial Statement has been concluded.

(5.) Subsidies to the Society of Artists and the Art Society:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Did he, on Tuesday, 25th September, in reply to a Question by Mr. Ewing, say, as reported, "A sum of money will be placed on the Estimates for the encouragement of Art, to be expended under the joint supervision of the Art Society and the Society of Artists"?

(2.) Did he, during the debate on the last Estimates, when asked by Mr. Arthur Griffith for an assurance that if the grants to these two irresponsible societies were voted, no more subsidies would be granted them, say (as reported in *Hansard*), "My determination is that next year the money shall be placed to the credit of the Trustees of the Art Gallery, to be expended by them, and that the subsidies to the Art Societies shall cease"?

(3.) Is it his intention to keep the promise he then made to Parliament that "subsidies to the Art Societies shall cease"?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Eventually. The estimate for this year is left an open one, simply for the "encouragement of Art." If the two societies fail to come to a satisfactory arrangement, as seems probable, the money will be placed in the hands of the Trustees of the Art Gallery. (6.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd October, 1900.

(6.) Railway Employees in the Metropolitan District:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What are the hours of duty of railway employees in the Metropolitan District?
- (2.) Are the hours of railway employees outside that area similarly regulated?
- (3.) Will he see that the hours of porters engaged at country railway stations are at least strictly limited to the hours regulating Metropolitan District porters?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I am informed by the Commissioners for Railways that the hours of duty vary from eight to ten (the majority working eight hours) according to the nature of the work upon which the employees are engaged.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) In some cases the hours of porters in the country districts are longer than in the metropolitan area, but the conditions vary so greatly that it would not be reasonable to make them uniform.

(7.) Hotels and Wine-shops:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What number of licensed hotels and wine-shops are there in the metropolitan area, and total revenue derived respectively from such sources?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House in the form of a return.

(8.) Scientific Staff of the Australian Museum:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that certain members of the scientific staff of the Australian Museum have for some considerable time past executed work for private individuals?
- (2.) Has the Curator granted permission to these officials to carry out such work?
- (3.) If such is a fact, will he say if it is intended to continue this practice?

Mr. Perry answered,—The Curator reports that about three years ago one member of the scientific staff did some work, with his knowledge and approval, for a private individual in his own time. The Curator is not aware of any other case.

(9.) Compensation to Traders of Erskine and King Streets during Plague Outbreak:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Does he propose to compensate the small traders in the vicinity of Erskine and King Streets, who have been practically ruined by the close quarantine enforced against them during the plague outbreak?
- (2.) If so, when may this relief be expected?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Government recognise no legal liability in respect of any of the claims to which the Honorable Member refers, but will, as an act of grace, make allowances in the case of applicants in poor circumstances. An officer has been specially appointed to inquire into all cases in which application for compensation has been made. He is at work now.

(10.) Celebrations in connection with the Inauguration of Federation:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In regard to the matter of the celebrations proposed in connection with the inauguration of Federation, will he submit to this House for its approval or otherwise a motion in favour of a specific sum of money being granted for the purpose, accompanied by particulars of the scheme intended to be carried out?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is impossible for me to give the details, which will probably be arranged by the Committee. I have, however, placed a sum of money on the Estimates for the purpose.

(11.) Answers to Questions on the Business Paper:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has he yet considered the advisability of adopting a proposal to the effect that all Answers to Questions, of which notice has been given, be printed on the Business Paper issued from day to day in the Assembly?
- (2.) Does he not recognise the fact that much public time would be conserved by the adoption of the course suggested?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The suggestion of the Honorable Member has much to commend it, but an amendment of the Standing Orders would be necessary.

(12.) Salary of the State Governor:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When does he propose to introduce legislation with the object of reducing the salary of the State Governor to £2,000 per annum?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Certain correspondence dealing with this matter has been received, and is now under consideration. I may, however, say that I regard the suggested salary of £2,000 per annum as inadequate.

(13.) Commission to Inquire into Conduct of Mr. Richardson:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) With reference to the promised inquiry into the conduct of Mr. Richardson, Station-master at Orange, and others, will he consider the advisableness of appointing a Judge of the Higher Courts, in place of the Stipendiary Magistrate named, to conduct the inquiry?
- (2.) In view of the importance of the inquiry, and the high positions the officials involved hold in the Railway Department, will he consider whether it would not be more satisfactory to all parties if the Commission to hold the investigation were entrusted to a Judge of the Higher Courts?

Sir William Lyne answered,—In view of reports which have been furnished by the Railway Commissioners, the appointment of a Judge of the Supreme Court is not considered necessary. I may add that I purpose laying the papers in this case upon the Table of the House to-morrow.

(14.)

2nd October, 1900.

(14.) The Civil Service Superannuation Fund.—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked The Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How many officers have been placed upon the Civil Service Superannuation Fund since the appointment of the Public Service Board?
- (2.) What was the aggregate amount paid in salaries to such officers; and what amount do they collectively draw from the Fund?
- (3.) How many of these officers were under the retiring age; and how many were there in the list who had not qualified by length of service?
- (4.) When does he propose to take steps to so financially strengthen the Fund as to admit of other qualified officers taking advantage of same?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table of the House in the form of a return.

(15.) Swearing-in of the Governor-General:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Neild, asked the Colonial Treasurer—Will he consider the question of providing for the swearing-in of the Governor-General in the Centennial Park, where, from the formation of the ground, the ceremony could be witnessed by tens of thousands of people?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Centennial Park has undoubtedly many advantages for such a ceremony as the swearing-in of the Governor-General, but its position is, I fear, hardly central enough. The Government will probably be guided by the Committee which is to be appointed as to where the swearing-in ceremony will take place.

(16.) Tents for Persons Employed through the Labour Bureau:—Mr. Nobbs, for Mr. Neild, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that persons employed through the Labour Bureau or Advisory Board, for work in the country, are required to pay 13s. 3d. each for tents 6 feet by 8 feet, with walls 2 feet 6 inches high?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that the price paid to the Government contractor for tents 6 feet by 8 feet, with walls 3 feet high, is 9s.?
- (3.) Are not the latter tents very superior to those named in Question No. 1?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) Persons employed through the Labour Bureau are furnished with tents if they apply for them, the price charged being 9s. for tent alone, or 13s. 3d. for tent and fly. The tents are 6 x 8 feet, with walls 3 feet high.
- (2.) Yes; for tent without fly. The price paid to the contractor for tent and fly is 13s. 3d.
- (3.) No; they are the same tents. I hope, however, soon to enter upon a new contract, which will allow of the tents being supplied cheaper.

(17.) Successor to His Excellency Lord Beauchamp as State Governor:—Mr. Quinn asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has any communication been made to him with regard to the gentleman who is to succeed Lord Beauchamp as State Governor?
- (2.) Has it been intimated to the Government of New South Wales by Mr. Chamberlain that a reduction of the salary and emoluments of the State Governor would render it impossible or difficult to obtain a suitable person as State Governor?
- (3.) Does he propose to allow any intimation of this kind to interfere with his expressed intention to so reduce the salary and emoluments of the State Governor after Lord Beauchamp's departure?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A communication has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the effect that the selection of Governors depends on the salaries offered, the amount of such salaries being a matter for the Colonies concerned, and pointing out that the expenditure of Governors will be strictly limited to the provision made by the Colony, and that if it is desired that Governors should entertain officially, and otherwise maintain position as head of State efficiently, provision must be made accordingly. The whole matter is receiving consideration.

5. RACING ASSOCIATION BILL:—Mr. Watkins (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Racing Association Bill" have leave to sit during the sittings of the House or during any adjournment thereof.
Question put and passed.

6. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of Brodie's Enabling Bill postponed until To-morrow.

7. METROPOLITAN WATER (RICHMOND) BILL:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to vest certain lands and works and certain property in the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage; to apply the provisions of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889, and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts Extension Act of 1894, to the water supply of the municipality of Richmond; and to authorise the Mayor and Aldermen of that municipality to vote at elections of members of the said Board; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects,—discharged, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan.

8. INCLOSED LANDS PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Dight 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. Dight, 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.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd October, 1900.

9. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE ELECTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—
Mr. Watson moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 39.

Mr. Perry,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Kidd,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Edden.
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Dight,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Ashton,	

Noes, 3.

Mr. Cook.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Gillies.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Watson, 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 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.

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,—namely, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Cann, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Austin Chapman, Mr. Cook, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Kidd, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Millard, Mr. Moore, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Sleath, and Mr. Watson,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at five minutes after Eleven o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 50.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 3 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

ADDRESS OF SYMPATHY WITH HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES:—Mr. Speaker read to the House the following letter:—
C.O. 00-98.

Sir,

Government House, Sydney, 2nd October, 1900.

I have the honor, by direction of His Excellency the Governor, to inform you that he has received a despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, acknowledging the receipt of His Excellency's despatch covering the Address embodying the resolution of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales expressing indignation at the attempt upon the life of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales.

2. Mr. Chamberlain adds that the Address has been submitted to His Royal Highness, who desires that his sincere thanks may be conveyed to the Legislative Assembly for this gratifying expression of sympathy.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

PERCEVAL LANDON,

Private Secretary.

The Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

2. LINDFIELD—SAINT LEONARDS RAILWAY CROSSINGS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 101.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales to close certain level-crossings on the Railway line between Milson's Point and Hornsby Junction, and to provide ways in substitution therefor; and to declare certain portions of such ways to be public thoroughfares,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 3rd October, 1900.*

3. VOTE OF CREDIT:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 102.*

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for defraying the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the months of October and November, or following month, of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, and for an advance to the Colonial Treasurer.

*Government House,**Sydney, 3rd October, 1900.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

3rd October, 1900.

4. QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) 7th Volunteer Regiment (St. George's Rifles):—Mr. Hurley asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Did he receive, in July last, a letter signed by 100 Members of the Legislative Assembly, asking that the strength of the 7th Volunteer Regiment (St. George's Rifles) should be increased by 200 men?
 - (2.) Was this application referred to Major-General French for his report?
 - (3.) Did the Major-General report that the drill of the Regiment showed an improvement, notwithstanding there were a large number of recruits in the ranks?
 - (4.) Did the General's report commend the Officer Commanding the Regiment—Lieut.-Colonel Neild—for his actions in connection with the Regiment?
 - (5.) Did the report say that Colonel Neild's action was the more commendable as he had been short of officers?
 - (6.) Is it a fact that Colonel Neild has for many months past strongly and persistently urged the appointment of the many gentlemen who have applied for commissions in the Regiment?
 - (7.) Why have not these appointments been made?
 - (8.) Did the General recommend the increase of strength asked for?
 - (9.) Will he lay the report in question upon the Table of the House without delay?

Mr. See answered,—

(1, 2, 3, 6, and 8.) Yes.

(4.) The Major-General reported that Lieut.-Colonel Neild "has done very much for the efficiency of the Regiment."

(5.) This might be inferred.

(7 and 9.) Appointments have been kept back, as far as possible, pending decision on Court of Inquiry.

- (2.) Wages of Foremen, Public Works Department:—Mr. Garland asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Are foremen employed by the Public Works Department paid whether the weather be wet or dry?

(2.) If such is the case, will he explain what authority Mr. Bruce, who is in charge of the Harbour Resumption Works, Darling Harbour, has for stopping the wages of foremen that are employed on those works on wet days?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) In some branches this is done, but there is no fixed rule.

(2.) Pay was stopped because no work was done; this is often the case on temporary works.

- (3.) Troopers from South Africa:—Mr. Ewing asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the returned troopers from South Africa have been discharged, and all pay is to be stopped at the end of this month?

(2.) Is it the intention of the Government to give those who acquitted themselves satisfactorily in South Africa a preference in connection with any suitable employment which may offer?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) No. Pending instructions from the Government, men discharged when fit to earn their own living receive all pay due and a bonus of one month's pay.

(2.) This matter will receive consideration in due course.

- (4.) Leave of Absence in the Railway Service:—Mr. J. H. Young, for Mr. Carruthers, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the nature of the rule or regulation in the Railway Service with regard to leave of absence on full pay to employees after twenty years' service?

(2.) Is there any provision made for leave after long service, or for sickness, after long service only?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that, on the completion of twenty years' service in the Railway Department, the Commissioners grant employees, although not entitled to wages during illness, leave of absence with pay for a period not exceeding one month. It is necessary that the Medical Officer's certificate should be obtained.

- (5.) Claims of Retired Civil Servants:—Mr. Neild, for Mr. Storey, asked the Attorney-General,— Will he state what is the cause of the delay in dealing with the claims of ex-Civil Servants for additional gratuities made on the authority of the case *Josephson v. Young* as to temporary service?

Mr. Wood answered,—Full information is not yet available as to the number of people affected by this judgment.

- (6.) Railway Employees:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In reference to his recent reply to Mr. Rose, is he acquainted with the fact that on all sections of the railway lines on which there is Sunday traffic night officers have to work from ten to thirteen hours continuously for seven nights per week?

(2.) Does not the same condition of things, as regards seven days per week, apply also to operators at Redfern and at the suburban stations?

(3.) Is extra pay or are extra holidays allowed employees who work these long hours; and is it not a fact that, whether or not the work is light, they have to be at their posts all the time specified?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed that the night officers at a number of wayside stations, where the staff is limited and the trains run every night, are required to be on duty seven nights a week, but in no case are they on duty more than twelve hours, and the work is not arduous or continuous.

(2.) No.

(3.) Station-masters, officers in charge, night officers, and porters in charge, who work seventy hours per week without a continuous break of twenty-four hours, are allowed an additional week's leave per annum.

(7.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd October, 1900.

- (7.) Hawkesbury Railway Bridge :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that considerable anxiety has been caused the travelling public in consequence of a rumour being abroad to the effect that one of the piers of the Hawkesbury Railway Bridge has sunk very considerably; and is there any justification for this rumour?
 - (2.) What was the total cost of this bridge?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) I am informed there is no justification for the rumour. Speed has been reduced in connection with maintenance works.
 - (2.) £355,163 6s. 9d.
- (8.) Citizens' Bushmen's Contingent :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Will he furnish the names of the gentlemen who organised the Citizens' Bushmen's Contingent; the amount of the fund raised for its equipment, &c.; the conditions upon which the Contingent was sent away; and what was the expenditure (if any) incurred by the Government in the matter?
 - (2.) What proposal has been made to him as to the Government accepting all future responsibility in connection with the maintenance of this force?
 - (3.) Had the Government any voice in the selection of the officers and men who formed this Contingent?
 - (4.) Would the Government have organised and equipped this force, in addition to the several other Contingents sent to Africa, had no movement been made in the matter by Sydney citizens?
 - (5.) What was the total cost of the Citizens' Bushmen's Contingent to the date when its promoters relinquished control; and how did such cost compare with the expenditure incurred by the State in the matter of organising and equipping the Imperial Bushmen's Contingent?
 - (6.) What is the average weekly cost to this Colony of the troops sent from Sydney since the beginning of the War in South Africa?
- Mr. See answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.
- (9.) Registrar of Probates :—Mr. Nicholson, for Mr. Sleath, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the Registrar of Probates is in the habit of receiving from certain solicitors fees for his own private use for the expedition of the examination and passing of accounts in the estates of deceased persons, taxation of costs, and other business?
 - (2.) Does he not consider that such a practice is reprehensible in a public officer filling a quasi-judicial position, and calculated to operate to the prejudice of estates in which the Registrar is not so feod?
 - (3.) Will he see that instructions are given for the immediate discontinuance of such a practice, whether the business is expedited by the Registrar in or out of office hours?
- Mr. Wood, answered—The Registrar of Probates informs me that it is not a fact that he receives fees as alleged.
- (10.) Maintenance and Repairs of Public Buildings :—Mr. Nicholson, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that, according to recent reports of the Public Works Department, the amounts voted during the last few years for the maintenance and repairs of public buildings are altogether inadequate?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the amounts voted for this purpose have been during the last ten years gradually diminishing, though the buildings to be maintained have largely increased in number and value?
 - (3.) Is he aware that there are scores of wooden buildings that have not had a coat of paint for ten years, and that are falling into decay in consequence?
 - (4.) Is he aware that the sum voted for this purpose last year was less by £40,000 than that voted ten years ago, and did not amount to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the value of the buildings to be maintained?
 - (5.) Will he see that the sum placed on the Estimates for this purpose during the current year will be adequate for the purpose?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The Government Architect has reported so several times. It may be true that some of the buildings require painting, but no serious dilapidations are reported. The sum on the Estimates for this purpose has been reduced of late, but a fair amount will be provided for this year.
- (11.) Watchmen Employed in the Harbours and Rivers Department :—Mr. Cann, for Mr. Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the watchmen employed upon the dredges, tugboats, and other steamers belonging to the Harbours and Rivers Branch of the Works Department have to work twelve and fourteen hours per shift for seven nights a week?
 - (2.) Will he make arrangements to enable such employees' hours of labour being reduced to sixty hours per week?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) Night-watchmen are on board ninety-four hours per week, viz.—Saturdays and Sundays, twelve hours per night; Mondays to Fridays, fourteen hours per night. Time off for public holidays is allowed.
 - (2.) If it were in my power to make a liberal alteration in the matter I certainly would do so. It is, however, a subject for the determination of the Public Service Board, and the Question should therefore be asked of my honorable colleague the Attorney General.
- (12.) Enrolment of Sons of Foreigners as Voters :—Mr. Archibald Campbell asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Are the names of Australian-born sons of foreigners in this Colony being struck off the Electoral Rolls on account of their fathers not being naturalised?
 - (2.) Are such sons not permitted to have their names entered upon those Rolls until they or their fathers shall have become naturalised by registration?

3rd October, 1900.

(3.) If that be the case, will the act of a father in such an instance, by becoming naturalised, entitle his sons to be enrolled as electors of the Colony?

(4.) What are the conditions under which naturalisation can be attained in such circumstances, or ordinarily?

Mr. See answered,—Act No. 21, of 1898, to consolidate the laws relating to the naturalisation and denization of aliens, clearly defines the conditions under which certificates of naturalisation may be granted by the Governor (sections 5 to 8 inclusive). I am not aware that the names of any Australian-born sons of foreigners in this Colony who are qualified, under the 3rd subsection of section 8 of the Act referred to, are being omitted from the Electoral Lists now being completed, but will be glad to be apprised of any such cases occurring. Persons who are otherwise qualified, whose father or mother at the age of 16 or under obtained letters of naturalisation, or a son whose widowed mother, being an alien, married a natural-born British subject before the son reached the age of 16 years, shall be deemed naturalised, and shall possess all electoral rights and privileges enjoyed by British subjects.

5. PAPERS :—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—

(1.) 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.

(2.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section 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 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. Perry laid upon the Table,—Amended By-laws of the University of Sydney.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—Notification of Rates on Telegrams transmitted from New South Wales to Beira Railway Company's Stations (Africa) by direct route.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Regulations respecting the hours of attendance and special leave of absence of the Library Composing Staff, under the Public Service Act of 1895.

(2.) Regulation respecting the annual leave of absence of Temporary Composing Staff, Government Printing Office, under the Public Service Act of 1895.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT :—Mr. Sleath (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That Mr. Quinn be added to the Select Committee now sitting on "Administration of the Military Department" in place of Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, deceased.

Question put and passed.

7. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS :—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Culcairn to Germanton.

(2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Electric Tramway from Belmore Park to Port Macquarie.

(3.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed Electric Tramway along Pitt-street.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

(1.) Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday, 30th October.

(2.) Public Works Committee Election Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Wednesday, 21st November.

(3.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday, 16th October.

(4.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.

(5.) Richmond Vale Coal-mine Railway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until To-morrow.

9. PUBLIC SERVICE (TAXATION OFFICERS) BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Wood, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 103.

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 appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895.

Government House,

Sydney, 2nd October, 1900.

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

10.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd October, 1900.

10. **HOLT-SUTHERLAND ESTATE 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 reduce and alter the rents and royalties payable by the lessees of the Sutherland Estate, their successors and assigns, under certain memoranda of lease from Thomas Holt to the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited), to extend the term granted by the said memoranda of lease, and to make certain concessions and give certain powers to the lessees thereunder; and for other purposes mentioned therein,*"—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, 3rd October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.

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

11. **ADJOURNMENT** :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Tenterfield, Mr. Lee, 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 unnecessary severity of the border regulations in connection with the Queensland Tick Pest, and the importation of meat."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

12. **ADDITIONAL SITTING DAY (Sessional Order)** :—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to amended Notice, That during the remainder of the present Session, unless otherwise ordered,—

(1.) Friday in each week be a sitting day of this House, that the House meet at 10 o'clock a.m., and that Government Business take precedence of General Business on that day.

(2.) The House shall not sit later than 5 o'clock p.m. on such day, at which time the proceedings on any business then under consideration shall be interrupted; if the House be in Committee of the Whole, the Chairman shall thereupon put the Question (without amendment or debate), "That I do now leave the Chair, report progress, and ask leave to sit again on the next sitting day;" when the Speaker is in the Chair he shall forthwith put the Question "(without debate)," "That this House do now adjourn."

And Mr. Speaker proceeding to propose the Question,—

Point of Order :—Mr. J. H. Young pointed out that, except in certain cases which were provided for by specific Standing Orders, the House had the right to debate every question brought before it; and as this motion provided for the putting of the adjournment on Fridays "(without debate)" it was a contravention of the Standing Orders, as it took away from Honorable Members a right which they had enjoyed under those Standing Orders.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that he had ruled a few nights ago that where a Sessional Order clearly clashed with a Standing Order it would be his duty to carry out the Standing Order. In this particular case he could not see that the motion clearly clashed with any Standing Order, and he was not prepared to rule it out of order.

Question then proposed.

Mr. Cook moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "(without debate)."

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—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 three Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz. :—Mr. J. H. Young, Mr. Cook, and Mr. Mahony.

Original Question put and passed.

13. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (Electric Tramway from Belmore to Fort Macquarie via Castlereagh and Pitt Streets)** :—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that a single line of electric tramway from Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Debate ensued.

Point of Order :—Mr. Norton submitted that this motion was improperly before the House because it was not in accordance with the reference to the Public Works Committee, as required by the 13th section of the Public Works Act.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that he was asked to rule this motion out of order because the Public Works Committee had varied or altered the reference made to them. He was not inclined to decide that the motion was out of order on that ground, because, if he did so, he should be taking upon himself what was properly the function of the House, as provided by subsection 4 of section 13. It was the duty of the House to declare what course should be taken. He would, therefore, decline to rule the motion out of order.

Debate continued.

Question put.

The

3rd October, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 49.			Noes, 11.
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. See,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Kidd,	Dr. Ross,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Dight,	Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Terry,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Smith,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Moore.
Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Wright,	Mr. Carroll,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Miller,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Molesworth.
Mr. Richards,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Ross,	
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Edden,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. James Thomson,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,	Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. Archer,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Ferguson.	
Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

14. FIRE BRIGADES BILL (No. 2):—Mr. See 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; to provide that damage to property caused by certain officers shall be deemed to be damage by fire within the meaning of certain policies of fire insurance; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
Question put and passed.
15. PACIFIC CABLE ENABLING BILL:—Mr. Crick 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 enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such object.
Question put and passed.
16. WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 extend the Parliamentary franchise to women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.
Question put and passed.
17. MINING BILL:—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. Fegan, 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to mining; to establish Mining Appeal Courts; to give further facilities for the development of mining; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
18. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—
(1.) *Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme*:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the construction of works in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 31.		Noes, 13.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Richards,	Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Molesworth,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Brunker,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Terry,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Gornly,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. See,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Jessep.
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. F. Clarke.	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ferris,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Archer,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Ewing.	
Mr. Goodwin,		
Mr. Pyers,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

- (2.) *Railway from Glen Innes to Inverell*:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Glen Innes to Inverell.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 4 OCTOBER, 1900, A.M.

Debate ensued.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.

The House adjourned, at seventeen minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 51.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 4 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

SYDNEY CORPORATION (AMENDING) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 104.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make further and better provision as to the Municipal Government of the City of Sydney, and to amend the Sydney Corporation Act of 1879 and the Acts amending the same,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 3rd October, 1900.*

2. **FIRE BRIGADES BILL (No. 2)**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. See, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 105.

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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; to provide that damage to property caused by certain officers shall be deemed to be damage by fire within the meaning of certain policies of fire insurance; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 27th September, 1900.*

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

3. **QUESTIONS**:—

(1.) **Penny Postage Rate**:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is he aware that for some considerable time past a uniform penny postage rate has been established in New Zealand?

(2.) Will he see that steps are taken to have a similar law established in New South Wales, seeing that the penny postage rate is giving every satisfaction in New Zealand?

(3.) In the event of the revenue suffering to any extent from adopting the uniform penny postage rate, will he take into consideration the advisability of making up the deficiency by resorting to a half-penny tax upon newspapers to recoup the loss (if any) that the revenue may sustain by the change?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) No; but I understand it is the intention of the Government of that Colony to adopt it from 1st January next.

(2 and 3.) In view of the near approach of Federation, and the probable transfer of the Post Offices to the Commonwealth soon after Federation is accomplished, it would, I consider, be undesirable for one of the federating Colonies to take action in the direction indicated. These important questions should be left to the Federal Government to deal with.

(2.)

4th October, 1900.

(2.) Selectors on Nanami Holding, Eugowra :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that a large number of *bona fide* selectors on Nanami Holding, at Eugowra, district of Molong, county of Ashburnham, are anxiously waiting for the exchanged area of land on Nanami Run to be thrown open for selection to enable them to extend their present holdings, as they find it impossible, owing to late precarious bad seasons, to make a living off them?

(2.) Will he, therefore, under these circumstances, see that the matter is expedited with the least possible delay?

(3.) Will the Lands Department also see that these men and selectors are dealt fairly with, seeing that some hold conditional purchase lands and others hold homestead selections; and as the lands they wish to have added are all surrendered lands, there is nothing to prevent the homestead selectors having areas added to their present holdings under the provisions of section 47 of the Crown Lands Act of 1895?

(4.) Has he yet received any report from the District Surveyor at Orange; if so, when is the matter likely to be finally settled to enable these selectors to take up the land?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I have no doubt that many persons are interested in the exchange, and one difficulty in a case of this character is that the Department is placed between the alternatives of allowing the exchange to mature or to refuse it. In the former case persons have the expectation of acquiring land which, if the exchange were refused, they could not obtain, as it would continue in possession of the applicant for the exchange. The case is now before me as to whether the exchange shall not be refused in consequence of the applicants not having carried out all the requisitions of the Department, and the delay which has taken place in connection with the proposal.

(3.) Compensation to Parents of Corporal Verdi Daly :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) When are the parents of Corporal Verdi Daly, bugler (and who for many years acted as bugler to the Molong Mounted Rifle Company), and who died some months back in South Africa from enteric fever, likely to receive any compensation for the loss of their son, seeing that when he was alive he was one of the mainstays to the support of the family, being possessed of high musical ability?

(2.) Will he state when Mrs. Daly's application or claim for compensation is likely to be dealt with?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed that Mrs. Daly's application is now under consideration.

(4.) Export of Rabbits :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) As the Answers furnished to Dr. Ross' Questions of the 20th and 26th September last, *re* export of rabbits, freightage, and amounts realised for sale of the same, are somewhat vague, will he, for the better information of the general public, but especially those engaged in the export rabbit industry or trade, instruct the Agricultural Department to furnish a return showing—
(a) the number of rabbits dealt with; (b) the names of the firms or persons for whom the rabbits were frozen; (c) the amount of money received by the Government for the same; (d) the amount of freightage paid by them?

(2.) Is all that the Department does to grade the rabbits, pack, freeze, and ship them; and, if so, is the Department not in a position to furnish the fullest information on a matter of such public interest and importance?

Mr. Fegan answered,—There will be no objection to furnish the information desired by the Honorable Member if he will move for it in the usual way.

(5.) Night Officers on the Great Western Railway :—Mr. Lees asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact the night officers on the busy Great Western Line work twelve hours a night, seven nights per week, making a total of eighty-four hours per week?

(2.) Although the work is not constant, is it not arduous?

(3.) Will he consider whether these hours are not too long?

(4.) Will he confer with the Railway Commissioners, with a view to a reduction of the hours?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed that night officers at a number of wayside stations, through mail trains running every night, are required to be on duty seven days per week.

(2.) This work is not continuous or arduous.

(3 and 4.) I have consulted the Railway Commissioners, who regret that, in view of all the circumstances, and with a due regard to the public interests, they cannot disturb the existing arrangements. They point out that the conditions prevailing in this Colony are equal to and in most cases more favourable to the employees than those ruling on other railways. Night officers who work seventy hours per week, without a continuous break of twenty-four hours, are allowed an additional week's leave per annum.

(6.) Major of the 7th Regiment :—Mr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has the Major on the strength of the 7th Regiment attended to his Military duties during the past year and a half?

(2.) Have a large number of sergeants, corporals, and privates been dismissed during this period for inattention to duty?

(3.) If so, why has not the Major been also dismissed?

(4.) Does he consider that non-commissioned officers and privates should be dismissed for neglect of duty, and officers, equally or more in default, retained?

(5.) Has the Officer Commanding the Regiment frequently complained to the authorities of the Major's absence from duty?

(6.) Is it not a fact that this Major has been non-efficient for the past three years?

(7.) Has this Major absented himself from the Easter Training of the Regiment for the past two years?

(S.)

4th October, 1900.

- (8.) Is it considered that such an example can conduce to the good order and discipline of any Regiment?
- (9.) Does he consider it just to the Commanding Officer and other officers and men of the Regiment that this Major should be allowed to retain his commission?
- (10.) Is it not the rule to require a defaulting officer to resign his commission?
- (11.) Does he intend to cause this Major to be removed, and his position filled by a competent officer?
- (12.) Is not this Regiment, notwithstanding that it has been kept short of officers, and that so many unsatisfactory attendants have been dismissed, materially over its authorised strength?
- (13.) Is it not a fact that this Regiment this year shows a larger percentage of efficient and a higher attendance at the Easter Training than any other Volunteer Regiment?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) Not since May, 1899.
- (2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, and 13.) Yes.
- (3.) No action taken pending decision of the Government as to Court of Inquiry.
- (4, 9, and 11.) These are matters which are engaging the attention of the Government.
- (8.) No.

- (7.) Reduction of Wages of Tramway Conductors:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When were the new by-laws reducing the wages of tramway conductors gazetted?
- (2.) Were they approved by the Executive Council, as provided by the Government Railways Act; if so, on what date?
- (3.) Have they the force of law?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I am informed the amended by-laws relative to the rates of pay on the tramways were gazetted on the 12th September, 1899.
- (2.) Approved by the Executive Council on the 29th August, 1899.
- (3.) Yes.

- (8.) Night Officers in Charge of Railway Stations:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that night officers in charge of railway stations are on duty from seventy-two to eighty-four hours per week, at salaries ranging from £120 to £150 per annum?
- (2.) Is he aware that these officers have to be constantly on the alert to receive telephonic and telegraphic messages, and are also absolutely responsible for the safety of all trains passing during their hours of duty?
- (3.) Does he consider these salaries adequate for the amount of responsibility and great length of time of duty?
- (4.) Will he use his influence to have the hours of these officers reduced?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I am informed that, at a number of wayside stations, where there is a limited staff and the trains run every night, the night officers, in exceptional cases, work up to eighty-four hours per week; but the work is of an intermittent character. The salaries of night officers range from £120 to £200 per annum.
- (3 and 4.) The salaries are fixed by the Railway Commissioners, and I understand the conditions of the officers referred to have been improved since they took office.

- (9.) Adjutant of the 7th Regiment (St. George's Rifles):—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Garland, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Was the sum of £430, or thereabouts, voted on last year's Estimates as pay and allowances for an Adjutant attached to the 7th Regiment (St. George's Rifles)?
- (2.) Has this Regiment had the services of an Adjutant for the past nine months?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the Commanding Officer, Colonel Neild, has discharged the duties of Adjutant since the 1st January last?
- (4.) Has this officer received the pay and allowances voted by Parliament for the Adjutant, during this period—say £320, or any part thereof?

Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Major General commanding the Military Forces,—

- (1.) £405 was voted.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) Apparently so.
- (4.) The Officer Commanding has not received the above pay, or any part.

- (10.) Conversion of Annual Leases into Scrub Leases:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Referring to the reply to Questions by Dr. Ross, on the 27th September, as to applications for conversion of annual leases into scrub leases without public competition,—

- (1.) Will he state whether any such applications have been granted; and, if so, how many?
- (2.) Was it ever intended or contemplated under the provisions of the Land Act the granting of such conversion of leases, viz., from annual leases into scrub leases; if so, under what clause or provision of the Act are such conversions dealt with?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Investigation will be made, and the information supplied as early as practicable.
- (2.) Scrub leases are granted under the provisions of section 35 of the Crown Lands Act of 1889, and the practice of the Department has been to grant scrub leases of lands which come within the definition of "scrub lands." That section applies to "any Crown lands wholly or partly covered by scrub or noxious undergrowth," and appears to include lands of this description held under annual or other lease.

4th October, 1900.

(11.) Road from Eugowra to Cookamidgery Railway Station :—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that the road from Eugowra to Cookamidgery railway station is blocked against the travelling public by the erection of a large number of gates, which travellers and teamsters have to open and shut in going to the railway station, to the great danger of life and property?

(2.) As so many serious accidents have lately occurred on this road to the travelling public, owing to having to open and shut these gates, will he see that steps are taken to have the gates removed forthwith, to prevent further accidents occurring?

(3.) Is it not a fact that the public grievance now complained of has been going on for a number of years without the Department taking any notice of the matter?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) I am not aware.

(2.) The Department does not accept the responsibility of maintaining public roads free from obstruction. Gates upon a public road which are not authorised as "public gates" are illegal obstructions, with which the public themselves are entitled to deal. Public gates are granted by the Minister for Lands, under 39 Vic. No. 10, after due inquiry has been made, and they can be cancelled on sufficient reason being shown for such action. To conform with the Act mentioned authorised gates should have the words "Public Gate" painted upon them in legible characters not less than 3 inches in length. No public gates have been granted between the points referred to.

(3.) One complaint only has been received, and that recently.

(12.) His Honor Mr. Acting Judge Barton :—Mr. Haynes asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) What salary is being paid Mr. Edmund Barton, Q.C., while acting as Temporary Judge on Circuit?

(2.) Is any extra allowance paid him for the loss of his practice?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) At the rate of a Supreme Court Judge.

(2.) No.

(13.) Proposed Annexation of Fiji by New Zealand :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In view of recent representations made by commercial men of the metropolis *in re* the proposed annexation of Fiji by New Zealand, and its detrimental effect upon New South Wales trade, does he propose to take steps in the direction of opposing such a scheme?

(2.) What is the total value of our export and import trade with Fiji?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) According to a Press cablegram appearing in the daily papers, on 12th July last, it has already been decided by the Imperial Government that no settlement shall be arrived at in the matter referred to without previous discussion with the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia. I have, however, thought it advisable to enter a strong protest against the incorporation of Fiji with New Zealand pending the formation of a Federal Government. When the proper time arrives, I shall take the necessary steps to protect the interests of this Colony.

(2.) Imports into New South Wales from Fiji, 1899, £73,663; exports from New South Wales to Fiji, 1899, £165,387. In addition to the trade represented by these figures, there are every year considerable quantities of general merchandise transhipped at this port to and from Fiji, of which we have no detailed information. I may tell Honorable Members that I have read and analysed the petition presented to me by the Chamber of Commerce yesterday in regard to this matter. They state that during four years our trade with Fiji amounted to £773,000, or thereabouts, as against a very small proportion of trade from New Zealand. I wish to state that the cablegram, to which reference is made, from Mr. Chamberlain, was dated the 12th July, and has been published in the morning Press. I have not had time yet to ascertain whether any direct communication was made to the Government on the subject. The cablegram, which appeared in the Press, says that Mr. Chamberlain "now states that the suggestion of New Zealand for the incorporation with the Colony of certain groups of Islands in the Pacific must be discussed between New Zealand and Great Britain and the Commonwealth of Australia."

(14.) Transfer of Officers of the Lunacy Department :—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What system is being adopted by the Public Service Board in the matter of transferring from one institution to another officers, medical and other, attached to the Lunacy Department?

(2.) Are only those who were concerned in the recent scandal at Callan Park being so transferred; or is a general redistribution of positions being carried out?

(3.) Will he consider whether it is necessary or fair that officers against whom there is no word of complaint should be removed from institutions in which they have spent many years without being granted an increase of salary?

Mr. See answered,—As a consequence of the recent inquiry which was held in connection with the asylum at Callan Park, it was considered desirable to transfer the Medical Superintendent elsewhere, and in order to carry this out it has necessitated the transfer of other officers from one institution to another. Such officers, however, do not lose in status by their removal, which is one of the exigencies to which all Public Servants are liable. It should be stated that the Public Service Board have nothing to do with the appointment and removal of nurses and attendants; they merely determine the salaries of such officers. These changes are made in the public interest.

(15.) Approaches to the new Pymont Bridge :—Mr. Molesworth asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the approach at the eastern end of the new Pymont Bridge is to commence at a point on a level with Wharf-street?

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th October, 1900.

(2.) What are the gradients of the approaches to the said bridge at the eastern and western ends respectively?

(3.) In view of the enormous heavy traffic to be provided for, will he be good enough to instruct his officers to provide that the gradients shall be made as easy as possible?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) The gradient commences at upper end of Wharf-street, about 64 feet west of centre of Sussex-street.

(2.) 1 in 16 at eastern end; and 1 in 18, 1 in 21, and 1 in 30 on the western end.

(3.) The gradient has been made as easy as possible, while complying with the conditions laid down in the Act.

4. SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 106.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900.

Government House,

Sydney, 4th October, 1900.

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

5. ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR 1900-1901, AND STATEMENTS OF PAYMENTS FROM THE VOTE OF ADVANCE TO TREASURER ON ACCOUNT OF SERVICES FOR THE YEAR 1899-1900, AND FROM SUSPENSE ACCOUNT:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 107.

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 Expenditure for the year 1900-1901, together with a Statement of Payments from the Vote "Advance to Treasurer, 1899-1900," on account of services for the year 1899-1900, submitted for Parliamentary Appropriation in adjustment of the Advance Vote, and a Statement of Payments from the "Expenditure Suspense Account," during the period 12th to 30th June, 1899, for urgent claims, on account of Services of the year 1898-9, submitted for Parliamentary Appropriation.

Government House,

Sydney, 2nd October, 1900.

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates and Statements, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

6. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Third Report, together with Minutes Evidence, relating to the proposed Railway from Temora to Wyalong.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
7. PAPER:—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Accidents on the George-street and North Sydney Electric Trams.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intitled "A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1900-1901," 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.
Question put and passed.
9. SYDNEY INDUSTRIAL BLIND INSTITUTION INCORPORATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. See moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to constitute the members of the Sydney Industrial Blind Institution a body corporate; to confer and impose upon that body certain powers, duties, rights, and liabilities; to transfer to and vest in it the property of the said Institution and the Institution for the Blind, Strathfield; to discharge the trustees of the last-named Institution from certain liabilities; and generally to carry out the said objects for which the said Institutions were established.
Question put and passed.
10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
(1.) Municipalities (Amendment) Bill; second reading.
(2.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee
11. SYDNEY INDUSTRIAL BLIND INSTITUTION INCORPORATION BILL:—Mr. See, pursuant to leave granted this day, presented a Bill, intitled "A Bill to constitute the members of the Sydney Industrial Blind Institution a body corporate; to confer and impose upon that body certain powers, duties, rights, and liabilities; to transfer to and vest in it the property of the said Institution and the Institution for the Blind, Strathfield; to discharge the trustees of the last-named Institution from certain liabilities; and generally to carry out the said objects for which the said Institutions were established,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.

4th October, 1900.

12. METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 108.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 5th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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, 3rd October, 1900.*

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

13. ADMINISTRATION (VALIDATING) 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 validate certain orders of the Supreme Court giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation.*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

*Legislative Council Chamber,**Sydney, 4th October, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

ADMINISTRATION (VALIDATING) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 4th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, line 23. *After "thereof" insert "or has entered into a contract for the sale, mortgage, or lease of any such estate, or any part thereof"*

Page 2, clause 3, line 24. *After "lease" insert "or such contract for sale, mortgage, or lease"*

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,

Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

14. SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900. Question put and passed.

15. EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Perry moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Fegan 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 new clause 4,"—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. Molesworth moved, That the proposed amendment be amended by the addition of the words "and reconsider clause 3"

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 18.

Mr. Neild,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Storey,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Ashton.

Tellers,

Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Dugald Thomson.

Noes, 37.

Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Byrne,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. Archer,

Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Quinn,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Pycs,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Terry.

Tellers,

Mr. Law,
Mr. Gillies.

And so it passed in the negative.

Question

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th October, 1900.

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 new clause 4,—put and passed.

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

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

16. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 at a later hour of the day.

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:—

(4.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £1,937, for the establishment of His Excellency the Governor for the year 1900–1901.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

17. WAYS AND MEANS (*Financial Statement*):—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 at a later hour of the day.

18. PAPER:—Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Estimates of the Ways and Means of the Government of New South Wales for the year 1900–1901.

Ordered to be printed.

19. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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:—

(5.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £1,071,300: being £1,031,300 to defray the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the months of October and November, or following month of the financial year ending 30th June, 1901, to be expended at the rates which have been sanctioned for the financial year ended 30th June, 1900, subject to the rate of any reduction that may hereafter be made in the expenditure of the year 1900–1901. And £40,000 for Treasurer's Advance Account, the whole amount to be adjusted not later than the 30th June, 1902.

On motion of Mr. See, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

20. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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:—

(5.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Services of the financial year 1900–1901, the sum of £1,071,300 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

On motion of Mr. See, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

21. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 4):—

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. See, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 5), to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1900–1901.

(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intitled "*A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1900–1901*,"—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. See, 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. See, 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. See, *passed*.

Mr. See 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 1900–1901*."

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

4th October, 1900.

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 1900-1901,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th October, 1900.*

22. WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:—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 appointed a Select Committee on "Working of the Free Public Library," and the Committee being desirous to examine the Honorable James Norton, LL.D., and the Honorable John Hughes, 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, 4th October, 1900.*

23. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Government Business postponed until To-morrow.

24. RICHMOND VALE COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Edden moved, That this Bill "be" now read a second time.

Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "be" and inserting the words "referred to Select Committee for inquiry and report."

"(2) That such Committee consist of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Edden, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Watkins, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Cook, Mr. Sleath, and the Mover,"—instead thereof.

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

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 5 OCTOBER, 1900, a.m.

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,—namely, Mr. Archer, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Caan, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Cook, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Goodwin, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Nelson, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Perry, Mr. Price, Mr. Rigg, and Mr. Watkins,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at seven minutes before One o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 52.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 5 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Consolidated Revenue Fund Bill (No. 4):—

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 1900-1901*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th October, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

- (2.) Working of the Free Public Library:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

In answer to the Message from the Legislative Assembly, dated the 4th October, 1900, requesting leave for the Honorable James Norton and the Honorable John Hughes, Members of the Legislative Council, to attend and be examined before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, on the "Working of the Free Public Library," 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, 4th October, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

2. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Sewerage Tunnels at North Shore:—*Mr. Anderson*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the tunnels in connection with Sewerage Contracts 198 and 202, at North Shore, are only provided for on Departmental plans at 3 feet 1 inch high by 2 feet 7 inches wide?

(2.) Have representations been made to the Department that men refused to work in such small space, and that the contractors, for the safety of human life, were compelled to increase the size of such tunnels?

(3.) Is it a fact that it is practically admitted by the Department that men could not with safety work in such a confined space?

(4.) Does the Department refuse to pay the extra cost incurred by the contractors; and, if so, why, in the face of such admission?

(5.) Were the officers of the Department aware at the time of acceptance of tenders that the work could not be carried out in the space provided?

(6.) Have men to fire blasts in the confined area mentioned; and does he consider it safe that they should do so?

(7.) Will he consider whether it is humane for the Departmental officers to provide for the trussing or doubling up of men in tunnel work, for the ordinary hours of labour, in a space only 3 feet 1 inch by 2 feet 7 inches?

(8.) Is it a fact that, under the guttering and gadding system of sewerage in the Metropolitan area, there has been a large percentage of deaths of workmen employed, owing to the confined space in which they have had to work; and is it a fact that the tunnelling provided in these contracts, Nos. 198 and 202, is little better than the guttering and gadding system?

(9.) Will he make inquiry into the whole question of these contracts, with a view to doing justice to the contractors for the extra cost incurred by them in their humane efforts in the interests of the health and lives of their workmen?

Mr.

5th October, 1900.

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) The cross-section of the tunnel excavation is shown to be paid for the size indicated, but it was anticipated that the sectional area of the tunnel would vary in size according to the nature of the ground met with. The price per cubic yard was fixed, sufficiently high to cover such a contingency.

(2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7.) Representations were made by the contractors that for the purposes of blasting and ventilation, and to facilitate the work, the tunnel would have to be driven larger than the size to be paid for. This, however, was well known before the contract was let, as a large quantity of similar work had been executed. No exception was, therefore, taken to the contractors' proposal, but it was held that the work in question, in accordance with the terms of the contract, was included in the price per cubic yard, and should be at the contractors' cost.

(8.) It is well known that the work of driving sewer tunnels is not a healthy occupation, but the conditions under which the work in question is being carried out is not more unhealthy than other lengths of tunnel.

(9.) Inquiries will be made.

(2.) Justices of the Peace absent from Jury List Revision Courts:—*Mr. Dight*, for *Mr. Sawers*, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) How many honorary magistrates throughout the Colony absented themselves from the different Jury List Revision Courts in December last?

(2.) Did he call upon them all for a reason for such absence?

(3.) Was *Mr. John Dight*, of Tamworth, the only one whose reason was not considered sufficient?

(4.) Why was the matter allowed to stand over from December, 1899, until July of this year?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) There has not been sufficient time to obtain this information, but it will be furnished to the Honorable Member later.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Owing to an unavoidable delay in obtaining the necessary affidavits.

(3.) Keenan's revoked lease, Land District of Molong:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) With respect to Keenan's revoked lease, in the Land District of Molong, and with respect to *Mr. Norton's* previous Questions on the subject (*Hansard*, page 3332), did *McMahon*, an adjoining owner, inform the Department that he had or could use Keenan's revoked lease in conjunction with his own land?

(2.) Is it a fact he could not so use the land unless a bridge were erected over Boree Creek?

(3.) Is he aware that Keenan's revoked lease is enclosed by Boree Creek on the south, and on three sides by Keenan's land?

(4.) If this block were given to *McMahon*, would it not give him possession of both sides of the creek, and thus deprive Keenan of the benefits of access to water?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The portion in question, No. 268, parish of Boree Nyrang, is situated in proximity to Keenan's land and *McMahon's* land, and has frontage on two sides to Checseman's Creek and to the Boree Creek, or swamp, which runs between Keenan and *McMahon's* land. Both Keenan and *McMahon* have already creek frontage, and portion 268 being Crown property, its disposal to a stranger would not deprive either of the parties of any creek frontage which they can at present claim. I do not see any record of *McMahon* having stated that he had or could use the land in conjunction with the land he already holds, though no doubt he thinks so. The surveyor states that the banks of Boree Creek are moderately steep and practicable for bridle traffic. He considers there would not be much difficulty in making a practicable crossing. I append a sketch for the Honorable Member's information.

(4.) Officers in Botanic Gardens holding two positions:—*Mr. Smith* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Whether there are any officers in the Botanical Gardens who hold two positions?

(2.) If so, what are the names, positions, and remuneration of such officers?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Acting Director of the Botanic Gardens:—Yes; *Miss S. Hynes*, Second Botanical Assistant, Botanical Gardens, and Teacher of Botany, Department of Public Instruction, for which remuneration is by fees.

3. RICHMOND VALE COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL:—*Mr. Edden* moved, without Notice, That the Order of the Day for the resumption of the Debate on the Motion for the second reading of the Richmond Vale Coal-mine Railway Bill, which lapsed by the House being counted out on the 5th October, 1900, a.m., stand an Order of the Day for Tuesday next. Question put and passed.

4. EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*):—On motion of *Mr. Perry*, read a third time, and passed. *Mr. Perry* then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Early Closing Act, 1899.*"

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 Early Closing Act, 1899.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber.

Sydney, 5th October, 1900.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

5th October, 1900.

5. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill, postponed until Tuesday next.
6. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) BILL**:—
 (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900.
 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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900*,"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
7. **MUNICIPALITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Cook moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put,—and Division called for,—but there not being 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.
 Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.
8. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS**:—Mr. Levien, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Report (No. 2), together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Electric Tramway from Belmore Park to Fort Macquarie. [*In substitution for the Report laid upon the Table on 3rd October, 1900.*]
 (2.) Report (No. 2), together with Minutes of Evidence, relating to the proposed Electric Tramway along Pitt-street. [*In substitution for the Report laid upon the Table on 3rd October, 1900.*]
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
9. **FIRE BRIGADES BILL (NO. 2)**:—
 (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; to provide that damage to property caused by certain officers shall be deemed to be damage by fire within the meaning of certain policies of fire insurance; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; to provide that damage to property caused by certain officers shall be deemed to be damage by fire within the meaning of certain policies of fire insurance; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
 On motion of Mr. See, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the prevention and extinguishing of fires; for the protection of life and property from fire; to provide that damage to property caused by certain officers shall be deemed to be damage by fire within the meaning of certain policies of fire insurance; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
10. **MINING BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to mining; to establish Mining Appeal Courts; to give further facilities for the development of mining; 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 consolidate and amend the law relating to mining; to establish Mining Appeal Courts; to give further facilities for the development of mining; and for other purposes.
 On motion of Mr. Fegan, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
11. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Business postponed until Tuesday next:—
 (1.) The remaining Government Business.
 (2.) The remaining Orders of the Day of General Business.

5th October, 1900.

2. CHURCH OF ENGLAND PROPERTY TRUST, DIOCESE OF GOULBURN:—Mr. Haynes moved, pursuant to amended Notice,—

(1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the matters in dispute in relation to the Trust of the Church of England Church at Goulburn.

(2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Wise, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Hughes, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Miller, Mr. Price, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. McGowen, and the Mover.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 25.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. See,	Mr. Smith,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Affleck,	Mr. O'Conor,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Barnes.
Mr. Quinn,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Phillips,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Dacey,	

Noes, 11.

Mr. Rigg,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Terry,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Edden.
<i>Tellers</i>
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Moore.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

The House adjourned, at Four o'clock p.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 53.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL (No. 4).—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 109.

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 1900-1901*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th October, 1900.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Electoral Reform:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Richards*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of his intention to introduce legislation affecting electoral reform, especially as regards the elector's right, will he cause instructions to issue to Electoral Registrars to take no further action in connection with the present form of right pending issue of proposed new right?

Mr. See answered,—The law must be carried out until the amending Bill is passed.

(2.) Church and School Land, Carcoar District:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Waddell*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What area of land formerly Church and School Land, in the Carcoar District, is now available for settlement?

(2.) When and how will it be offered for settlement?

(3.) What has caused the delay in throwing this land open for settlement?

Mr. Hassall answered,—There is an area of about 7,418 acres which was formerly under lease under the Church and School Lands Act, and which was not very long since surrendered by the lessees in connection with arrangements made under the Act passed in 1897. The District Surveyor submitted a design for homestead selection, which was approved, and the papers are with the District Surveyor for survey, which is a necessary preliminary to throwing the land open to settlement. Directly survey has been effected steps will be taken to make the land available.

(3.) Police Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Nobbs* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will the Government place a sum of money on the next Estimates in order to make provision for carrying on the Police Superannuation Fund, as promised?

Mr. See answered,—This is a matter which is now under the consideration of the Government, and I hope to be able to deal with it before the Session closes.

(4.) Historical Records of New South Wales:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How many volumes of the "Historical Records of New South Wales" have been published to date; and what expenditure was incurred in the production of each individual volume?

(2.) What is the present annual expenditure in connection with this publication, giving details thereof?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The information desired by the Honorable Member will take some little time to prepare. It will be prepared and laid upon the table of the House in the form of a return.

(5.)

9th October, 1900.

- (5.) Salary of the State Governor:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) *Re* his reply to Mr. Fitzpatrick's Question as to the proposed reduction of the State Governor's salary to £2,000, and his expression of opinion to the effect that such a sum would be inadequate, is he aware of the fact that the following salaries are paid to State Governors in the Dominion of Canada:—Ontario, £2,000; Quebec, £2,000; Nova Scotia, £1,800; Manitoba, £2,000; Nor-Western territories, £1,400?
- (2.) Will he consider whether, if £2,000 per annum is regarded as a sufficient salary for the Lieutenant-Governor of Ontario, it would be equally so for the Lieutenant-Governor of New South Wales?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I believe this is so, but it does not seem to me that £2,000 will be sufficient to pay the Governor of the leading State of the Australian group. I may also point out to the Honorable Member that the States to which he refers are very much smaller in area and in every other way than the Colony of New South Wales.
- (6.) Mr. C. Oliver, Chief Commissioner for Railways:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What leave of absence has Mr. C. Oliver, Chief Commissioner for Railways, obtained; what is his alleged errand; what is his salary; does he draw same in full during his absence, and is any travelling allowance made him?
- (2.) What emolument is drawn by Judge Murray during that gentleman's occupancy of the office of Deputy-Commissioner in Mr. Oliver's absence?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) The Chief Commissioner left the Colony on the 11th April, for America and Europe, to negotiate for the supply of further electrical appliances, and to attend the International Railway Congress. He is to return early in December; his salary is £2,500 per annum, which is being continued, and he is allowed travelling expenses.
- (2.) No arrangement has been made. The terms are practically the same as those upon which Mr. Eddy was allowed to go home.
- (7.) Intercolonial and Coastal Trade of Australia:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) In view of the fact that British-subsidised mail steamers, foreign-subsidised mail steamers, ocean tramp steamers, manned by Asiatic crews, are competing with the Australian steamship owners for the intercolonial passenger and freight trade?
- (2.) Will he enter into communication with the Governments of the adjacent States, with a view to securing their co-operation in adopting measures to ensure the employment of Australian-owned ships and men in the intercolonial and coastal trade of Australia?
- (3.) Is he aware that the Government of New Zealand has enacted a law securing the coastal trade of that Province to the locally-owned vessels?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I understand there is a tacit agreement between the Australian steamship owners and the deep sea shipping companies, by which all competition for the intercolonial freight trade is eliminated. This is a matter which I think can only be effectively and comprehensively dealt with by the Federal Government.
- (3.) Yes, but I am informed it is inoperative. This Act provides that foreign-owned vessels engaged in the New Zealand coastal trade should pay their crews at the same rates of wages as those received by the crews of the local coasters. The one attempt to enforce this provision was abandoned.
- (8.) Rubbish, Ballast, &c., deposited in Harbours:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the practice of dumping sand and other ballast from sand-punts, lighters, &c., into the waters of the harbour of Newcastle, is being resorted to by the persons responsible for the conveyance of such sand and ballast out to sea?
- (2.) Will he issue instructions for the strict enforcement of the regulations against the practice of depositing rubbish, ballast, &c., in harbours?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—No. The Port Health Officer at Newcastle reports that the regulations are duly observed; and that the police and the harbour-master, with himself, see that there is no infringement.
- (9.) Sunday Trading:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that on Sunday last police officers visited a number of Sydney newsagents, for instance, at Milson's Point, and warned them against trading on Sunday?
- (2.) If so, is it seriously proposed to revive the old and what should be obsolete laws for the purpose of harassing industrious and honest shopkeepers who are endeavouring to make a respectable living?
- Mr. See answered,—No. The names of three newsvendors who keep their shops open for the sale of newspapers, fruit, &c., on Sundays were taken by the police, but no summons has been applied for except for one of the parties, who was convicted for selling fruit.
- (10.) Corporal J. P. Gilshannan, now in South Africa:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he make inquiries by cable as to the present condition of Corporal J. P. Gilshannan, of the New South Wales Mounted Infantry, now in South Africa, who was reported to have been severely wounded about the 15th September, and thus allay the great anxiety which is felt for him by his relatives in Sydney?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes; Corporal Gilshannan's name was included in a cable sent to South Africa this day.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th October, 1900.

(11.) Mr. Wilcoxson, Overseer, Lithographic Branch, Government Printing Office:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Was an inquiry, lasting twenty-one days, recently held by the Public Service Board into seventeen different charges made by Public Servants against William Alfred Wilcoxson, overseer of the Lithographic Branch of the Government Printing Office?

(2.) Did Mr. Wilcoxson admit charges of appropriating Government property from the Printing Office?

(3.) Did Mr. Wilcoxson admit the charge that he gratuitously printed Church choir matter for St. James' Church, Croydon; and was the charge supported by evidence?

(4.) Was Mr. Wilcoxson charged with improperly printing tram tickets; and was evidence given in support of the charge?

(5.) Was a special shorthand-writer employed to take the evidence as well as the speeches of counsel for and against Mr. Wilcoxson?

(6.) What are the names of the shorthand-writer and typewriter so employed; at what rates were they paid, and what was the total amount paid to each?

(7.) What amount of money has been spent by the Public Service Board for shorthand and typewriting, other than regular office work, since the Public Service Board was first appointed?

(8.) Has he adopted the recommendation of the Board that Mr. Wilcoxson has been sufficiently punished for any wrong done by the anxiety and expense he has been put to in connection with the inquiry; and has Mr. Wilcoxson been allowed to resume duty?

(9.) Are the two officers in the Government Printing Office who made the charges to suffer because the Board did not consider all the charges proven?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Public Service Board:—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Mr. Wilcoxson admitted taking away some window sashes, which, however, he contended, were not Government property, as they were part of some lumber which was being removed by the contractors carrying out certain additions to the Printing Office. The Board considered that the explanation offered was sufficient to leave a doubt in their minds as to whether the sashes were taken wrongly or not, and they deemed it their duty to give him the benefit of the doubt, and decided that the charge was not proved. Mr. Wilcoxson also admitted that some years ago he did, by permission, take away empty cases, which the Board believed were of little value.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Yes; but the Board, after careful investigation, were satisfied that the matter was fully explained.

(5 and 6.) A special shorthand-writer was not employed. The evidence was taken by a shorthand-writer who is temporarily attached to the Board's Office, and is filling the place of the regular shorthand-writer, who is absent on other duty. The Public Service Act (*see* section 53) requires that the Board shall keep a complete record of all inquiries held by them, which form an important part of their statutory duties, and, in compliance therewith, shorthand notes are taken at all inquiries they hold.

(7.) No expenditure has been incurred for shorthand and typewriting by the Public Service Board other than upon regular office work.

(8.) It was not a recommendation of the Board, but their decision, in accordance with the powers conferred upon them by section 49 of the Public Service Act. The approval of the Executive is only required when an officer is to be called upon to resign or to be dismissed the Public Service. Mr. Wilcoxson is at present ill, but he will be allowed to resume duty as soon as he is able to do so. He has not even been suspended by his Department.

(9.) The Board have no intention of proposing any penalty on the officers who made the charges, but an endeavour is being made to rearrange their work.

(12.) Mrs. E. Miller, late Cleaner, Works Department:—*Mr. Smith* asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Upon whose recommendation was Mrs. E. Miller removed from her position as cleaner in the Works Department?

(2.) Does her successor as cleaner in that Department hold two positions in the Public Service?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Public Service Board:—Mrs. Miller was formerly employed as a cleaner in the office of the Director of Botanic Gardens and also in the Public Works Department. She received a salary of £26 per annum for working after 4.30 p.m. and Saturday afternoons in the Works Department, and £24 per annum for working before breakfast at the Botanic Gardens—making £50 per annum in all. Owing to the extra cleaning work caused by the erection of new buildings in connection with the Botanic Gardens, it was considered desirable that Mrs. Miller should be wholly employed at that place, and she was therefore relieved of the work in the Public Works Department, and her salary was increased to £64 per annum, which is more than that received by other cleaners with longer service. Mrs. Miller's duties in the Public Works Department were allotted to Mrs. Abberton, cleaner at the Hospital Admission Depot at £30 per annum, whose remuneration was increased to £56 per annum on this account. These alterations were made on the recommendation of the Public Service Board.

(13.) Improvements at Parliament House:—*Mr. Brunker*, for Mr. Whiddon, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the total cost of the new billiard-room recently erected for the recreation and amusement of Members of this House, including the two billiard-tables and other furnishings complete?

(2.) What was the total cost of the new bowling-green, tennis-lawn, and tea-kiosk for the use of Members of this House?

(3.) What additional attendants are employed for each?

(4.) What is the total cost of same?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am making inquiries, and will give a reply as soon as possible.

(14.)

9th October, 1900.

- (14.) Engineers at the Power-house, Ultimo :—Mr. McGowen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the engineers in charge of the machinery at the power-house, Ultimo, are compelled to be in possession of sea-going certificates?
 - (2.) Has it been decided that none but marine certificated engineers are to hold these positions?
 - (3.) If so, for what reason?
 - (4.) Is it not acknowledged that engineers who have never obtained a marine certificate are the best class of men to work and repair machinery of the kind used in the power-house?
 - (5.) Is it not also a fact that the major portion of the repairs that have and are being effected at the power-house is being done by men who do not possess a marine certificate?
 - (6.) Will the authorities see that for any future vacancy that may occur a competitive examination is held that will be open to all qualified engineers, and not restricted to marine certificated engineers?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Commissioners supply the following replies :—

- (1.) No.
- (2 and 3.) No.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) Such repairs as have been necessary could, under supervision, have been effected by either marine engineers or ordinary mechanics and boiler makers.
- (6.) Competitive examinations for this purpose are not considered necessary. In filling vacancies consideration is given to the qualifications and the experience of the most suitable men available.

3. RACING ASSOCIATION BILL :—Mr. Cook presented a Petition from certain members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of New South Wales, in Convention assembled, at Newcastle, representing that Petitioners view with alarm any attempt to pass a measure to place racing and gambling under State control, and praying the House to reject any Bill having such objects in view.
Petition received.

4. PAPERS :—

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return to an Order, made on 6th September, 1900,—“ Granville Railway Station.”
- (2.) Notification of resumption of land for improving Station arrangements at Allandale.
- (3.) Copy of Government Notice, dated Salisbury, 16th August, 1900, respecting the offer of farms for Australian, New Zealand, and Canadian Volunteers, and English Yeomanry, who have volunteered for the defence of Rhodesia.
- (4.) Report of the Commissioner on Sites for the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulation No. 153, under the Crown Lands Acts.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Rule of the Supreme Court in Equity.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Egelabra, county of Oxley, for the Macquarie River District Improvements.
- (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parishes of Erudgere and Munna, county of Wellington, for a Bridge over McDonald's Creek.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR :—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

- (1.) Parliamentary Electorates (Amendment) Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 110.

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 further amend the Parliamentary Electoral Law.

*Government House,
Sydney, 9th October, 1900.*

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

- (2.) Parliamentary Electoral Law Suspension Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 111.

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 suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls.

*Government House,
Sydney, 9th October, 1900.*

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

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th October, 1900.

(3.) Government Railways (Employees Appeal) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 112.

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 hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888.

Government House,
Sydney, 9th October, 1900.

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

6. JUSTICES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Wood, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 113.

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 law relating to fees in respect of proceedings before Justices; to enable the Governor to fix such fees; and for other purposes in connection therewith.

Government House,
Sydney, 7th July, 1900.

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

7. OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL:—Sir William Lyne, pursuant to leave granted on 13th September, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to provide for Old-age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of or consequent on the aforesaid object,"—which was read a first time.

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

8. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill postponed until Thursday next.

9. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne 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.

10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Business postponed until To-morrow:—

- (1.) The remaining Government Business.
- (2.) Holt-Sutherland Estate Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.

11. RICHMOND VALE COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the Debate, on the motion of Mr. Edden, "That this Bill 'be' now read a second time."

Upon which Mr. Arthur Griffith 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. O'Sullivan, Mr. Edden, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Watkins, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Cook, Mr. Sleath, and the Mover,"—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 passed.

Original Question,—That this Bill be now read a second time,—put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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.

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 54.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 10 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Mr. Webb, late Postmaster at Minmi:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) As the result of certain charges preferred against Mr. Webb, who was Postmaster at Minmi in 1899, by the Local Improvement Committee, was Mr. Payten, S.M., commissioned by the Public Service Board to hold an inquiry?

(2.) Was such inquiry duly held; and was the Postmaster subsequently suspended for a month, and then later on transferred to Sydney?

(3.) If so, what was the nature of Mr. Payten's report; were the charges in question found to be proved or disproved?

(4.) When will the papers laid upon the Table last Session, and ordered to be printed, be available to Honorable Members in printed form?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) (a) Yes. (b) No. He was not suspended, but was subsequently transferred to Parramatta.

(3.) The original papers were tabled on the 20th December last, in obedience to an order of the House, and, without reference to them, the precise nature of Mr. Payten's report cannot be stated by me, but it is presumed that, having been tabled, the papers are accessible to Honorable Members.

(4.) This is not a Question for me to answer. I may add that I think it would cost a large amount to print the papers, and that I do not think the expense of printing would be justifiable.

(2.) Attendants on the Telephone Exchange:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that all attendants on the Telephone Exchange are now required to attend to their duties one week in each month from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.?

(2.) Was it a custom previously for male attendants only to be employed in this manner?

(3.) Will he consider the advisability of again returning to that system, so that young girls employed in the service shall not be kept from their homes until the late hours now provided?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Consequent on the intention to increase the number of female and reduce the number of male attendants, it became necessary to rearrange the hours, and this involved the former being on duty every fourth week up to 9 p.m., instead of 6 p.m. as formerly; but the work is really lighter, as business slackens after 6 p.m. The average attendance of the girls is only about six hours a day, and no complaint has been made nor exception taken to the later hour, although many of them have taken their turn at it since July last.

(3.) First Australian Horse:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Nielsen, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that he, in reply to a Question asked by Mr. Nielsen on 7th August, 1900, re formation of an additional Regiment of the Australian Horse, answered, "A sum of money will be placed upon the Estimates for this purpose"?

(2.) Is it his intention to carry out this promise?

(3.) If so, has the amount necessary for this purpose been placed upon the Estimates?

(4.) If not, why not?

Mr. Sec answered,—There have been over 120 applications to form corps in various parts of the Colony, aggregating quite 11,000 men, which would entail an enormous expenditure. In view of the fact that the Federal Government will take over all the Military and Naval Forces on the 1st January, the Government hesitates to incur the necessary expenditure. (4.)

10th October, 1900.

- (4.) Travelling Stock Bill, Tick Bill, &c.:—Mr. Dight asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it the intention of the Government to proceed with the following Bills during the present Session, viz., the Travelling Stock Bill, the Tick Bill, the Bill to replace Rabbits on the list of Noxious Animals, the Brands and Stock-stealing Prevention Bill, all of which are of great importance to stock-owners?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is the intention of the Government to proceed with as many of the Bills mentioned as possible. I do not know if they are all on the paper, but two of them are; and if it is possible to deal with them all they will be dealt with.

- (5.) First Offenders Probation Act:—Mr. Cohen asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) How many persons have received the benefit of the provisions of the First Offenders Probation Act?
 (2.) How many have been subsequently apprehended for breach of such provisions?
 (3.) How many have been subsequently convicted?

Mr. Wood answered,—The information desired by the Honorable Member will be obtained as early as practicable, and laid upon the Table in due course.

- (6.) Stock Routes from Deniliquin to Gee Gee Crossing:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Chanter, asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the stock routes from Deniliquin to Gee Gee Crossing, on the road to Swan Hill, as recommended by the Local Land Board, and confirmed on appeal by the Land Appeal Court, be gazetted as available for the use of the public?

Mr. Fegan answered,—This case is still in the hands of the Land Appeal Court. Upon inquiry there, the Registrar states that the papers are at present detained, pending the settlement of the terms of the final certificate of the Court's order to be issued by him. The order as set forth in his draft certificate having been challenged by the solicitors for the appellants, it will be necessary to proceed under the Rules of Court 14 and 36, and this, the Registrar says, will be done at the earliest possible opportunity.

- (7.) Appointment of Treasury Official as Captain on the Reserve of Officers:—Mr. Nobbs asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that an officer of the Treasury, who was once secretary and paymaster in the Naval Volunteer Forces, has been placed on the reserve of officers with rank of a captain?
 (2.) On what grounds has such a step been taken?
 (3.) Do the Government provide uniforms for all officers they place on the reserves?
 (4.) If not, can he say why in this case, besides placing the man in a position that his services do not warrant, they have put the taxpayers of this country to the expense of about £80 in purchasing uniforms for him in London; and also state what expenses have been incurred in sending cablegrams regarding the said uniforms, so that they should come to hand in time for the Commonwealth celebrations?
 (5.) Will he lay a copy of the cables upon the Table of this House as soon as possible?

Sir William Lyne, answered,—

(1 and 2.) Yes; in connection with the China and Transvaal Contingents. He holds the rank of lieutenant in the Naval Forces, which is a relative rank of that of captain in the Army.

(3.) No.

(4 and 5.) The country will be put to no expense in regard to this uniform, but as the matter was one of urgency the Government code was used, with the sanction of the Minister, which has been done in other cases. I wish to say, in addition, that I do not know who has instigated this Question, but the gentleman to whom it refers (*Mr. Thomas*) has done more than any other man in the Service to help me, and to help the Military Authorities, in dealing with the returned members of the Contingents, and in finding out cases that should be relieved at once. Even were this uniform paid for by the Government, it would be but little recompense for the services this gentleman has rendered.

- (8.) Traffic at the Circular Quay:—Mr. Quinn asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the imminent peril to life and limb involved in the state of traffic at the Circular Quay since the inauguration of the electric tram service, will he take into immediate consideration the advisability of constructing a subway or subways by which the people may reach and leave the ferries safely?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The matter is one surrounded with difficulties, on account of the location, but I will be glad to give consideration to it.

- (9.) Railway Employees:—Mr. Quinn asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that the minimum wage established by the Government is persistently ignored by the Railway Commissioners, both with regard to labourers on deviation and reconstruction works and tramway conductors receiving less than 7s. per day, and in view also of the fact that tram conductors and other railway employees are worked more than eight hours per day, will he, by resolution, allow this House to give the Railway Commissioners a specific direction that they must not continue to treat employees of the Railway Department unfairly in the matter of wages and hours of labour as compared with other servants of the State?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that the Railway Regulations provide that railway and tramway employees shall be paid rates equal to those that prevail in private establishments; and the Commissioners claim that the conditions and privileges that obtain in the railway and tramway services are more than equal to those that prevail elsewhere.

- (10.) Registration of Firms Bill:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Will he be good enough to indicate when he intends to introduce the Bill providing for the "registration of firms," as promised by him some time since?
 (2.) Is he aware of the fact that such a measure is in force in all the other colonies, and that it is very necessary?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am at present unable to fix a date when this Bill will be introduced.

(11.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th October, 1900.

- (11.) Drafting of Public Bills:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Meagher*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) How many Public Bills introduced by the Government during the last five years have been drawn by individuals other than the Parliamentary Draftsman?
 - (2.) By whom have such Bills been drawn, and the amount of fees paid respectively in regard thereto?
 - (3.) How many of such Bills have been carried into law?
 - (4.) What amount has the Parliamentary Draftsman received for his services during the said five years?
- Mr. See* answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return.
- (12.) Promotions in the Telephone Exchange:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Has it been a rule in the Telephone Exchange that, in matters of promotion, seniority has always taken precedence, except where holders of Technical College certificates were given preference?
 - (2.) Has an officer named *Lindsay* lately been appointed supernumerary assistant at the Exchange, holding neither seniority nor certificate qualifications, over the heads of other officers at a salary increased from £78 to £96 per annum; and, if so, why?
- Mr. Crick* answered,—
- (1.) Yes; but fitness for the position to be filled is also a necessary qualification.
 - (2.) Yes; after giving due consideration to the claims of his seniors, in regard to whom the late Chief Electrician reported that none were “so capable of performing clerical duties as *Lindsay*.” Some of them were, however, reported to be fitted for other positions, such as fitters, monitors, testers, &c., and have been promoted to such positions.
- (13.) Grafton Bonded and Free Stores:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has the Government lately taken over the Grafton Bonded and Free Stores?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the rates charged there are less than those charged in other private bonds; and, if so, will steps be taken to consult with other bonded proprietors, so that uniform rates may be charged in all bonded stores?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) The manager of the Grafton Stores reports that it is not a fact that rates charged generally are less than those charged in private bonds, but there may be individual cases where higher or lower rates are charged. It would be an advantage if uniform rates were charged at all Bonded and Free Stores (Warehouses), provided that due securities were given in the event of any proprietor breaking such agreement. Within the past two years many conferences have been held with this object in view; but no satisfactory settlement has ever been arrived at.
- (14.) Proposed Royal Commission on Supplies to Government Institutions:—*Mr. Arthur Griffith* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Can he say when the promised Royal Commission on the matter of supplies to Government institutions is likely to be appointed?
 - (2.) With regard to the Coast Hospital Inquiry, was the Chief Medical Officer to the Government aware that the stores contractor to this institution (*Mr. A. Kidman*) was, on 29th June last, fined for keeping filthy premises?
 - (3.) Was *Dr. Ashburton Thompson* aware that prior to this a Health Office inspector reported that in *Kidman's* store (whence the food supplies were sent to the Hospital) were found “two casks, a box, and a basket full of decomposing vegetables”; that in the meat store and salt-house there were “quantities of stinking vegetable matter and putrid meat”; that “horse urine was standing in an open drain in front of the meat and vegetable store”?
 - (4.) Were any steps taken at that time by the Chief Medical Officer towards cancelling *Kidman's* contract?
 - (5.) Is it not a fact that the plague patient, *J. H. Hennessy*, was working in this store up to the time of his falling ill, and that a fellow employee in the store died during last year of typhoid?
 - (6.) Why were not these premises quarantined?
 - (7.) Is it a fact that this contractor (*Mr. A. Kidman*) has been given a contract for the present year—commencing 1st July last—for the supply of provisions to the Garrison Hospital, Sydney?
- Sir William Lyne* answered,—
- (1.) The appointment will shortly be made.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) No. Probably some Inspector originally appointed by the Board of Health, and subsequently transferred to the Department of Public Works, is referred to.
 - (4.) No.
 - (5.) *John William Hennessy* was employed by *Mr. A. Kidman*. If the name of the person said to have died of typhoid fever be given, the case will be traced.
 - (6.) Because *Hennessy* was considered to have contracted the disease elsewhere.
 - (7.) Yes; *Mr. Kidman's* tender was approved for the supply of groceries and liquors to the Garrison Hospital, but was transferred to Messrs. *Joseph and Rickard* on 1st August.
- (15.) Prosecutions under the Indecent Publications Act:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Have any prosecutions yet been instituted under the provisions of the Indecent Publications Act; and, if so, how many?
 - (2.) Is he aware that publications in the shape of pamphlets and newspapers are daily being sent through the Post Office to all parts of the Colony, said publications containing matter of a most objectionable nature from a moral point of view?

Mr.

10th October, 1900.

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Inquiries are being made.

(2.) My honorable colleague, the Postmaster General, informs me that his attention has been drawn to certain passages in several newspapers which appear to be infringements of the Act mentioned. In every case he has communicated with the proprietors, and if the objectionable matter appears again it is his intention to confiscate the newspapers, and prosecute the offenders.

(16.) Richmond Vale Coal-mine Railway Bill:—Mr. Arthur Griffith asked the Secretary for Mines,—When, during the debate on Brown's Richmond Vale Railway Bill, he informed the House that "the Government are not prepared to construct the line," had the matter ever been considered by the Cabinet, or was his statement made after a hurried consultation with another Minister merely for the purpose of inducing the House to carry the private Bill?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I answered the Honorable Member's Question yesterday afternoon, and in referring to the Minister for Works I referred to him as the constructing authority.

2. PAPER:—Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 25th September, 1900,—
"Technical College."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne 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 further amend the Parliamentary Electoral Law.
Question put and passed.
4. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORAL LAW SUSPENSION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne 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 suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls.
Question put and passed.
5. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Sydney Harbour Trust Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those 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, 10th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 10th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 8, clause 20, line 2. *Omit* "at pleasure" *insert* "on the recommendation of the commissioners"

Page 8, clause 20, line 6. *After* "Act" *insert* "in the"

Page 10, clause 27, line 14. *After* "lands" *insert* "the property of the Crown"

Page 10, clause 28. At end of clause *add* "For the purposes of this section the word 'persons' shall be deemed to include the Crown or any person or corporation entitled to hold land on behalf of the Crown."

Page 10, clause 30. *Omit* clause 30, *insert* the following new clause:—

30. (1) The commissioners, with the approval of the Governor, may, on the application of the proprietor in fee-simple of land having frontage to the port, authorise such proprietor to reclaim any part of the port adjoining thereto:

Provided that no such reclamation shall be authorised which may interrupt or interfere with navigation:

Provided also that the application to reclaim shall be published once a week in the Gazette and in some daily newspaper published in Sydney for four consecutive weeks before such authority for reclamation is given, during which time any person may lodge a caveat with the Secretary for Lands against the giving of such authority, and all such caveats shall be considered before the required approval of the Governor is given.

The commissioners in giving such authority to reclaim may give the same, subject to such terms and conditions as may appear desirable in the public interest, and in particular to the condition that, if such land or any portion thereof is resumed by the commissioners, no other compensation shall be payable than the value of any improvements upon the lands resumed, effected with the written approval of the commissioners first had and obtained, together with a repayment of the purchase money and of the cost of reclamation, or, if the land resumed be a portion only of the land reclaimed, of a fair proportion of such purchase money and cost as aforesaid.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th October, 1900.

(2.) In any case where such authority is given the Land Board for the Metropolitan District shall (subject to appeal by the applicant or the commissioners to the Land Appeal Court in the manner prescribed by the Crown Lands Acts) appraise—

(a) the amount by which the value of the whole holding will be enhanced, by reason of the land to be reclaimed having been reclaimed and being held and enjoyed with the land held in fee-simple; and

(b) the amount of the estimated cost of the reclamation; and the excess (if any) of such first-mentioned amount over such last-mentioned amount shall, within three months after a notice in the Gazette calling for the same has been published by the commissioners, be paid by the applicant to the commissioners, and in default of such payment the authority to reclaim may be declared to have lapsed, and the same shall thereupon become void and of no effect.

(3.) The applicant shall, within such period as may be allowed for the purpose, complete the reclamation to the satisfaction of the commissioners, and upon the due completion thereof, the commissioners shall convey and assure to the applicant the land so reclaimed. The conveyance shall embody the terms and conditions subject to which the authority was given, or such of them as require to be so embodied.

(4.) If the reclamation be not completed to the satisfaction of the commissioners, or be not so completed within the aforesaid period, the commissioners may, by notification in the Gazette, declare the right to purchase the land, together with all moneys paid thereon, to be forfeited; and the same shall become forfeit accordingly; and upon such forfeiture the said authority to reclaim shall become void and of no effect, and any land which may have previously been reclaimed under such authority shall revert to the commissioners, freed and discharged from any right or claim of the applicant or any other person in or to the same.

Page 11, clause 33, line 15. *Omit* "management and"

Page 13, clause 37, line 38. *Omit* "of" *insert* "to"

Page 14, clause 40, lines 28 and 29. *Omit* "subject to the approval of the Governor"

Page 14, clause 40, lines 30 and 31. *Omit* "and by any deed under their corporate seal may demise to the lessors thereof"

Page 14, clause 41, line 35. *Omit* "with the approval of the Governor"

Page 15, clause 43, lines 31 and 32. *Omit* "Public Works Act of 1888" *insert* "Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act"

Page 15, clause 44, line 35. *Omit* "by the Minister or"

Page 15, clause 44, line 36. *After* "commissioners" *omit* remainder of clause.

Page 17, clause 48, lines 1 and 2. *Omit* "subject to the approval of the Minister"

Page 18, clause 52, line 13. *After* "proper" *insert* "lease or"

Page 21, clause 59, line 3. *After* "no" *insert* "bonâ fide"

Page 22, clause 66, line 7. *Before* "year" *insert* "half"

Page 22, clause 66, line 7. *After* "year" *insert* "then"

Page 22, clause 66, lines 7 and 8. *Omit* "on the thirty-first day of December immediately preceding"

Page 22, clause 68, line 25. *After* "shipped" *insert* "on"

Page 22, clause 68, lines 26 and 27. *Omit* "(whether such goods, merchandise, or things are landed or not)" *insert* "so berthed"

Page 22, clause 68, line 33. *After* "commissioners" first occurring *insert* "provided that goods merchandise and things unshipped from any vessel to any other vessel for conveyance to another port shall not be subject to any wharfage if a transhipment entry in respect thereof is duly passed at the Custom House within forty-eight hours after the time at which the discharging vessel has reported at the said Custom House"

Page 22, clause 68, line 33. *Omit* "are appointed" *insert* "otherwise provide"

Page 24, clause 75, line 24. *After* "and" *insert* "so far as funds are available"

Page 31, Schedule One. At end of Schedule *add*—

"48 Vic. No. 18	Crown Lands Act of 1884 ...	...	So much of sections 64, 65, and 68 as relates to reclamations within the Port of Sydney.
"58 Vic. No. 18	Crown Lands Act of 1895 ...	...	So much of section 54 as relates to reclamations within the Port of Sydney."

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
Deputy-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.) Medical Practitioners Amendment Bill (No. 2) :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act for the registration of medical practitioners; the restriction of unqualified persons from practising; and to amend such other statutes as may be inconsistent therewith,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 10th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

(3.)

10th October, 1900.

(3.) Dentists Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to provide for the registration of dentists qualified to practise in New South Wales*,"—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 October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

DENTISTS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 10th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of Parliaments.

- Page 3, clause 11, lines 25 and 26. *Omit* "and has satisfied the Board that he is possessed of adequate knowledge in dentistry"
- Page 3, clause 11. *Omit* subsection (d) *insert* the following new subsection :—
" (d) has attained the age of twenty-one years, and shall have been a pupil or apprentice for a period of not less than two years to a dental practitioner entitled to be registered under this Act. Provided that such pupilage or apprenticeship shall have been commenced at least six months before the commencement of this Act, and shall have expired before he shall be entitled to be so registered; or "
- Page 4, clause 13, lines 12 and 13. *Omit* "eight hundred and ninety-seven" *insert* "nine hundred and one"
- Page 4, clause 13, line 13. *Before* "medical" *insert* "duly qualified"
- Page 4, clause 13, line 18. *Omit* "eight hundred and ninety-seven" *insert* "nine hundred and one"
- Page 4, clause 13, line 19. *Before* "medical" *insert* "duly qualified"
- Page 5, clause 19, line 21. *Omit* "Third"
- Page 5, First Schedule. *Omit* the First Schedule.
- Page 6, Second Schedule. *Omit* the Second Schedule.
- Page 6, Third Schedule, line 14. *Omit* "Third"
- Page 6, Third Schedule, line 15. *Omit* "1897" *insert* "1901"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

6. 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 proposal to construct a thoroughfare for vehicular traffic through the Botanical Gardens, from the foot of Government House to Mrs. Macquarie's Chair."
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.

Point of Order :—Mr. Arthur Griffith took exception to the discussion of this subject in this way, on the ground that the proper place for its discussion would be in the Committee of Ways and Means or Supply.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker stated his opinion that this motion came clearly within the scope of the rule laid down by his predecessor. The financial debate in the Committee of Ways and Means was the first Order of the Day for to-day, and this matter could be fully discussed there; in fact, it was so discussed last night. He, therefore, thought it to be his duty to rule the motion out of order.

7. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (EMPLOYEES APPEAL) BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 better provision for the hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888.
Question put and passed.

8. WAYS AND MEANS:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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,—

THURSDAY, 11 OCTOBER, 1900, A.M.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

10th October, 1900.

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

(4.) *Resolved*,—That, towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Service of the year 1900–1901, there be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales the sum of £1,937, for the expenses of the establishment of His Excellency the Governor.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

9. PASTURES AND STOCK PROTECTION (RABBIT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—

Mr. Fegan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

10. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at seventeen minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

WILLIAM McCOURT,

Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 55.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 11 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

INEBRIATES BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message 114.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the care, control, and treatment of inebriates; and for purposes incidental to the above-mentioned 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, 10th October, 1900.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Pay to Railway Employees:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Having in view the statement made by the Railway Commissioners in their annual report that advances in pay of employees were made during the half-year ending June 30th last, amounting to a total of £46,315, what number of employees participated in those advances who were previously in receipt of less than 5s. per day; and what portion of this amount was distributed among employees previously receiving less than 5s. per day?

(2.) Like information regarding those receiving from 5s. to 6s. per day?

(3.) Like information regarding those receiving 6s. to 7s. per day?

(4.) Like information regarding those receiving 7s. to 8s. per day?

(5.) Like information regarding those receiving 8s. to 9s. per day?

(6.) Like information regarding those receiving 9s. to 10s. per day?

(7.) Like information regarding those receiving over 10s. per day?

(8.) Like information *re* salaried officers receiving from £150 to £200 per annum?

(9.) Like information *re* salaried officers receiving from £200 to £300 per annum?

(10.) Like information *re* all officers receiving more than £300 per annum?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return as soon as possible.

(2.) Men who Enlisted for Service in South Africa:—Mr. Wright, for Mr. Ewing, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that men enlisting for service in South Africa understood that they were to serve with the Contingent until disbanded in this Colony?

(2.) If that was the understanding, is it now interpreted that they can be discharged before the return of the regiment on receipt of a month's notice?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) The agreement signed was subject to provisions which allowed of a man being discharged at any time within the period for which he agreed to serve.

(3.) Wages of Tramway Employees:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that 7s. per diem has been established as the standard wage upon Government works by the Honorable the Minister for Works, will he impress upon the Railway Commissioners the desirability of paying equal rates to all men employed in the tramway service?

Sir

11th October, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that although the minimum is 6s. for conductors, and 7s. 6d. to cable gripmen and electric motor drivers, the regulations provide for increases to 7s. 6d. and 8s. 6d. per day respectively. It is understood that the conditions of pay and the privileges granted to tramway men in this Colony are more liberal than those that prevail on the Melbourne and Brisbane systems.

- (4.) Employees in the Ferry and Tug Services of Sydney and Newcastle Harbours:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What steps (if any) have been taken to give effect to his promise to the House to bring in a measure to limit the hours worked by employees in the ferry and tug services of Sydney and Newcastle Harbours?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have directed that a Bill be prepared to deal with this matter.

- (5.) Scale of Contributions fixed by Registrar of Friendly Societies:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Registrar of Friendly Societies has fixed a scale of contributions for benefits considerably in excess of old rates; and, if so, what are they?

(2.) Does such scale provide a sum for management; and, if not, what amount would be required to be added by societies for such?

(3.) Is it a fact that the older members, notwithstanding their length of membership, will be penalised by the imposition of additional contributions?

(4.) Is not such an imposition in opposition to the principles of life and benefit assurance, where only the ages at joining are considered?

(5.) Is it a fact that when the amended Friendly Societies Bill was being considered a promise was given that older members would not suffer?

(6.) Will he cause an inquiry to be made, with a view to modify the present high rates of contributions fixed by the Registrar?

Mr. See answered,—The law requires an actuarial certificate of the sufficiency of contributions before rules can be registered, and the Actuary of the Friendly Societies' Office is authorised by the Registrar to assist societies in framing their scales of contributions, but societies are in no wise bound to accept such assistance. The Registrar has not fixed any such scale as the Honorable Member refers to. I am bringing in a short amending Bill to make it easier for these societies to comply with the law.

- (6.) Refund of Moneys from the Civil Service Superannuation Fund:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it his intention to make provision for the refund of moneys paid into the Civil Service Superannuation Fund to officers who have withdrawn from same; and, if so, what amount would be required for the purpose?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A deputation waited upon me last week with reference to this matter, and made certain proposals, besides giving me certain information which I am having investigated. The amount required on 31st December last, to pay off Public Servants who elected to discontinue contributing, was roughly estimated by the Public Service Board at £190,000.

- (7.) Removal of Cable Machinery from North Shore to Randwick:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has a contract been let by the Railway Commissioners for the removal of cable machinery from North Shore power-house to Randwick to a contractor named Bradshaw?

(2.) What is the amount of same?

(3.) Is it a fact that the men employed by such contractor were only paid 25s. per week, and that the hours worked were at times unusually long?

(4.) Will he take steps to urge upon the Railway Commissioners the necessity for the introduction of a minimum wage to all workmen employed by contractors, as well as a clause regulating hours of labour?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed Mr. Bradshaw has obtained the contract referred to.

(2.) £145.

(3 and 4.) The Commissioners are not aware of the conditions under which the contractor employs the men engaged by him, and do not interfere between contractors and their workmen in regard to the conditions of employment.

- (8.) Revenue from the Public Estate:—Mr. Wright, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that for the financial year of 1899-1900 the present Free-trade tariff was assisted by revenue from the sales and leasing of land, amounting to £2,000,000?

(2.) Is it a fact that 20 per cent. of the total revenue of the Colony is drawn from the sale and leasing of the public estate?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The revenue received during the financial year 1899-1900 was £10,203,391, of which the sum of £2,173,302 was on account of land, viz.:—From sales, £1,226,651; annual revenue, £946,651.

(2.) The proportion contributed to the total revenue by sales of land was 12 per cent., and from annual land revenue 9 per cent. The Honorable Member will understand that these are not auction sales, as some people think, but include all the sales of various kinds.

- (9.) The Breelong Blacks:—Mr. Nicholson, for Mr. Bennett, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) The number of officers and police respectively engaged in pursuit of the Breelong blacks?

(2.) What is the extra pay per day allowed those so engaged?

(3.) What is the total amount expended by the Government to 31st September, 1900, including extra salaries, in the endeavour to capture them?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th October, 1900.

Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Inspector General of Police:—

- (1.) There are nearly 150 police and volunteers engaged in searching for these criminals. Some of the police, however, belong to stations in the district.
 - (2.) The police engaged on this duty will receive the usual travelling allowance of 5s. per diem whilst absent from their stations.
 - (3.) The claims have not yet been received, and it is therefore impossible to state the amount at present. The greater part of the charges will be defrayed as ordinary police expenses.
- (10.) Report by Mr. Seaver on Water Supply for Yass:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has he received Mr. Seaver's latest report on the water supply for Yass as the Federal City?
 - (2.) Does that report indicate that the river supply without storage is sufficient for 80,000 people?
 - (3.) Does it also show that the average flow of the river is ample for at least a quarter of a million of people?
 - (4.) Will he have Mr. Seaver's latest report published as an appendix, and attached to Mr. Oliver's report?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Mr. Seaver's latest report has not yet been received.

- (11.) Labour Commissioners for the Unemployed:—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Public Works,—
- (1.) Who are the Labour Commissioners for the unemployed?
 - (2.) In what way is it proposed to expend the £1,250 on the Estimates now laid on the Table in connection with the Labour Commissioners?
 - (3.) Has any of the said sum of £1,250 been yet paid; if so, to whom, and how much each, and for what purpose?
 - (4.) Who is the Secretary to the Labour Commissioners?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) Mr. W. F. Schey, J.P., President; Mr. F. Brennan, Mr. E. Hanson, Rev. W. I. Carr-Smith.
 - (2.) In fees, travelling expenses, and contingencies.
 - (3.) No; any amounts paid have been met from Treasurer's Advance Vote.
 - (4.) Mr. A. F. Basset Hull.
- (12.) Payment to the Hillston Municipal Council:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Government has paid from the Treasurer's Advance Account the sum of £250 to the Hillston Municipal Council; if so, what special reason was there for paying this sum previous to it being voted by Parliament?
 - (2.) For what special purpose was it paid or granted?

Mr. See answered,—Yes; the sum of £250 was paid to the Hillston Municipal Council, as they had expended that amount in repairs to roads and under supervision of the Roads Department. The amount has inadvertently been stated as a special grant to Hillston Municipal Council, instead of a further sum for aid to municipalities.

- (13.) Payments to Corowa and Newcastle Agricultural Societies:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the following sums have been paid from the Treasurer's Advance Account to the undermentioned societies, viz.:—£100 to the Corowa Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Society, and £500 to the Newcastle and District Agricultural, Horticultural, and Industrial Association?
 - (2.) Why have these sums been paid without awaiting the voting of the same by Parliament when other societies which had been promised sums had to wait till Parliament voted the amount?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Yes; in the former case the grant was made to fulfil a promise made some time ago, and in the latter case to enable the society to prepare and fence an area of land in the district which had been secured as a show-ground.

- (14.) Pension Payable to William Dwyer:—Mr. Affleck asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he inform the House what reason there is for asking that a grant of £465 be made to meet the abatement which should, in terms of the Civil Service Act, be deducted from the pension payable to Mr. William Dwyer?

Mr. Perry answered,—The grant has been placed on the Estimates on the ground of Mr. Dwyer's long and efficient service of more than forty-four years, and of the fact that similar concessions have been made in the cases of other officers.

- (15.) Special Grant to Trustees of the Tumberumba Show-ground:—Mr. Affleck asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it a fact that this House is to be asked to make a special grant of £200 to the Trustees of the Tumberumba and Upper Murray Pastoral and Agricultural Show-ground; if so, what purpose is the money proposed to be granted to be used for?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Yes, as has been done at various times to other societies, to effect improvements to the Show-ground.

- (16.) Accounts Paid by the Treasury for Conveyance of Troops to South Africa:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Storey, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he lay upon the Table of the House accounts in detail as rendered by the Federal Steamship Company, and passed and paid by the Treasury, for the conveyance of troops to South Africa by the S.S. "Surrey"?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I shall have copies of the vouchers made and laid upon the Table.

- (17.) Sergeant Barnes:—Mr. Barnes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has his attention been drawn to an article which appeared in last Saturday's *Daily Telegraph* and taken from the London *Daily Chronicle*, purporting to be an interview with Sergeant Barnes, of New South Wales Mounted Rifles, in London, and wherein it is stated he is the son of a Member of the New South Wales Legislature, and had been three times wounded at the front in South Africa, and was invalided to England with about thirty others?

11th October, 1900.

- (2.) Did Sergeant Barnes, referred to, go to South Africa with the first lot of Australian Horse; and has he been there ever since without having been wounded?
- (3.) Is he aware that a letter from him has been received by his father, written on 22nd August, from near Belfast, South Africa?
- (4.) Will he have inquiries made into the matter, with a view to proving that it was not Sergeant Barnes of the Australian Horse that was interviewed, and thereby prevent any stigma that may be cast on him through the appearance of such an interview in the public Press, both here and elsewhere, and in which interview it was impossible for him to have taken any part?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes; there is no Sergeant Barnes in the Mounted Rifles; but there is a Sergeant S. C. Barnes in the First Australian Horse, who is a native of Cootamundra. There is no report of a Sergeant Barnes having been wounded in the despatches, or that one of the name has left South Africa invalided for England.
- (2.) The only Sergeant Barnes that left here belonged to the First Australian Horse; as far as I know he is still in South Africa.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) Yes; a cable will be sent to South Africa.

(18.) Proposed new Public Library:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Has he placed a sum of money on the Estimates to meet the cost of erecting the whole or any portion of a building to serve National Public Library purposes?
- (2.) Is he aware of the following facts:—(a) That the building at present used for reference library purposes is totally inadequate, as far as space is concerned, for the proper housing and display of the Colony's valuable collection of books; (b) that thousands of volumes are packed away upon its floors, in presses, and in such nooks and corners as may be available for the purpose; (c) that Mr. Mitchell, the donor of a large collection of valuable volumes, declines to make this gift complete until some suitable edifice is provided for its accommodation by the Government?
- (3.) Has a site for the proposed new Public Library been determined upon; and, if not, will he see that steps are taken to obtain same, and to erect the necessary building thereon without further delay?

Mr. Perry answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) I am aware that the space available is insufficient.
- (3.) This matter has not been lost sight of, but a definite decision has not yet been arrived at by the Cabinet.

(19.) Appointment of Truancy Inspectors:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) In regard to the proposed appointment of truancy inspectors, does he intend to incorporate such proposal in the new regulations to be issued under the Public Instruction Act, so that appointments may be so made and officers be enabled to take up their duties at the beginning of next year?
- (2.) Has he taken any steps yet in the direction of altering the Act so as to permit of Provisional Schools being established nearer than 4 miles from a Public School?

Mr. Perry answered,—

- (1.) The matter will receive consideration in connection with the proposed Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill.
- (2.) No.

(20.) Printing of the Electoral Rolls:—Mr. Dugald Thomson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are the Rolls, under the present Electoral Act, being prepared and printed for issue on the 20th December?
- (2.) Will not the large cost of the work be entirely thrown away on the passage of the amending Bill now before Parliament?
- (3.) Will he stop the printing of Rolls proved to be worthless, and have the printing of Rolls recently collected by the police proceeded with?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Yes.
- (3.) This cannot be done until the Bill becomes law, otherwise great confusion will arise, as names are being daily added to the Rolls, and must be printed.

3. PAPERS:—Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board for the year ended 30th June, 1900.
- (2.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of ‘Accidents.’”
- (3.) Report of the completion of the Marrickville Low-level Drainage—1st Division, Sydenham-road Branch, Ricketty-street Branch, Chapel-street Branch, Marrickville Low-level Drainage—2nd Division, Byrnes-street Branch, Bridge-street Branch, Renwick-street Branch.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Schedule to the Estimates for the year 1900–1901.
- (2.) Schedule to the Military and Naval Allowances for the year 1900–1901.
- Ordered to be printed.
- (3.) Return showing vehicles fitted with Standard Draw-gear at Eveleigh Workshops.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th October, 1900.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Fourteenth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Members of Parliament Disqualification Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 115.

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 provide for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

Government House,

Sydney, 11th October, 1900.

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

(2.) Election Expenses Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 116.

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 limit the election expenses of candidates for Parliament; to regulate the payment of money provided for such expenses; to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 11th October, 1900.

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

6. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. See, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 117.

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 Friendly Societies Act, 1899.

Government House,

Sydney, 11th October, 1900.

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

7. LAND TAX (CONTRIBUTION) 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 section 12 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895,*"—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 October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

LAND TAX (CONTRIBUTION) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 11th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 5. *After "tax" insert "for the year one thousand nine hundred or any subsequent year"*

Page 1, clause 1, line 6. *Omit "lessee of" insert "other person having an estate in"*

Page 1, clause 1, lines 7 and 8. *Omit "interest of such lessee" insert "estate of such other person"*

Page 1, clause 2, line 13. *Omit "1898" insert "1900", and shall be read with the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895"*

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,

Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, that the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

11th October, 1900.

8. PASTURES AND STOCK PROTECTION (RABBIT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Fegan, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Fegan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to provide that the expression ‘noxious animals’ in the Pastures and Stock Protection Act, 1898, shall include rabbits.*”
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 the expression ‘noxious animals’ in the Pastures and Stock Protection Act, 1898, shall include rabbits,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 8th October, 1900.*
9. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to further amend the Electoral Law,—discharged, on motion of Sir William Lyne.
10. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until Tuesday next.
(2.) Holt-Sutherland Estate Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
(3.) Brodie’s Enabling Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
11. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:—Sir William Lyne informed the House that His Excellency the Governor had received a telegraphic despatch from the Secretary of State for the Colonies stating that, with reference to His Excellency’s telegrams of the 5th and 9th October, Her Majesty’s Government are not prepared at present to consider any proposal for changing the political position of Fiji.
12. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORAL LAW SUSPENSION BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls.
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 suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls,*”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
13. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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 further amend the Parliamentary Electoral Law.
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 further amend the Parliamentary Electoral Law.
On motion of Mr. See, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to further amend the Parliamentary Electoral Law,*”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
14. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (EMPLOYEES APPEAL) BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 make better provision for the hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888.
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 hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to make better provision for the hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888,*”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

11th October, 1900.

15. SUPPLY :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, 12 OCTOBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

16. POSTPONEMENTS :—

(1.) The remaining Government Business until To-morrow.

(2.) Dentists Bill :—Sir William Lyne moved, That the Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments in this Bill be postponed until To-morrow.

Debate ensued.

Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Standing Order No. 142, That the Honorable Member for Waratah, Mr. Arthur Griffith, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 21.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. Cunn,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Afleck,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. McGowen,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Jessep.
Mr. Brunker,	
Mr. Anderson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Spruson,	

Noes, 7.

Mr. Millard,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Dight,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Cook.

Tellers,

Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Hohman.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question then put,—and Division called for,—but there not being 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.

17. RICHMOND VALE COAL-MINE RAILWAY BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Edden moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Edden, *passed*.

Mr. Edden then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable John Brown, William Brown, and Stephen Brown, of Newcastle, in the Colony of New South Wales, to construct a Railway from the Richmond Vale Coal-mines to the Minmi and Hexham Railway, constructed under the provisions of the Minmi and Hexham Railway Act of 1854.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable John Brown, William Brown, and Stephen Brown, of Newcastle, in the Colony of New South Wales, to construct a Railway from the Richmond Vale Coal-mines to the Minmi and Hexham Railway, constructed under the provisions of the Minmi and Hexham Railway Act of 1854,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 12th October, 1900, a.m.

The House adjourned, at twenty-eight minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 56.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 12 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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.

2. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Medical Practitioners Amendment Bill (No. 2):—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 118.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act for the registration of medical practitioners; the restriction of unqualified persons from practising; and to amend such other statutes as may be inconsistent 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, 12th October, 1900.

- (2.) Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899, Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 119.

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 Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899.

Government House,

Sydney, 12th October, 1900.

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

3. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Business postponed until Tuesday next:—

(1.) The remaining Government Business.

(2.) Dentists Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments.

4. HOLT-SUTHERLAND ESTATE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Dugald Thomson 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. 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 on Tuesday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

12th October, 1900.

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5. **BRODIE'S ENABLING BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Clark, 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. Clark, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
The House adjourned, at sixteen minutes before Five o'clock p.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 57.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 16 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Case of William Creswell:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) How long has William Creswell been an inmate of the lunatic asylums of the Colony?
- (2.) Is it a fact that a Judge of the Supreme Court, some years ago, said that he was a man that might well be released to the care of friends?
- (3.) Was a Select Committee of this House appointed last Session to inquire into the case of this man; and was that Committee afterwards created a Royal Commission to facilitate such inquiry?
- (4.) Did the Royal Commission recommend the release of Creswell; and is it a fact that the necessary sureties for his safe keeping are at any time forthcoming?
- (5.) Did Parliament endorse such recommendation on the 9th August last; and, if so, why has effect not been given to the resolution of this House?
- (6.) Did he not, on the 3rd August last, in reply to Mr. E. M. Clark, say that he thought there could be no harm in releasing Creswell?
- (7.) Has his alleged identity with Sir Roger Tichbourne anything to do with keeping this unfortunate man for over thirty years in a lunatic asylum, and the desire still to keep him there to die?
- (8.) Will he take immediate steps to give effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission on the case of Creswell?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) William Creswell was first admitted to Gladesville on 13th January, 1871. He was discharged after three months' residence, and re-admitted on 14th August, 1871. He was transferred to Parramatta on 18th April, 1872, and has since remained a patient there.
- (2.) The last application to the Supreme Court for his release was made in December, 1897, to the late Mr. Justice Manning, and was dismissed by him, with costs. No opinion appears in the judgment, as published, "that he might well be released to the care of his friends."
- (3 to 8.) To give effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission as to his release, it will be necessary for an application to be made to the Supreme Court, under section 89 of the Lunacy Act, by the person interested in obtaining it.

(2.) Forest-thinning on the Weddin Mountains:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) When is he going to start the forest-thinning work which he promised some five weeks ago would shortly be put in hand?
- (2.) Is it a fact that some two weeks ago a notice was posted at the Labour Bureau that eight gangs would be selected for forest-thinning on the Weddin Mountains, and that there was no work of the kind there?
- (3.) Is it a fact that this work at the Weddin Mountains consisted only of picking up dead timber for burning off?
- (4.) Is it a fact that a number of men with families, and who are only used to this work, and incapable to do heavy manual work, have been waiting some time for forest-thinning work, and that as a consequence are suffering distress owing to delays; and what immediate steps does he propose to take to provide this work?

Mr.

16th October, 1900.

Mr O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) I cannot state definitely at present what will be done, as I am waiting for some further information from the Lands Department about this proposed work. The following information has been supplied by the Labour Commissioners:—

(2 and 3.) A notice was posted at the Bureau calling for eight gangs of ten men each for Weddin Forest Reserve; such gangs were duly selected and despatched. The work consists of stacking dead thinnings, &c., and was so stated on the contracts which were read to the men and signed by the men before leaving Sydney.

(4.) A number of men have inquired concerning this work, but as very little of it has been done previously, except the Bogan Scrub clearing, it is not thought that any men can be correctly described as "only used to this work." There is not enough work at forest-thinning to employ all who are not used to manual labour, but as soon as the Estimates are passed I hope to provide for others in another way.

(3.) Grose, Colo, and Warragamba Rivers:—*Mr. Haynes*, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Will he give the name of the officer appointed to inquire into the practicability of the scheme suggested by Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, whereby the waters of the Grose, Colo, and Warragamba Rivers might be put to profitable use for the generation of power for electric lighting and motive power?

(2.) Has a report in connection with the above been prepared; and, if so, will he give this House some information as to the nature of its contents?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) Mr. Thomas Raw.

(2.) Yes, I will be glad to lay it upon the Table if moved for in the usual manner.

(4.) Railway and Tramway Fares at Milson's Point:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What number of fares are collected annually on the railway and tramway lines at Milson's Point and district?

(2.) Has it been a custom to issue combined railway and ferry tickets jointly with the Sydney Ferries Company (Limited) between Milson's Point and Circular Quay?

(3.) Has the Sydney Ferries Company lately posted the following notice upon the different ferry steamers:—"The issue of monthly, quarterly, and season tickets is for the convenience of passengers, but attention is particularly drawn to the fact that such issue is subject to the proprietors' right to discontinue the running of the boats and carrying on the traffic in their option at any moment, and the proprietors do not hold themselves responsible to the holders of any such ticket for any injury, loss, damage, or expense they may incur by reason of any discontinuance in the running of the boats or carrying on of the traffic"?

(4.) Is it a fact that the various railway and tramway services of the districts served by this company virtually run on to the property of this company, and that the carrying out of the terms of the notice referred to would mean considerable inconvenience to the travelling public between Sydney and North Shore?

(5.) Is he aware of any special reason for the issue of such an extraordinary notice?

(6.) In view of the great public inconvenience that would result from any such action as that suggested by the Sydney Ferries Company (Limited) in the stoppage of traffic between Sydney and North Sydney, will he take immediate steps to ensure the security of transit to the travelling public?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) I am informed that approximately 5,600,000 passenger journeys are made annually.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) No doubt it would entail considerable inconvenience if the company exercised the right the notice gives.

(5 and 6.) Although the notice quoted in part 3 has been issued, it is not considered likely that the Sydney Ferries, Limited, will take any action such as it appears to suggest.

(5.) Deviations on the Great Western Line:—*Mr. W. W. Young* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
What was the total cost of the deviations and alterations to permanent way on the Great Western line from Penrith to Lithgow?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed the total cost of the deviations and alterations to permanent way on the line referred to has been £210,315. The above amount embraces the cutting out of the Lapstone Zig Zag; the grades at Katoomba, Dargan Creek, Wentworth Falls, and other places; and the cutting out of all the 8-chain curves on the Blue Mountains, reducing them to a curvature of not less than 12 chains radius.

(6.) Retired Police Officers:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Meagher, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a large number of police officers who have retired are (in view of the condition of the Superannuation Fund) drawing their full salaries in the ordinary way, while their duties are fully discharged by junior officers who only draw the junior salaries for the senior work performed?

(2.) Is not the continuation of such a condition of affairs likely to operate injuriously to the harmonious organisation and efficiency of so important a branch of the Public Service?

(3.) What is the amount of salaries drawn as indicated in Question 1?

(4.) Is it a fact that, over twelve months ago, officers who desired and were entitled to retirement, and to draw superannuation allowance, were informed that their applications could not be entertained by the Government?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th October, 1900.

Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police :—

- (1.) Yes; there are seven such retired officers and non-commissioned officers, besides six constables.
- (2.) It would certainly be desirable to provide for such officers otherwise.
- (3.) £2,343.
- (4.) Yes, until the Superannuation Fund was placed on a more satisfactory basis.

(7.) Charterers to the Government of the Steam-ship "Salamis":—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Who were the charterers to the Government of the steam-ship "Salamis"; and what was the monthly charterage agreed to be paid?
- (2.) Did the charter party provide for the ship's time, Sydney to Sydney, or Sydney to a China port?
- (3.) What is the total computed to be payable in respect of the transport only of the New South Wales Naval Force to China?

Mr. See answered,—The steam-ship referred to was chartered and paid for by the Imperial Government.

(8.) Hours of Boatmen on the Pilot-boat "Ajax":—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. Smith*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the boatmen attached to the pilot-boat "Ajax" have often to be on duty from 4 a.m. to 3 p.m. without food?
- (2.) Is it a fact that during the time mentioned such boatmen are required to perform such duties as running out lines, assisting in mooring vessels, &c.?
- (3.) Will he enforce the regulations *re* pilot boatmen's duties, so as to relieve the boatmen of doing work properly belonging to crews of vessels being piloted or moored in Newcastle or Sydney Harbours?

Mr. See answered,—It is assumed that these Questions refer to the pilot boatmen engaged in harbour work at Newcastle, and the following replies have been furnished by the Deputy-Superintendent of Navigation at Newcastle :—

- (1.) Early and irregular hours are inseparable from the work of a pilot station, such as Newcastle, where the movements of vessels in the main depend upon the ebb and flow of the tide. There is, however, nothing to prevent the men taking their food with them as is done in other cases of manual labour.
- (2.) Yes. Boatmen are required to run out mooring-lines, shackle and unshackle to and from buoys, &c., but not to assist in mooring vessels in the sense of the inquiry. This work is an essential part of the boatmen's duties, otherwise there would be no necessity for maintaining the large staff of experienced men such as now exists in this port.
- (3.) I am unaware that the boatmen's duties are ordered by regulation. Work referred to is done with a view of assisting and facilitating the work of the pilots, who, being responsible for the safe-handling of vessels which they may be engaged in removing, would be subject to accident if they were dependent on the ship's crew for such work.

(9.) "Operating Theatre," Sydney Hospital:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to place on the Supplementary Estimates a sum of money for the purpose of improving and bringing up to date the "operating theatre" in connection with the Sydney Hospital?

Mr. See answered,—I will recommend that a sum be placed upon the Additional Estimates.

(10.) Furious Driving and Bicycle Riding in crowded Thoroughfares:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he take the necessary steps to instruct the Police Force, for the better protection of the lives of the public, and children in particular, in the main and crowded thoroughfares, to put down careless and furious driving and bicycle riding, &c.?

Mr. See answered,—The police are so instructed, and the new traffic regulations will deal with the matter.

(11.) Fall of Land, Wool, Wheat, &c., since 1893:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the annual loss to the Colony computed by *Mr. Coghlan*, Government Statistician, through the fall of land, wool, wheat, and other produce since the closing of the Indian Mint for the free coinage of silver in 1893, which necessitated the reconstruction of the Colony's financial institutions?
- (2.) What is the amount of profit (if any) the Imperial Government makes out of every twenty shillings which it coins for this Colony?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) The Government Statistician has not made any computation of the amounts referred to.
- (2.) The last annual report of the Mint shows the profit on the coinage of silver during the year 1899 to have been at the rate of 140 per cent.

(12.) Employees of the Railway Department:—*Mr. W. W. Young* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the total number of permanent employees of the Railway Department on the wages staff; also the total number of the temporary wages staff employed by the Railway Department?
- (2.) How many men who are classed as firemen are acting as drivers, and for what period have they so acted, giving particulars in each case?
- (3.) How many men who are classed as cleaners are acting as firemen, and for what period have they so acted, giving particulars in each case?
- (4.) What is the number of first-class guards now in the Railway Department?
- (5.) Is it a fact that, some years ago, the Railway Commissioners altered the computation of time of the running staff from weekly to fortnightly?

(6.)

16th October, 1900.

(6.) Is it a fact that now this system is varied from, by time being carried over from one fortnight to another?

(7.) Is it a fact that in some cases drivers, firemen, and guards work some weeks as much as from sixty to eighty hours per week; then have to take the time out next week?

(8.) When the fortnightly system came into operation, did not the Chief Commissioner state that he would not permit such a system to operate as excessive hours in one week and a small number the next?

(9.) Why has the promise of the Chief Commissioner in this respect been departed from?

(10.) Is it a fact that drivers, firemen, and guards at times are on duty as much as twelve, fourteen, or sixteen hours at a stretch, and in some weeks work up to eighty hours; if so, will he, as the responsible Minister for Railways, see that a practice which is fraught with so much danger to the travelling public is put a stop to?

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

2. **LIQUOR ACT** :—*Mr. Dight* presented a Petition from certain residents of Singleton and environs, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petition received.
3. **PAPER** :—*Mr. O'Sullivan* laid upon the Table,—Plan to accompany the Report of the Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, laid upon the Table on the 11th October, 1900.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. **BRODIE'S ENABLING BILL** (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Mr. E. M. Clark*, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Clark then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; 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 sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; and for other purposes,*"—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, 16th October, 1900
5. **FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL** (*Formal Motion*) :—*Mr. Sec* 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 Friendly Societies Act, 1899.
Question put and passed.
6. **CORONERS BILL** (*Formal Motion*) :—*Mr. Wood* moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to give Coroners and Deputy-Coroners the powers and duties of Justices; to give certain Magistrates the powers and duties of Coroners; and to amend the law relating to coronial inquisitions.
Question put and passed.
7. **MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT DISQUALIFICATION BILL** (*Formal Motion*) :—*Mr. Sec*, for *Sir William Lyne*, 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 for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.
Question put and passed.
8. **PETTY SESSIONS FEES BILL** (*Formal Motion*) :—*Mr. Wood* 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 law relating to fees in respect of proceedings before Justices; to enable the Governor to fix such fees; and for other purposes in connection therewith.
Question put and passed.
9. **POSTPONEMENT** :—The Order of the Day for the consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments in the Dentists Bill postponed until To-morrow.
10. **HOLT-SUTHERLAND ESTATE BILL** :—The Order of the Day having been read,—*Mr. Dugald Thomson* moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
Mr. Norton moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "That," and inserting the words "the Bill be recommitted",—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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th October, 1900.

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 progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. See 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.

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 58.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 17 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Officers in Mechanical Branch, Telephone Department:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the officers employed in the mechanical branch of the Telephone Department as fitters, &c., have lately had their hours increased to from 8.30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and that many of them work overtime from 6.30 to 10 p.m.?

(2.) Is it a fact that a large number of them, with some years of service, only receive £96 per annum; and is such mechanical work paid for at a lower rate than the ordinary labour employed by the Government?

(3.) Is it a fact that, during the Telephone Exchange fitting work, these officers worked extended hours for twelve months, Sunday inclusive, averaging twelve hours per day, and were not allowed nights off unless time was made up?

(4.) Is it a fact that an officer named Simmons, who had previously worked considerable overtime, had his salary deducted three days through his absence attending his father's funeral at Melbourne?

(5.) Is it a fact that some of these officers have had no annual leave for three years and upwards?

(6.) Is it a fact that they can only obtain leave on medical certificate, and that even when such is submitted the applicant is afterwards asked to submit himself to a Government Medical Officer?

(7.) Who are the officers in charge of this Branch; and what are their position and salaries?

(8.) Is it a fact that the foreman of the workshop, Telephone Mechanical Branch, who has in his charge a number of young men, is in the habit of using to them very violent and obscene language; and will he take every opportunity to have inquiries made into such assertion?

(9.) Will he sanction a general inquiry into this Branch of his Department?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) The hours at present worked have been observed for some time past, in consequence of the heavy pressure of fitters' work. Ten fitters also work overtime three nights per week, from 6.30 till 10 p.m., for which they are paid.

(2.) Yes; but steps have already been taken to increase the fitters' pay.

(3.) Extended hours were voluntarily worked by five fitters for the contractor of the new switch-board, and at his expense, during the time it was being erected.

(4.) No.

(5.) Only three fitters have not had annual leave during the last three years.

(6.) During the present pressure of work it has only been possible to allow sick leave upon medical certificate. The Government Medical Officer has only examined one fitter as to his fitness for the work, owing to his absence on sick leave for over two months each year for the last three years.

(7.) Mr. H. Bloore, Telephone Mechanician, is in immediate charge of the Telephone Mechanical Branch. His salary is £240 per annum.

(8.) The matter will be investigated.

(9.) No, as there is no necessity for such an inquiry, steps having already been taken to remove the disabilities by the appointment of additional fitters, and increases in the salaries.

- (2.) Increase of Pay to Officials:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for *Mr. Wilks* asked the Postmaster-General,—In view of the fact that the Secretary for Public Works rightly insists upon paying a minimum wage to labourers of 7s. per diem, will he recommend the increasing of the amount now paid to many of his officials performing work of a responsible nature who receive only 4s. to 6s. 6d. per diem?

Mr. Fegan answered,—The minimum rate to labourers on daily wage is 7s., except in the case of labourers on telegraph construction work, who are paid 6s. 6d. whilst undergoing a short probation.

(3.)

17th October, 1900.

- (3.) Case of Joseph William Tiel :—*Mr. Carroll* for Mr. Norton, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a prisoner named Joseph William Tiel, when confined in Tamworth Gaol, did some special bricklaying work, for which he was promised a bonus of £1 15s. by Comptroller-General Neitenstein?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that payment of this promised bonus would not be made to Tiel when recently discharged at the completion of his sentence?
 - (3.) Will he see that the payment of this promised bonus will be made immediately?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—The Comptroller-General of Prisons has furnished me with the following information :—
- (1.) The prisoner was allowed a special gratuity of £1 15s. 9d., which was paid him on discharge, in addition to other sums of money paid to him. He received the full amount to which he was entitled.
 - (2 and 3.) Answered by No. 1.
- (4.) Wages of Men removing Machinery at North Sydney :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that workmen engaged by one Bradshaw, the contractor for the removal of the machinery connected with the old cable-tram service at North Shore, were only paid 25s. per week, or at the rate of 4s. 2d. per day, in defiance of his edict that men employed on Government contracts should not receive less than 7s. per day?
 - (2.) If so, will he see that the men thus underpaid will receive the arrears of pay which are due to them through their not having been paid the rate of wages fixed by him?
- Mr. See* answered,—The contract referred to was one entered into with the Railway Commissioners, who do not interfere between the contractors and their workmen in regard to their rates of pay and conditions of employment.
- (5.) Case of Harry Davis :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a man named Harry Davis was sentenced to pay a fine of 20s., or in default seven days' gaol, also to a fine of 40s. or fourteen days' gaol, in April last, on two charges of fraudulent appropriation, sentences to be cumulative, making twenty-one days in all?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that the said man, Harry Davis, was kept confined in Darlinghurst Gaol for twenty-eight days before being liberated?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the entries in the *Police Gazette* show he was sentenced only to twenty-one days?
 - (4.) If so, is it the intention of the Government to compensate this man for having been illegally detained in custody for a period of seven days?
- Mr. Hassall* answered,—
- (1.) No. Davis was convicted on two charges of fraudulent appropriation, on the first of which he was fined £1 and costs, 5s. 10d., or fourteen days' imprisonment, and on the second £2, or fourteen days' imprisonment, the latter sentence to commence at the expiration of the former.
 - (2.) Yes; the term of imprisonment being in strict accordance with the adjudication of the magistrate, and the entry of it made by him in his own hand on the charge sheet.
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4.) Answered by Nos. 1 and 2.
- (6.) Free Pass held by Mr. T. S. Clibborn :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is Mr. T. S. Clibborn, secretary of the Australian Jockey Club, allowed a free pass over the railways and tramways of the Colony?
 - (2.) If so, does the privilege extend to the secretary of any other racing club?
 - (3.) And if not, on what grounds is this special concession to Mr. Clibborn granted?
- Mr. See* answered,—
- (1.) I am informed that Mr. Clibborn has held a pass for many years on the tramways, the pass having been granted in connection with the very large business done between the Australian Jockey Club and the tramways in respect of the Randwick races. He does not hold a railway pass.
 - (2 and 3.) If similar circumstances existed with regard to the secretary of any other racing club, the Commissioners would be prepared to consider the extension of the privilege.
- (7.) Mr. F. H. Blaxland :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Is he aware that an officer of his Department, Mr. F. H. Blaxland, is a cultivator of flowers, which he disposes of to Sydney florists, and thus enters into competition with nurserymen and gardeners who depend solely upon this trade for a livelihood?
 - (2.) If so, will he request this officer to conform to the rules of the Public Service by discontinuing this practice?
- Mr. Hassell* answered,—Correspondence has been received in the Department from a Mr. Crowther complaining of Mr. Blaxland, who states that Mr. Crowther does not cultivate flowers, but lives in a small hut without a garden. It is understood that Mr. Blaxland gave Mr. Crowther occasional employment, and that Mr. Crowther's son was in regular employment at Mr. Blaxland's, but having left at a moment's notice, a week's wages were deducted. It has been suggested that this fact is responsible for the correspondence that has taken place. It is understood that Mr. Blaxland himself does not derive any profit from the sale of flowers.
- (8.) Hawkesbury Railway Bridge :—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he ask the Railway Commissioners for a report as to the state of the northernmost pier of the Hawkesbury railway bridge?
 - (2.) Is it true that a number of the blocks in that pier have been broken for the last twelve months?

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th October, 1900.

- (3.) Is it also a fact that some of the stones in the other piers are also broken?
 (4.) Is it correct that the Commissioners, in reply to Questions concerning this bridge asked a short time ago, referred to repairs completed some time ago and not to the matters above mentioned?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) I have referred the matter to the Railway Commissioners, who report that the pier in question is in a perfectly sound condition.
 (2 and 3.) I am informed that it is not a fact that any stones have ever been broken as suggested.
 (4.) It is stated that no repairs of any kind, except the renewal of a few deck sleepers, have been carried out in connection with this bridge since its construction.

- (9.) Scientific Staff of the Australian Museum:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—With reference to the reply given to Questions *re* the scientific staff of the Australian Museum, on 2nd October, will he state the name of the gentleman who executed work for a private individual with the curator's permission, and the nature of such work?

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) E. R. Waite.
 (2.) Drawings of reptiles and animals (mammals).

- (10.) Officers of the Prisons Department:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) How many members of the prison service have been fined each year, reduced, dismissed, and resigned, from 1st July, 1890, to July, 1895, compared with the reductions, dismissals, and resignations from 1st July, 1895, to 1st July, 1900?
 (2.) How much money did the Deputy-Comptroller receive each year in salary and expenses from 1st July 1890, to 1st July, 1895; and what were the corresponding amounts from 1st July, 1895, to 1st July, 1900?
 (3.) To what purpose have the amounts obtained in fines imposed on officers been devoted during the period mentioned?

Mr. Wood answered,—The information desired by the Honorable Member will be obtained as early as practicable, and laid upon the Table in due course.

- (11.) Ninth Infantry Regiment:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has authority been given for the establishment of a Ninth (9th) Infantry Regiment, called the "Illawarra Regiment"?
 (2.) Is he aware that E Company of the 8th Regiment, Irish Rifles, has an orderly room at Kogarah bearing the words "Illawarra Regiment" on the window thereof?
 (3.) Is the use of these words, or this title, authorised?

Mr. See answered,—The following answer has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—No.

- (12.) Travelling Stock Bill:—Mr. Moore, for Mr. Cruickshank, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it the intention of the Government to introduce a Travelling Stock Bill this Session, and use every endeavour to pass same into law?

Mr. Fegan answered,—It is my intention to do so, and I am only now awaiting the completion of the Bill by the Parliamentary Draftsman.

- (13.) Tick Bill:—Mr. Moore, for Mr. Cruickshank, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it the intention of the Government to proceed with the Tick Bill this Session; if so, when?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Yes; the Bill has passed its first reading, and it is my intention to proceed with it as soon as the state of public business will permit.

- (14.) Stock-stealing Prevention Bill:—Mr. Moore, for Mr. Cruickshank, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will the Government immediately introduce a Stock-stealing Prevention Bill?

Mr. Fegan answered,—A Bill dealing with this question is now in hand, and I expect to be able to proceed with it next week.

- (15.) Brands Bill:—Mr. Moore, for Mr. Cruickshank, asked the Secretary for Mines,—When will the Brands Bill be introduced?

Mr. Fegan answered,—This Bill is now in hand, and I intend to introduce it at an early date.

- (16.) Retiring Allowances to Dismissed Public Servants:—Mr. McGowen asked the Attorney-General,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Supreme Court decided that officers appointed by the Ministers of Departments must be considered equally as permanent as those appointed by the Governor-in-Council?
 (2.) If so, is there any reason for delaying to make up the retiring allowances of dismissed officers who were entitled to be considered as permanent, but have only been treated as temporary, until particulars of the whole of such dismissed officers' cases have been investigated?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) The Supreme Court decided that the position occupied by Mr. Josephson was a permanent one, even though he had been appointed, in the first instance, by a Minister of the Crown, and not by the Governor in Council.
 (2.) There will be great practical convenience in dealing with this judgment, as it affects the whole of the retired Civil Servants.

17th October, 1900.

2. PAPERS :—

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Notification of reduced rates on Telegraphic Messages transmitted between certain country places.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall 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.) 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 section 7 of the Public Trusts Act, 1897.

(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 Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(5.) 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. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for quarter ended 30th September, 1900.

Ordered to be printed.

(2.) Amended By-law of the University of Sydney.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. ELECTRIC TRAMWAY (BELMORE PARK TO FORT MACQUARIE) BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 120.

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 an electric tramway from Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; and for other purposes.

*Government House,
Sydney, 17th October, 1900.*

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

4. DEFENCE LANDS RESUMPTION BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 121.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 certain resumptions and notices of resumptions for purposes of defence to be void and of no effect.

*Government House,
Sydney, 8th October, 1900.*

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

5. METROPOLITAN WATER AND SEWERAGE ACTS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. O'Sullivan 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.

6. CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Neild, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Neild then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend and extend the Children's Protection Act, 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 and extend the Children's Protection Act, 1892,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 17th October, 1900.*

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

17th October, 1900.

7. **BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS 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 authorise the acquisition of lands and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards by the Municipality of Broken Hill, within or in the vicinity of the Municipality of Broken Hill.*"

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 acquisition of lands and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards by the Municipality of Broken Hill, within or in the vicinity of the Municipality of Broken Hill,*"—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, 17th October, 1900.*

8. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Orders of the Day postponed:—
(1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee;—until To-morrow.
(2.) Paton's Settlement Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(3.) Companies Acts Amendment Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until Tuesday next.

9. **PUBLIC WORKS (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 122.

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 provisions of section 119 of the Public Works Act, 1900, relating to interest on compensation money.

*Government House,
Sydney, 17th October, 1900.*

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

10. **WOLLONGONG WATER SUPPLY WORKS 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 Water Supply Works for the Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactments amending the same, to the said works,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 17th October, 1900.*

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

11. **PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORAL LAW SUSPENSION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See 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. See, 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. See, the report was adopted.

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

12. **SUPPLY**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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, 18 OCTOBER, 1900, 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 progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

13. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The following Business postponed:—
(1.) The remaining Government Business until To-morrow.
(2.) The remaining Orders of the Day of General Business, down to and inclusive of No. 12, until To-morrow.

17th October, 1900.

14. DUBBO PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Phillips moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Phillips, 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. Phillips, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at half-past Six o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 59.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 18 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Grafton Wharf Bonded and Free Stores:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) How long has the Grafton Wharf Bonded and Free Stores been in the control of the Government?

(2.) What has been the average monthly revenue received from same during that period?

(3.) What is the present estimate of expenditure in connection with the management of these stores?

(4.) Is it a fact that the proprietors of private bonded stores pay license fees of £300 per annum to the revenue, and that the Government, in competition, does not pay a license fee?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Since the 3rd May.

(2.) About £900 per month.

(3.) £625 per month.

(4.) The usual license fee is paid in respect of these stores and charged to working expenses.

(2.) Special Subsidy to Municipal Councils:—*Mr. Chanter* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will the promise given to the deputation from the Municipal Association by him some time since, that if the revenue continued satisfactory he would give a special subsidy to Municipal Councils this year, be kept?

(2.) If so, when will the money be paid?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The promise to which the Honorable Member refers will be kept subject to the condition mentioned at the time it was made, viz., that the revenue for the year proves satisfactory, and will bear the expense.

(3.) Increases of Salaries for last year:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to his statement in the Financial Speech that he had made provision on the Estimates for paying those increases for last year (which were not then given by reason of insufficient funds), will he state out of what amount he intends to make such payments?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I should be glad if the Honorable Member will give me a reference to the statement to which he refers.

(4.) The Federal Site:—*Mr. Rose* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) With reference to the recommendation made by the Commissioner for inquiring into the Federal site, did he not some months ago assure Mr. Rose, in reply to a Question, that it would be the province of the New South Wales Parliament to make any such recommendation?

(2.) Is Parliament now to be consulted in the matter?

(3.) If yes, what will be the position if the House refuses the preferential claim given to Bombala?

(4.) Under such circumstances, would he send on contradictory recommendations to the Federal Parliament?

(5.) Is it a fact that the terms of the Federal Capital Site Commission, besides giving power to collect information, also gave power to make a recommendation?

(6.) If yes, what was the reason for delegating Executive and Parliamentary responsibility to the Commissioner?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It seems to me the most acceptable course, if any recommendation is made, will be for the State Parliament to make a recommendation to the Federal Parliament with respect to the site. It was with the view to such action being taken that the report was obtained.

(5.)

18th October, 1900.

(5.) Increments to Railway Employees:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for *Mr. Nielsen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In view of the dissatisfaction which exists in the railway service, owing to the withholding of statutory increases, will he consider the advisability of arranging a conference between the Railway Commissioners and representatives of the men concerned to draw up a schedule of rates of wages, and also a classification sheet?

(2.) If such conference cannot be arranged, will he, as responsible Minister for Railways, see that the Commissioners carry out the Act and regulations by paying the increments fixed by such regulations to all employees who have the length of service which, according to such regulations, entitle them thereto?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I have referred the matter to the Railway Commissioners, who are not aware that there are any reasonable grounds for dissatisfaction in the railway service. The conditions of pay and employment on the New South Wales lines are, probably, the most liberal in the world. The Commissioners point out that, consistently with their duty to the public, they are at all times anxious to give the best possible treatment to the men.

(2.) I have introduced a Bill to improve the method of hearing appeals. I may also tell the Honorable Member that this is rather a serious matter, because if I interfered in the way in which I apprehend it is desired I should do, I might as well upset the Railway Act altogether.

(6.) Colonial Long Service Medal:—*Mr. Wright* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Referring to previous Questions, extending over some years now, is he aware that a Volunteer Officer's Decoration was issued during *Major-General Hutton's* administration, and at the same time the Force was informed that a Long Service Medal would be issued to the non-commissioned officers and men?

(2.) Has any decision been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies since the 10th August, 1897, when "this question was about to be considered by a joint Departmental Committee of the War Office and the Colonial Office"?

(3.) If the British medals have not been sent, will he have a Colonial Long Service Medal struck and issued to those men whose names were taken for this distinction?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes; and published in the *Government Gazette* of the 3rd instant.

(3.) A communication will be made to the Home Authorities on the subject.

(7.) Extension of the Elizabeth-street Tramway to Devonshire-street:—*Mr. Neild* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In connection with the application of electric power on the Elizabeth-street tramway, will he consider the desirability of extending the said tramway past Belmore Gardens and along Randall-street to Devonshire-street, thus establishing a direct route to Redfern and other southern suburbs, and also providing for a circular line *via* Devonshire-street to George-street?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The conversion of the Elizabeth-street steam tram into electricity is being dealt with by the Railway Commissioners. The route suggested by the Honorable Member forms part of a new tramway line proposed to be run on the eastern side of Redfern and Waterloo, and serving the new racecourse near the "Earl of Zetland Hotel."

(8.) Public School Teachers:—*Mr. Cook* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) What number of teachers were recommended and granted 1A for the years 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900?

(2.) What number of female teachers were recommended and granted 1B for the years 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900?

(3.) The names of the male and female teachers respectively who have passed in their literary subjects for 1A, and are waiting for the skill mark; also the date of the written examination in each case?

(4.) The names of the male and female teachers respectively who have passed in their literary subjects for 1B, and are waiting for the skill mark; also the date of the written examination in each case?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) 1893, 6; 1894, 3; 1895, 1; 1896, 3; 1897, 7; 1898, 6; 1899, 10; 1900, 6.

(2.) 1893, 7; 1894, 4; 1895, 1; 1896, 4; 1897, 2; 1898, 0; 1899, 2; 1900, 2.

(3.) There is no literary examination for Class 1A. All teachers who have obtained 1B are eligible for promotion to the higher grade after five years' further service, provided they show the requisite practical skill, have obtained uniformly satisfactory inspection reports during the period mentioned, and have been of irreproachable conduct.

(4.) Return attached. Most of these cases will have been reported upon by the end of the year:—

List of Teachers awaiting Skill Mark for Class 1B.

Males—			Females—		
Teacher.	School.	Passed Literary Exam.	Teacher.	School.	Passed Literary Exam.
Dunkley, Sydney B.	Cargo	1894	Berry, David H.	Moruya.....	1899
Smith, Wright	Katoomba	1894	Burke, Martin J.	Emmaville	1899
Riley, Ernest A.	Wentworthville	1896	Grassick, Charles C.	Javerell	1899
Rourke, Ernest J.	Canowindra ...	1896	McKay, James.....	Mudgee	1899
Webster, Edward	Major's Creek... ..	1896	Richardson, David G.....	Granville North	1899
Bridle John R.	Smith-street ...	1897	Sheehy, Theophilus.....	Boggabri	1899
Dash, Ebenezer	Crown-street ...	1897	Walsh, Jeremiah J.....	Barmedman	1899
Liggins, William J.	Parkes	1897	Wardrop, Gabriel	Mount Drysdale	1899
Lobban, Donald J.	East Kempsey... ..	1897	Youll, John T.....	Tamworth West	1899
Clarke, Warwick M.	Moree	1898	Atkins, William L... ..	Granville	1900
			Bolus, George A.....	St. Ives.....	1900

Campbell,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th October, 1900.

Teacher.	School.	Passed Literary Exam.	Teacher	School	Passed Literary Exam.
Campling, Ebenezer	Wingham	1900	Ridley, George	Oakhampton	1900
Davison, Samuel B.	Bombala	1900	Smith, William	Black Mountain	1900
Dennis, Henry	Gundagai	1900	Telfer, James B.	Eastgrove	1900
Hobbs, John W.	Armidale	1900			
Hodge, Ernest A.	West Maitland	1900	Females—		
Kennedy, Phillip	Neutral Bay	1900	Lucas, Ruth	Canterbury	1887
McDowall, James	Bowral	1900	Monahan, Mattie	Waverley	1899
McLachlan, Alban	Bellinger Heads	1900	Raves, Helen A.	Cootamundra	1900
Marks, Hyam	Leichhardt	1900	Taylor, Elizabeth I.	Goulburn	1900
Morgan, Thomas J.	New Italy	1900	Velvin, Annie M.	Dubbo	1900
Pattinson, Anthony W.	Camperdown	1900			

(9.) Exemption Certificates:—Mr. Cook asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) What is the number of exemption certificates granted for the year 1893 under the following headings:—Under 9 years; between 9 and 10; 10 and 11; 11 and 12; 12 and 13; 13 and 14; over 14 years?
- (2.) The like information for the year 1894?
- (3.) The like information for the year 1895?
- (4.) The like information for the year 1896?
- (5.) The like information for the year 1897?
- (6.) The like information for the year 1898?
- (7.) The like information for the year 1899?
- (8.) The like information for the year 1900?

Mr. Perry answered,—I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for this information in the form of a return. It will take some considerable time to compile.

(10.) Extension of Wharf, Eastern side of Woolloomooloo Bay:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have tenders been invited for the extension of the wharf on the eastern side of Woolloomooloo Bay a considerable distance into the harbour across the fairway, in the direction of Garden Island?
- (2.) If so, would he kindly state the estimated cost of the proposed work?
- (3.) Has the Department of Navigation been consulted as to whether such extension is calculated to prejudicially affect the navigation of the harbour?
- (4.) If so, what is the Department's opinion?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Tenders have been accepted for the extension of the wharf on the eastern side of Woolloomooloo Bay, but it will not be near the fairway of the harbour, nor within 100 feet of a straight line drawn between Potts' Point and Lady Macquarie's Point. The construction of a wharf in the locality is the only economical method of providing berthing accommodation for the large steamers of the White Star Line.

(2.) The estimated cost of the wharf only is £3,626.

(3 and 4.) It was not deemed necessary to consult the Department of Navigation in this matter. I may tell the Honorable Member that I could find no wharf at which to put such steamers as the "Medic" and "Persic." The only other place would be at Darling Island; but there, I understand, there is some difficulty about the water. The steamers might, perhaps, be accommodated at Smith's Wharf; but it would cost the Government £25,000 or £26,000 to make the necessary alterations.

(11.) Wharfage Charge on Goods Exported:—Mr. Ashton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is an export wharfage charge on goods now being levied in the port of Sydney?
- (2.) If so, what is the rate charged?
- (3.) Are any similar charges levied in other Australian ports?
- (4.) If so, are they as high?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes, under the Wharfage and Tonnage Rates Act.

(2.) Wharfage rates are charged, based on an all round rate of 10d. per ton.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) Yes; and in the case of some Australian ports I understand they are higher. I may say that this charge is compulsory, according to an Act of Parliament, but as soon as I can find time to do so I intend to have the Act altered. I would do away with the charge altogether if I could.

(12.) Entrance to Cook's River and Shea's Canal:—Mr. Dacey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the entrance to Cook's River and Shea's Canal is blocked by the syphon belonging to the Sewerage Farm?
- (2.) Is it a fact that this syphon could be removed without injury to the farm?
- (3.) When will he take steps to have this syphon removed or lowered?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) The level at which the syphon is laid gives a depth of water between 9 and 10 feet at high tide, and the syphon does not block navigation for vessels of light draught up to, say, 200 tons burden, which are enabled to pass through the bridge opening.

(2.) Yes, at a cost of about £20,000.

(3.) At present there is no necessity for the syphon to be removed or lowered; but when the time shall have arrived for utilising Shea's Creek Canal for commercial and industrial purposes, the question of removing the syphon and erecting the bridge must then be considered.

(13.)

18th October, 1900.

(13.) The Police Force:—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Will he cause the following question to be put to every member of the Police Force:—
“When a member of the Force dies, are you willing to contribute 6d. for the benefit of the
“widow”?”
- (2.) How many police are under Superintendent Edwards?
- (3.) At what hours of the day is the street traffic of the city heaviest?
- (4.) What is the difference between the number of these men on duty on Saturday night at
8 o'clock and the number on duty on Sunday night at the same hour?
- (5.) Is it not possible, in the majority of cases, to allow the men who do traffic duty one month
to do ordinary police duty on the following month.
- (6.) Will he cause the police helmets to be altered, so as to insure more ventilation, after the
fashion of our soldiers' helmets?
- (7.) How many members of the Force have been refused permission to retire upon the ground
that there was no money to pay their pensions?

Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Inspector-General of
Police:—

- (1.) I could not recommend any such inquiry. Widows of members of the Police Force receive
gratuities from the Police Reward Fund, to which all the police contribute.
- (2.) Thirty-seven at present; but the number is being increased.
- (3.) 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- (4.) The same staff, unless absent on leave.
- (7.) No; as it is desirable to employ police who are experienced and fit for this special duty; but
there is no intention of keeping them permanently on such duty.
- (6.) This has been under consideration for some time, and will be decided shortly.
- (7.) Thirteen officers and men have been relieved from duty on full pay. Two or three other
cases are pending.

(14.) Case of William Creswell:—Mr. O'Connor, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
Referring to the reply given to Mr. E. M. Clark's Questions, on the 16th October, “that to give
“effect to the recommendation of the Royal Commission as to the release of William Creswell,
“now an inmate of Parramatta Lunatic Asylum, it will be necessary for an application to be
“made to the Supreme Court, under section 89 of the Lunacy Act, by the person interested in
“obtaining it,” will he say—

- (1.) Why he appointed such Royal Commission?
- (2.) Why he did not offer an objection to the adoption of the recommendation of the Committee
by this House, on the 9th August last, on the grounds now urged?
- (3.) What purpose he had in appointing the Royal Commission if it were not to give effect to the
recommendations made?
- (4.) What steps he proposes to take to give immediate effect to the will of Parliament in this case?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am considering what course to adopt in this matter; but I cannot
answer the Questions in the form in which they are put. These Questions are put in a way which
renders it quite impossible for me to say what course will be adopted.

(15.) The Hawkesbury Bridge:—Mr. O'Connor, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Secretary for Public
Works,—

- (1.) Having regard to the recent announcement that trains were being run slowly over the
Hawkesbury Bridge, because of the extreme vibration caused to the bridge by rolling loads, is it
not a fact that vibration in steel bridges sets up rapid depreciation, and contributes to their
ultimate collapse?
- (2.) Referring to the information given by him that certain Departmental officers had consulted
with regard to the alleged insecurity of some of the bridge cylinders, will he have any objection to
obtain a special expert opinion—(a) upon the safety of this structure; (b) as to whether the
“vibration” to which it is subject is due to faults in construction, or to the worn-out rollers on the
girder ends; (c) as to whether there are any defects in the bridge cylinders; and, if so, the nature
of such defects?
- (3.) What was the date of the contract for the Hawkesbury Bridge?
- (4.) What was the Government estimate of the cost of this bridge before the above contract was
entered upon?
- (5.) How much less than this estimate was the bridge built for?
- (6.) Who were the designers and contractors?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Railway Commissioners have been consulted as to the replies to
be given to these Questions, as, properly speaking, Nos. 1 and 2 should have been asked of the
Colonial Treasurer.

- (1.) Certainly not.
- (2.) The Hawkesbury Bridge has already been periodically inspected and reported upon by an expert
Board consisting of Mr. Hickson, Mr. Darley, Mr. Deane, and the Engineer-in-Chief for Existing
Lives. Its condition was only recently inquired into by the last three mentioned, Mr. Darley,
Mr. Deane, and Mr. Firth. The vibration was found to be due to the condition of the expansion
rollers, and these will be replaced with as little delay as possible. Meanwhile there is no risk.
The condition of the “bridge cylinders,” by which is understood the piers, had been previously
inquired into by the above Board, and no deterioration was found to have taken place.
- (3.) Contract entered into 20th May, 1886; completed 1st May, 1899.
- (4.) Mr. Whitton's estimate of the cost of a bridge of his own design at the present site was
£500,000. Tenders were invited for design as well as manufacture and erection, and those received
ranged from £280,800 to £702,384.
- (5.) The actual cost was £365,592 19s. 5d.
- (6.) Union Bridge Company of New York.

(16.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th October, 1900.

(16.) Municipal Rolls of Sydney:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that, when the police had almost finished collecting the names for the new Municipal Rolls of Sydney, it was found that the names of all owners of property had been omitted?

(2.) Are the omissions now being supplied by taking the names of owners from the City Council's books?

(3.) In view of the fact that there are names on the Council's books which should not appear there as owners, what steps are contemplated to ensure the purity of the rolls?

Mr. See answered,—The Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police reports as follows:—

(1.) No.

(2.) No. During the collection, some owners' names could not be ascertained; consequently collectors had recourse to the City Council books with regard to the owners, but afterwards made inquiry to test whether that information was correct or not.

(3.) Collectors found that some of the names obtained from the Council's books were not correct; consequently they were omitted from the new rolls.

(17.) Appointment of Mr. Waller:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a Mr. Waller has been appointed a member, together with Messrs. Hickson and Parkinson, of the temporary Board administering the Harbour Trust and resumptions matters?

(2.) If so, is this the same Mr. Waller who formerly occupied the position of Valuer to the Government, and more recently acted as Valuer to the Government Savings Bank?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(18.) Removal of Timber from Wharf Resumption Areas:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any account been kept of the timber, &c., removed from the wharf resumption areas since the first outbreak of plague, and of the manner in which the same has been disposed of?

(2.) Has any of the timber been disposed of in such a way that it has been used in the erection of buildings in other parts of the city and in the suburbs?

(3.) Has a quantity of this material been stacked on a wharf at Glebe Point?

(4.) Will he take such steps as will prevent any of the material from Darling Harbour wharfs from again being used, by causing it to be burnt or otherwise effectually disposed of?

(5.) Is Mr. McCredie still employed by the Government; and, if so, at what remuneration?

(6.) Are any of Mr. McCredie's family employed in connection with the wharf resumptions or other works connected with the late plague outbreak; if so, what payment is being made for their services?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes; with the approval of the Board of Health.

(3.) Yes.

(4.) This is unnecessary. All useless and old material is burnt; good material, after being dealt with in the manner suggested by the Board of Health, *i.e.*, exposed to the sun, is again used.

(5.) No.

(6.) Yes. Two brothers, one as foreman, and another as carpenter, the former being paid at the rate of 13s. 4d. and the latter 10s. per day.

(19.) Unit of Permanent Cavalry and Infantry:—Mr. Neilsen asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that a unit of permanent cavalry and also a unit of permanent infantry were formed from the late Third Contingent?

(2.) Has any provision been made for these men on the Military Estimates?

(3.) If not, what is intended to be done with these men?

Mr. See answered,—Yes; but the Federal Government will take over all the Military and Naval Forces on the 1st January.

(20.) Leave of Absence to Railway Employees:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does the Railway Act provide that every employee is entitled to one month's leave on full pay after twenty years' service?

(2.) Are there any other conditions imposed than the service named; if so, what are they?

(3.) Is it a fact that several employees who have fulfilled their twenty years' service have been refused the said leave; if so, upon what grounds?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed the Railway Act does not provide for the leave indicated.

(2.) The Railway Commissioners allow an employee after twenty years' service a month's leave when required on medical grounds.

(3.) Yes; on the ground that the conditions referred to were not complied with.

2. NAMES FOR ELECTORATES—FEDERAL PARLIAMENT:—Mr. Reymond presented a Petition from certain residents and electors of the town and district of Forbes, representing that to name the Federal Electorate Parkes, when there is a town similarly named within its boundaries, would lead to endless complications; that the name Canoblas is equally unsuitable, as it only represents an insignificant mountain range at an extreme corner of the electorate; and praying that the name "Calare"—the aboriginal appellation for the Lachlan River, which runs from almost one end to the other of the electorate—may be adopted by Parliament, as it would give entire satisfaction to a vast majority of the electors and residents.

Petition received.

18th October, 1900.

3. PAPERS:—Mr. See laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Report by Major-General G. A. French, R.A., C.M.G., Commanding the Military Forces of the Colony, for the year ended 30th June, 1900.
 Ordered to be printed.
 (2.) Report of the Acting Visiting Magistrate to Lord Howe Island.
 (3.) Amended By-law of the Municipal District of Tarce.
 (4.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
 BEAUCHAMP, Message No. 123.
 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 further and better provision for and in relation to the water supply, sewerage, and drainage of country towns; 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; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

Government House,
 Sydney, 18th October, 1900.

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.) Pastures and Stock Protection (Rabbit) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled “An Act to provide that the expression ‘noxious animals’ in the Pastures and Stock Protection Act, 1898, shall include rabbits,”—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 18th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

- (2.) Miners' Accident Relief Bill (No. 2.):—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “An Act to provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those 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, 18th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

MINERS' ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2).

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 18th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
 Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, clause 1, lines 6 and 7. Omit “November, one thousand nine hundred” insert “January, one thousand nine hundred and one”
 Page 2, clause 2. After line 16 insert “Wages includes all earnings by persons arising from any description of piece or other work either above or below ground in or about the mine”
 Page 2, clause 4. Omit subsections (a) (b) (c) and (d) insert the following new subsections:—
 “(a) An inspector of mines appointed by the Minister; and
 “(b) three persons employed in or about the mine and appointed for the prescribed period by the persons so employed; and
 “(c) two persons who may be appointed by the owner of the mine or his representative, if he thinks fit”
 Page 2, clause 4, line 33. Omit “prescribed” insert “full”
 Page 2, clause 5, line 34. Before “manager” insert “owner or”
 Page 2, clause 5, lines 37 and 38. Omit “per week” insert “for each week of such employment”
 Page 3 After clause 6 insert the following new clause:—
 In the determination of the amount of compensation payable by the owner of a mine in any action under the Employers' Liability Act of 1897, any allowances granted under this Act in respect of the injury complained of shall be taken into consideration.
 Page 3, clause 10, line 37. After “Wales” insert “or of the Commonwealth of Australia”
 Page 3, clause 10, line 38. Omit “(ii) lend money on first mortgage of freehold property”
 Page 3, clause 10, line 39. After “Bank” insert “doing business in New South Wales and paying dividends”
 Page 3, clause 10, lines 40 and 41. Omit “so deposited in any one bank” insert “held by any one bank on fixed deposit”

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th October, 1900.

Page 5, clause 14, line 18. Omit "prescribing the form of pay-sheets of a mine and"
 Page 5, clause 14, line 23. Omit "pay-sheets and"
 Page 5, clause 14, line 29. Before "manager" insert "owner or"
 Page 6, clause 14, line 1. Omit "twenty" insert "five"
 Page 6, clause 17, line 18. Omit "if" insert "any member of"
 Page 6, clause 17, line 18. After "Committee" insert "who, without lawful excuse,"
 Page 6, clause 17, lines 19 and 20. Omit "the members of the Board or of such Committee"
 Page 6, clause 17, line 20. Omit "each"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
 Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

(3.) Gundagai to Tumut Railway Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Gundagai to Tumut; 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; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; 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, 18th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

GUNDAGAI TO TUMUT RAILWAY BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 18th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
 Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 3, Schedule. After line 35, insert "This line is an extension of the Cootamundra-Gundagai railway, and commences at two hundred and eighty-six miles fifty-six chains from Sydney. It crosses the Murrumbidgee River, and passing through South Gundagai, follows the southern side of the river to where it is joined by the Adelong Creek, the eastern bank of which is followed for about nine miles to Bunnabuckbuck Creek, which is crossed; thence the line proceeds in a south-easterly direction to the head of, and thence along the valley of, Gadara Creek, and after crossing it and Gilmore Creek, it traverses the eastern bank of the latter north-easterly to Tumut; the line ends at the marked tree road in the permanent common, close to the north-western end of the township, at three hundred and eighteen miles eleven chains from Sydney, being a total distance of thirty-one miles thirty-five chains; and subject to such deviations and modifications as may be considered desirable by the Constructing Authority."

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
 Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

(4.) Coal Mines Regulation Act (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896.*"—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 October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

COAL MINES REGULATION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 18th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
 Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 4, lines 15 and 16. Omit "Section sixty-four of the Principal Act is hereby repealed and the following section substituted therefor"

Page 2. After clause 6 insert the following new clause:—

Section sixty-four of the Principal Act is hereby repealed.

Examined—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
 Deputy Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

Repeal of
 section 64.

18th October, 1900.

6. NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne 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 Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899. Question put and passed.
7. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORAL LAW SUSPENSION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls.*"
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 suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 18th October, 1900.*
8. DUBBO PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Phillips, read a third time, and *passed*.
Mr. Phillips then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to empower the trustees of certain lands at Dubbo, in the Colony of New South Wales, dedicated and granted for the use of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, to mortgage the said lands and to raise money on mortgage of the said lands; 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 empower the trustees of certain lands at Dubbo, in the Colony of New South Wales, dedicated and granted for the use of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, to mortgage the said lands and to raise money on mortgage of the said lands; 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, 18th October, 1900.*
9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Northumberland, Mr. Norton, 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 Prime Minister in refusing to receive a deputation from the Sydney Municipal Council concerning the resumption by Government of the site for the City Electric Lighting Plant."
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Norton moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
10. ELECTION EXPENSES BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 limit the election expenses of candidates for Parliament; to regulate the payment of money provided for such expenses; to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
Question put and passed.
11. PUBLIC SERVICE (TAXATION OFFICERS) BILL:—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. Wise, 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 for the appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895.
Question put and passed.
12. SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—
Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

18th October, 1900.

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13. MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF INVERELL REDUCED AREA BILL :—Mr. Cruickshank, 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 24th July, 1900 ; together with Appendix and a copy of the Bill as agreed to by the Committee. Ordered to be printed.
Mr. Cruickshank then moved, That the Bill be read a second time To-morrow.
Question put and passed.
14. SUPPLY :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.
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And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 19 OCTOBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair ; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

The House adjourned, at twenty-five minutes after Two o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 60.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 19 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Railway Employees:—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that drivers, firemen, and guards cannot now obtain relief from duty unless they work fourteen or more hours at a stretch, instead of twelve hours as formerly?
- (2.) Is it a fact that at some depôts, when drivers, firemen, and guards leave duty, they are simply told "they will be informed" when they are to resume duty?
- (3.) Is he aware that such a system as this "to be informed" prevents these men from having the necessary rest to go out with their trains?
- (4.) Is he aware that during the often limited hours drivers, firemen, and guards are allowed off duty that at times they receive as much as four or five different notes of instructions as to future duty, thus preventing these men from being in either a fit physical or mental condition to perform their responsible duties with safety to the travelling public?
- (5.) Is it a fact that the system of "to be informed" causes, in some cases, drivers, firemen, and guards to be kept waiting at home all day, for which no allowance is made, and that such is counted as a holiday or day off?
- (6.) What reason exists, when men leave duty, for not informing them when they will be again required?
- (7.) Will he, as the responsible Minister for Railways, see that a proper classification of employees is issued which shall set forth the conditions upon which all the Wages Staff are employed, giving rates of wages, method of promotion, and number of hours required to be worked in each grade; also any other conditions which affect them?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The following answer has been received from the Railway Commissioners:—

- (1.) I am informed there has been no alteration as indicated.
- (2.) The majority of the Running Staff work to regular rosters, but at some of the depôts, where uncertain conditions arise, the men are told they will be informed when they are to resume duty. As drivers, firemen, and guards sometimes arrive at depôts with unbalanced trains, it is not possible to inform them, there and then, when they can leave with return train or light engine. These matters have to be individually arranged where the necessities of the traffic and single line working prevails, and this depends largely upon the occupation of the line by other trains.
- (3.) Reasonable time (usually not less than eight hours) is allowed for rest, unless something exceptional occurs.
- (4.) It is not correct that the men get four or five different notes of instruction as to future duty, but sometimes return trains, at first arranged for, are altered or cancelled as the exigencies of the traffic may necessitate, and in such cases it is necessary to inform the men of the change.
- (5.) It is not the practice to deal with the men in this way.
- (6.) When it is possible, the men are always informed of their next movements. It is only in exceptional cases that men are not informed when leaving duty, when they will be again required.
- (7.) The Railway Commissioners report that they do not see any pressing necessity to disturb the existing conditions relative to employment in the railway service. It would be impracticable to regulate all conditions by fixed rules, and the Commissioners observe ordinary business usages when dealing with the staff.

(2.)

19th October, 1900.

- (2.) The 8th Regiment (Irish Rifles):—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Neild*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) How many Companies of the 8th Regiment (Irish Rifles) are provided for in the Estimates?
 (2.) Of how many Companies is the said Regiment now composed?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) Provision is made for five Companies of the Irish Rifles, and two other Companies constituting the 8th Regiment.
 (2.) The 8th Regiment is now composed of seven Companies.

- (3.) American Newspapers, Free Public Library:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is it a fact that the Trustees of the Public Library decline to admit any American daily newspapers, such as the *New York Herald*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Boston Herald*, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington, &c., daily papers; if so, why?
 (2.) Will he see that the above city daily papers be provided as early as possible for the use of the public who visit the Public Library?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Trustees do not subscribe for any American daily papers, simply owing to want of funds. The same applies to many excellent British papers.

- (4.) Medals to Australian Troops in South Africa:—*Mr. O'Connor* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
 (1.) Has his attention been directed to a letter in the *Sydney Morning Herald* and other newspapers suggesting that a medal should be given to the troops which have left these shores for Africa, including the members of the Soudan Contingent of 1885?
 (2.) Is it his intention to take any steps in connection with such suggestion?

Mr. See answered,—My attention has been called to the matter, and the Premier has a despatch from the old country which he will probably be able to lay upon the Table of the House on Tuesday next, giving the House full information upon the subject.

2. ELECTRIC TRAMWAY (BELMORE PARK TO FORT MACQUARIE) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. O'Sullivan* 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 Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; and for other purposes.
 Question put and passed.

3. DEFENCE LANDS RESUMPTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. O'Sullivan* 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 declare certain resumptions and notices of resumptions for purposes of defence to be void and of no effect.
 Question put and passed.

4. PUBLIC WORKS (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. O'Sullivan* 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 provisions of section 119 of the Public Works Act, 1900, relating to interests on compensation money.
 Question put and passed.

5. SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Sir William Lyne*, read a third time, and passed.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to amend the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900.*"
 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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 19th October, 1900.*

6. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill postponed until Tuesday next.
7. PAPER:—*Mr. Hassall* laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulations Nos. 129 and 109A, also Amended Form No. 43, under the Crown Lands Acts.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
8. NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL:—
 (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of *Sir William 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 Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899.
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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

19th October, 1900.

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 Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled, "*A Bill to amend the Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899*,"—which was read a first time.

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

9. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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.

10. ADMINISTRATION (VALIDATING) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

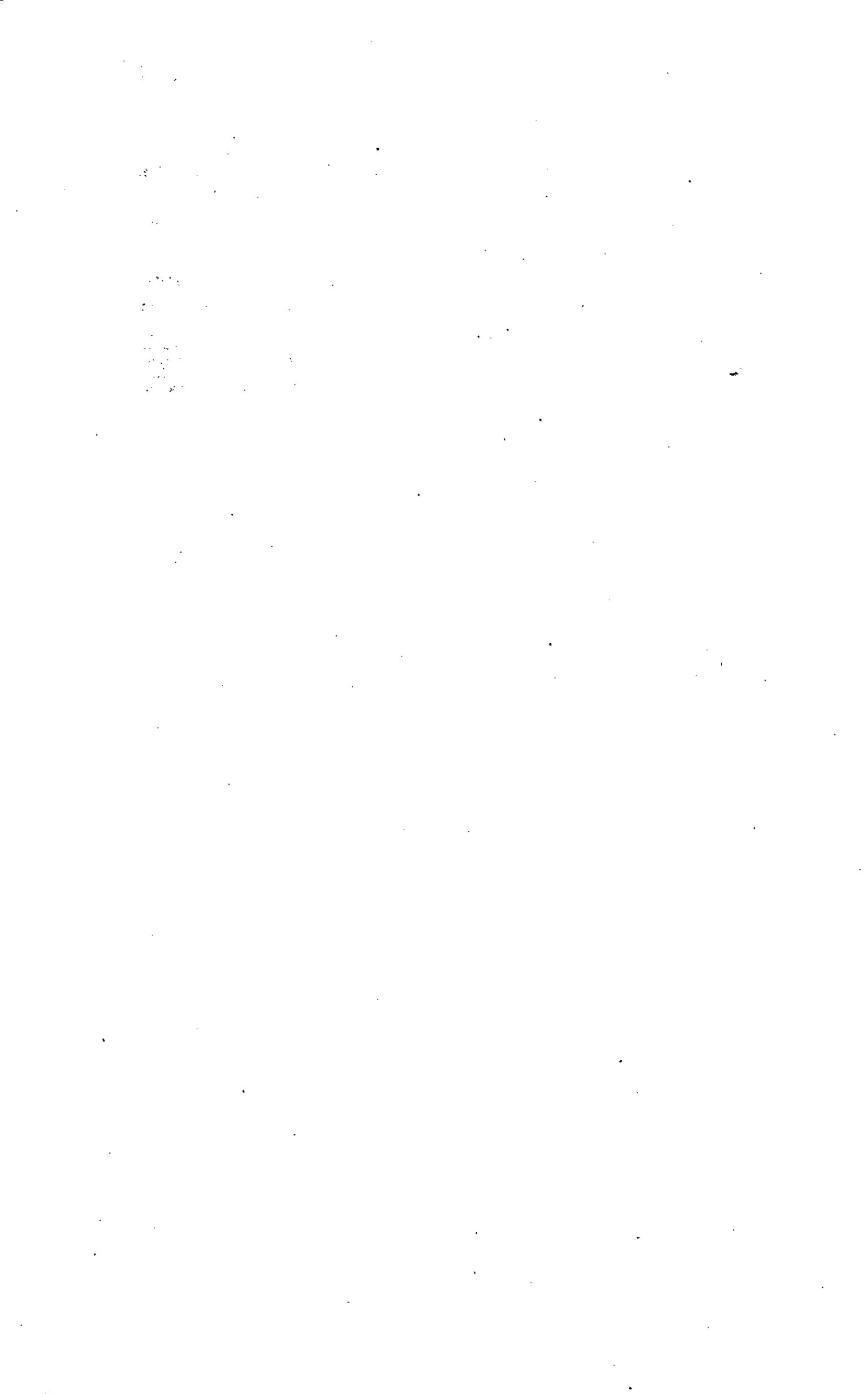
The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to validate certain orders of the Supreme Court giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 19th October, 1900.*

The House adjourned, at Five o'clock p.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



No. 61.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 23 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS :—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

- (1.) Witnesses Examination Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 124.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to the examination of witnesses, and production of documents 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, 19th October, 1900.

- (2.) Supreme Court and Circuit Courts Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 125.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate certain enactments relating to the Supreme Court and Circuit Courts*,"—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, 19th October, 1900.

- (3.) Richmond Vale Coal-mine Railway Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 126.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable John Brown, William Brown, and Stephen Brown, of Newcastle, in the Colony of New South Wales, to construct a Railway from the Richmond Vale Coal-mines to the Minmi and Hexham Railway, constructed under the provisions of the Minmi and Hexham Railway Act of 1854*,"—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, 20th October, 1900.

- (4.) Holt-Sutherland Estate Bill :—

BEAUCHAMP,

Message No. 127.

Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to reduce and alter the rents and royalties payable by the lessees of the Sutherland Estate, their successors and assigns, under certain memoranda of lease from Thomas Holt to the Holt-Sutherland Estate Land Company (Limited), to extend the term granted by the said memoranda of lease, and to make certain concessions and give certain powers to the lessees thereunder ; and for other purposes mentioned therein*,"—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, 20th October, 1900.

(5.)

23rd October, 1900.

(5.) Wollongong Water Supply Works Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 128.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to sanction the construction of Water Supply Works for the Borough of Wollongong (such works to provide for extension to Port Kembla on the south, and towards Bulli on the north); and to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any enactments 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, 20th October, 1900.

(6.) Pastures and Stock Protection (Rabbit) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 129.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to provide that the expression 'noxious animals' in the Pastures and Stock Protection Act, 1898, shall include rabbits,"—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 October, 1900.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Removal of Nurse McSwaney from Callan Park Asylum:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has Nurse McSwaney been transferred from Callan Park Asylum to Rydalmere Asylum?
- (2.) If so, will he obtain a copy of the report which Dr. Blaxland, of the Callan Park Asylum, sent to Dr. Miles, of the Rydalmere Asylum, referring to this nurse when she was transferred?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of the Insane that Nurse McSwaney was transferred from Callan Park to Rydalmere Hospital for the Insane, but that no report was made by Dr. Blaxland referring to this nurse when she was transferred.

(2.) Removal of Dr. Blaxland and Nurses from Callan Park Asylum:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Dr. Blaxland has been removed from Callan Park Asylum to Gladesville Asylum?
- (2.) And if so, will he consider the desirability of having the nurses recently transferred from Callan Park Asylum to Gladesville Asylum, and who gave evidence at the recent inquiry into the management of Callan Park Asylum, sent back to their old positions at Callan Park, in order that they may not be under the control of Dr. Blaxland, against whose system of management they gave evidence?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of the Insane,—

- (1.) Dr. Blaxland is now Medical Superintendent of the Hospital for the Insane, Gladesville.
- (2.) A number of nurses have been transferred from one hospital to another for various Departmental reasons. No further changes, however, are in immediate contemplation.

(3.) Erection of Tramway Sheds, Centennial Park:—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Storey, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Have the Railway Commissioners asked the Government permission to erect tramway sheds on that portion of the Centennial Park land adjoining Kensington?
- (2.) If so, will he refuse any such permission, as it would be an encroachment upon the land that was dedicated under the Centenary Celebration Act of 1887, and contrary to the clearly expressed provisions of that Act?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners have not asked permission as indicated, and it is not intended to erect sheds on the land referred to.

(4.) Ninth Infantry Regiment:—*Mr. Neild* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to *Mr. Neild's* Question (No. 11) on the 17th October, and to the reply furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces, viz., "No authority has been given for the establishment of a "Ninth (9th) Infantry Regiment, called the Illawarra Regiment, and that the use of these words "or title is unauthorised,"—

- (1.) Is it not a fact that an official circular has been publicly issued, as follows:—"Illawarra Regiment—Authority having been received from Major-General French to form a Company of "the above-named Regiment, with its head-quarters at Hurstville," &c.?
- (2.) Will he say which is correct—the answer or the circular?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) The circular referred to was not seen when the answer to Question No. 11, on the 17th October, was given. It has since been forwarded by a Member of Parliament—*Mr. J. C. Neild*, M.L.A.

(2.) The answer. The designation "Illawarra Regiment" in the circular is unauthorised at present.

(6.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd October, 1900.

(5.) Illawarra Regiment:—Mr. Neild asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to his reply to Mr. Neild's Question (No. 11) on the 17th instant,—

- (1.) Will he direct that the unauthorised use of the words "Illawarra Regiment," on the Kogarah orderly room of the Company of the 8th Regiment, be discontinued by their removal?
- (2.) Will he also direct that the said Company discontinue the unauthorised use of the same words in correspondence, public notices, and otherwise?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) It was not officially known that the words were used at the orderly room at Kogarah.
- (2.) The fact that the words "Illawarra Regiment" have been used in correspondence, &c., was not officially known until a Member of Parliament—Mr. J. C. Neild—forwarded an undated circular, through the Minister, which had been issued bearing that designation. I see no serious objection to the Companies in the Illawarra District using the term "Illawarra Regiment," as they will eventually form such a Regiment, but I see very serious objections to the Officer Commanding the 7th Regiment intruding into this District without proper authority, and under cover of Parliamentary privileges bringing political pressure to bear on an ordinary matter of Military administration.

(6.) Holidays to Warders in Lunatic Asylums:—Mr. E. M. Clark, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is the sum of £1,100 to be placed on the Estimates in order to allow the male and female warders of lunatic asylums an extra week's holiday in return for their long hours on duty?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have placed the amount on the Additional Estimates for consideration.

(7.) Police Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Anderson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he take into his consideration the advisability of introducing a short Bill to enable all police pensioners to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and will he make provision so that all contributions paid into the Police Superannuation Fund be paid into the Consolidated Revenue Fund until better provision be made?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Legislation will require to be introduced to place the Police Superannuation Fund upon a sound actuarial basis, but the shortage on the Fund is at present being met from the Consolidated Revenue. Probably, when the Fund is being reconstructed, changes in the rates may be made.

(8.) Appointment at the Telephone Exchange:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—

- (1.) When was an officer, named Lindsay, appointed a supernumerary assistant at the Telephone Exchange; and what was his previous length of service?
- (2.) Were all the other supernumerary attendants senior to Lindsay given the same chance to qualify for the position?
- (3.) (a) Was he examined with his seniors; (b) if not, why was he termed by the late Chief Electrician, "None were so capable of performing clerical duties as Lindsay"?
- (4.) Is it not a rule of the Telephone Department to put senior attendants in positions temporarily until vacancies occur; if so, why was Lindsay placed over the heads of two seniors—Bates and Howe?
- (5.) Is it not a fact that there are attendants senior to Lindsay holding University certificates, and that he holds no Technical or other certificate qualification?
- (6.) Will he again consider this appointment, with a view to doing justice to other senior attendants as well qualified as Lindsay?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1.) From 1st July last; seven years and two months.
- (2.) They all had the same chance of proving their qualifications for such a position as Lindsay, who had been performing the duties for a considerable time prior to his appointment as supernumerary assistant, although designated switch attendant.
- (3.) (a) No examination was held, the position being in the General Division, for which examination is not required; (b) I presume as the result of inquiries made by him in the matter.
- (4.) There is no rule on the subject, but, as in all other branches of the Department, officers are, as far as practicable, engaged in the duties for which experience proves them to be the best fitted. Lindsay has not been placed over the heads of Bates and Howe.
- (5.) I am not aware.
- (6.) The matter will be inquired into, and if it be found that an injustice has been done to any of Lindsay's seniors an endeavour will be made to rectify it.

(9.) Increments to Officers in the Public Service:—Mr. Carroll, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it intended to allow increments under the "Increment Regulations" for the current financial year to (a) officers between grades, and (b) officers at the top of their grades?
- (2.) If yes, when is it anticipated the allotment of increments will be made to each class of officers referred to in No. 1?
- (3.) Is it intended to hold an examination for officers of the lower series of grades who may be at the top of their grades during the current financial year?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A definite answer cannot well be given to these Questions at present, as the Increment Regulations are under review, and no determination has yet been arrived at.

(10.)

23rd October, 1900.

(10.) Holidays to Employees in the Post Office:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Are the employees of the Post Office, graded in the General Division, to have the same annual holiday as is now given to the Clerical Division?

(2.) Is it not a fact that there are numerous cases where employees in both divisions are performing similar duties?

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1.) I cannot say, but understand the question is being considered by the Public Service Board.

(2.) In some instances this is so, but the cases are not numerous.

(11.) Womanhood Suffrage Bill:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is it proposed, in the Womanhood Suffrage Bill, to make provision for admitting women to full political equality by allowing them, upon their being duly elected, to sit and vote in Parliament?

Sir William Lyne answered,—No.

(12.) Proposed Steel Rails Contract:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In view of the well-founded opinion that the proposed steel rails contract concession, which he states he is going to enter into on his own responsibility, is a contravention of the section in the Federal Constitution Act against bounties in any shape or form being granted after 30th June, 1898, will the Government take legal advice on the matter as to whether the course they propose to take is constitutional?

(2.) Is he aware that the Attorney-General (*Mr. Wise*), on the platform and in the Convention, denounced all such preferential concessions as contrary to the terms of the Draft Federal Constitution, which has since become law?

Sir William Lyne answered,—My honorable colleague, the Attorney-General, informs me there is no section in the Constitution Act which limits the power of a Government of a State to enter into contracts for the supply of materials for its own use. The point was raised the other night on a Question asked without notice as to whether the Government had power to enter into the proposed steel rails contract in view of a certain clause in the Commonwealth Act. There is absolutely nothing in the point, because this is a case where we are simply ordering our own material, and there is no question of bonus involved.

(13.) Railway Electric Staff System:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he obtain a report from the Railway Commissioners as to whether an alteration has been made in connection with the working of the electric staff for the prevention of accidents?

(2.) If so, has not this alteration, designed with the view to economy, made it possible for a staff to be taken out simultaneously at each end of a section, and thus precipitate a collision, by supplying the drivers of two trains, proceeding in opposite directions over the same section of railway, with the requisite authority to continue their journey?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that in order to obviate the necessity for the presence of an officer at each staff station when a train passes through at night, or during hours of very light traffic, the automatic staff was designed in the New South Wales Department. This admits of the guard withdrawing the staff without an officer being at the station at the other end of the section. This modification was approved and adopted by the original patentees and manufacturers in England, and adopted on other Government railways.

(2.) It was possible to do so in the original design, but only by deliberate and improper manipulation of the instruments by men skilled in the mechanism. This possibility has now been prevented.

(14.) Goulburn to Crookwell Railway:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the men employed in the construction of the Goulburn to Crookwell Railway only work about half-time, in consequence of delay in the erection of culverts, and in a less degree from other causes?

(2.) Have the culverts on the line been let by tender?

(3.) As a result of these delays stopping the work on which Government labourers are employed, is he aware that serious dissatisfaction obtains amongst shopkeepers and others, who cannot get their money for supplies from these men, who allege that they are unable to pay because the Government only employs them about half-time?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Resident Engineer has furnished the following replies:—

(1.) It is not correct that the men are only working half-time. Some delay was caused last month in the erection of culverts through cement not coming quickly enough, but the men employed at the culverts were given other work to do pending the arrival of cement, and the majority of the small gang of men got in twenty working days out of the twenty-four, and there were three wet days in that time. There may have been cases where men were delayed in a less degree from other causes which always occur in the building of a railway, but these amount to perhaps two days in a month, and only to a few men, and not in every month.

(2.) No, the foundations in some cases have been done piecemeal. This is a job for two men, and it is not economical to pay a ganger to look after two men.

(3.) It is alleged that there is serious dissatisfaction amongst storekeepers and others who cannot get their money for supplies from some men, but these debts were contracted by the men during weeks before ever the work started, and by men who never did a day's work, but left the district when they were asked to pay. If any man has not paid his storekeeper by alleging that he could only get work half-time, he has done so with the intention of defrauding, and were the storekeeper to apply to this office he could easily be put in possession of the facts of the case.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd October, 1900.

3. PAPERS:—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Return respecting Hotels and Wine-shops.
 - (2.) Return respecting Travelling Expenses of Members of the Reid Ministry, 1894–1899.
 - (3.) Copies of Accounts (2), rendered by the Federal Steam-ship Company for the conveyance of Troops to South Africa by the steam-ship "Surrey."
 - (4.) Return respecting Pay to Railway Employees.
 - (5.) Return respecting recent revision of Electoral Rolls.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
- (1.) Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
 - (2.) Government Railways Act Amendment Bill; second reading.

5. MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Commonwealth Arrangements Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 130.

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 making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale, and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

Government House,
Sydney, 16th October, 1900.

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

- (2.) Stamp Duties Amendment Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 131.

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 Stamp Duties Act, 1898.

Government House,
Sydney, 19th October, 1900.

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

- (3.) Customs (Sugar Drawbacks) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 132.

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 a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar and Glucose.

Government House,
Sydney, 23rd October, 1900.

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

6. NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

7. SUPPLY:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported a Point of Order from the Committee, and obtained leave to sit again as soon as the Point of Order had been decided by the House.

Point of Order:—The Chairman stated that during the debate on the Estimate for "Railways and Tramways—Existing Lines—Working Expenses" an Honorable Member was discussing a report, made by one of the Railway officials, concerning the estimated amount of revenue to be derived from a proposed railway, when he, as Chairman, ruled that he was not in order in discussing the construction of new lines and the railway policy of the Government on this Estimate. Exception being taken to his decision, the matter was referred to the House. Debate ensued.

Mr.

23rd October, 1900.

Mr. Speaker said that he did not think the Honorable Member would be in order in discussing in detail, or in quoting, a report of the railway officer on a new line of railway. He might incidentally refer to the conduct of that officer, and connect that reference with the estimate; but to comment on the report in detail would not be in order. On the whole, he thought the ruling of the Chairman was correct.

Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Committee resumed.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again.

8. ELECTRIC TRAMWAY (BELMORE PARK TO FORT MACQUARIE) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; 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 an electric tramway from Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; and for other purposes.

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

(2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled, "*A Bill to sanction the construction of an electric tramway from Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

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

9. DEFENCE LANDS RESUMPTION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 certain resumptions and notices of resumptions for purposes of defence to be void and of no effect.

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 declare certain resumptions and notices of resumptions for purposes of defence to be void and of no effect.

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

(2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to declare certain resumptions and notices of resumptions for purposes of defence to be void and of no effect*,"—which was read a first time.

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

10. PUBLIC WORKS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 provisions of section 119 of the Public Works Act, 1900, relating to interests on compensation money.

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 provisions of section 119 of the Public Works Act, 1900, relating to interests on compensation money.

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

(2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the provisions of section 119 of the Public Works Act, 1900, relating to interests on compensation money*,"—which was read a first time.

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

The House adjourned, at two minutes after Three o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 62.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 24 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Improvements at Parliament House :—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Referring to Question asked by Mr. Whiddon on Tuesday, 9th October, will he kindly give the House the following information :—

(1.) What was the total cost of the new billiard-room recently erected for the recreation and amusement of Members of this House, including the two billiard-tables and other furnishings complete ?

(2.) What was the total cost of the new bowling-green, tennis-lawn, and tea-kiosk for the use of Members of this House ?

(3.) What additional attendants are employed for each ?

(4.) What is the total cost of same ?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—If the Honorable Member will move for a return in the usual way I will consider it.

(2.) Applications for Appraisement, Wagga Wagga Land District :—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that it was brought under his notice some time ago that a large number of applications for appraisement, as provided for in the amended Land Act of 1899, had been lodged in the Wagga Wagga Land District ?

(2.) When will a sitting of the Local Land Board be held to deal with those applications ?

Mr. See answered,—The following reply has been received from the District Surveyor in connection with this matter :—“ Arrangement for appraisement inspections made, and can be dealt with when Chairman sets down cases for hearing. He is now at Gundagai, but I will see him there to-morrow. He may arrange to hear Wagga Wagga applications at next sitting of the Board on 13th November.”

(3.) Homestead Blocks on Carnerny (North Yanko) Holding :—Mr. Hayes asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) What is the reason for delay in advertising the date when the homestead blocks on Carnerny (North Yanko) Holding will be available for applicants ?

(2.) Is he aware that the lease of this holding expired in September, 1895, and that for the past five years numerous applications have been made to have the land thrown open for settlement ?

Mr. See answered,—The completion of action in this case was delayed by an exchange, but it has been arranged to set apart the land on the 28th proximo to become available on the 31st January next.

(4.) The Coast Hospital :—Mr. Dacey asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) The number of married men employed on the staff of the Coast Hospital ?

(2.) How much are they charged for quarters ?

(3.) Are suitable quarters provided for all of them ?

(4.) Are the men for whom there are no suitable quarters available charged for what they do not receive ?

(5.) Is it a fact that some of these men, who are charged for quarters, have to rent quarters at a considerable distance from the Hospital ?

(6.) Is it the desire of the Department to make the conditions of employment more favourable to single men than to married men ?

(7.) How many patients are there in the lock-ward ?

(8.)

24th October, 1900.

- (8.) How many wardsmen are there in this ward?
- (9.) How many hours per week are these wardsmen on duty?
- (10.) The number of hours per week worked by the ambulance-drivers?
- (11.) The hours at which their duties commence and finish?
- (12.) The rate of payment for overtime?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Assistant Medical Officer to the Government.

- (1.) Eleven married men on the general staff.
- (2.) Four occupy quarters valued at £20 ; seven have quarters valued at £15.
- (3.) Four married members of the staff have each a cottage provided within the Hospital grounds ; the rest are provided with single quarters.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) When married quarters within the Hospital grounds are not available, quarters outside must necessarily be provided by members of the staff who have wives and families.
- (6.) I do not know that the conditions are more favourable.
- (7.) Thirty-eight patients.
- (8.) One wardsmen, who has assistance from patients.
- (9.) Seventy-two hours per week, with two days' leave per month, and fourteen days per annum.
- (10.) Seventy-six hours per week, with one day's leave per month and alternate Sundays, and fourteen days per annum.
- (11.) Wardsmen, 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. and 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. on alternate days. Ambulance drivers, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. on alternate days.
- (12.) No pay is allowed for overtime.

(5.) Holidays in the General Division of the Public Service:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Austin Chapman*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that, whilst the Clerical Division of the Post Office are enjoying the three weeks annual leave, the General Division are only entitled to two weeks?
- (2.) Is it a fact that, whilst the General Division of the Government Printing Office are enjoying the three weeks annual leave, that of the Post Office is not?
- (3.) Is he aware that the Public Service Board are favourable to extending the extra week's leave to the General Division of the Public Service, and have forwarded such recommendation to the Government, with whom the granting of such concession now rests?
- (4.) Will he take the necessary steps of having this extra week's leave granted to the General Division of the Service at once?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The matter of the extension of the annual leave allowed to officers of the General Division to three weeks is now under consideration.

(6.) Bridge over Molong Creek at Copper Hill:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has he yet arrived at any decision in the case of one of the McLean Bros., of Baldery, who in crossing the Molong Creek at Copper Hill, near Molong, some few months back, had one of his horses drowned, and a load of wheat destroyed owing to the neglect of the Government in not re-erecting the bridge that was destroyed by floods?
- (2.) What is the reason that the erection of the bridge is being so long delayed ; and why is the contractor not proceeding with the work?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) A copy of the local officer's report on this matter was forwarded to the Honorable Member on the 22nd instant, and, as stated therein, the Government cannot be held responsible for accidents such as that referred to.
- (2.) A tender for the erection of a new bridge was accepted last month, and every effort will be made to push on with the work as rapidly as possible.

(7.) The 8th Regiment (Irish Rifles):—*Mr. Neild* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Referring to his reply to *Mr. Neild's* Question (2) of the 19th October, will he say whether, as provision has been made in the Estimates for seven Companies only of the 8th Regiment, Ministerial or Executive approval has been given for the formation of an additional Company of such Regiment at Hurstville?
- (2.) Has any application been received by him from residents of Hurstville asking for the formation of the Company in question?

Mr. See answered,—No.

(8.) Roads at Epping:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has his attention been called to the Press report of a public meeting held at Epping, when a person named Downes made a statement to the effect that "the only way to get their wants in the matter of roads attended to was to invite the whole of the Members of the Ministry out to Epping and give them a skinful of champagne"?
- (2.) Where is Epping, and who is this Mr. Downes?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) Epping is on the Hornsby Line near Ryde. I know nothing of Mr. Downes, but his remarks appear to be as unfounded as they are impertinent.

(9.) Iron Deposits in the Rylstone Electorate:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Mines,—Has he been furnished with the report of his expert officers *re* the iron deposits in the Rylstone electorate ; and, if so, will he give the House some information as to the conclusions arrived at—(1) as to the extent of such deposits ; (2) the proximity of coal and the necessary fluxes ; (3) the feasibility of establishing works for the utilisation of this raw material?

Mr. Fegan answered,—The report on these deposits has not yet been completed. The officer engaged on the work of describing the iron ore deposits of the Colony is making every effort to get the work completed at the earliest possible date ; when completed the full information will be published.

(10.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th October, 1900.

- (10.) Maintenance of Ships Crews in Gaols :—Mr. Smith asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Are any charges made from captains of ships for the maintenance of their crews temporarily in Darlinghurst Gaol or any other of Her Majesty's prisons ?
 - (2.) If not, will he notify captains of vessels who temporarily lodge their crews in any of Her Majesty's gaols within the Colony that the cost of the crews' maintenance must be paid by the owners of the ships ?
 - (3.) Is he aware that this practice of paying for maintenance of crews is adopted in the adjacent Colonies ?
- Mr. Wood answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) Crews, or members of crews, can only be received in gaol on warrants for some specific breach of the law.
 - (3.) I am not aware.
- (11.) Regulations under the Metropolitan Traffic Act :—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Are the regulations under the Metropolitan Traffic Act printed ?
 - (2.) If so, when will the regulations be gazetted ?
 - (3.) Does he intend to appoint the extra number of police necessary for the control of the city traffic, and promised during the consideration of the Metropolitan Traffic Bill ?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) The regulations as drafted are in print.
 - (2.) As soon as they can be considered and approved.
 - (3.) Yes.
- (12.) Issue of Treasury Bills to ex-Contributors of the Superannuation Fund :—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) In view of the fact that the ex-contributor's money now in the Superannuation Fund will shortly be drawn upon to pay existing pensions, will the Government issue Treasury bills to ex-contributors for the amounts of their contributions and interest allowed by law, thus guaranteeing a refund of their money ?
 - (2.) As there are many officers now contributing to the Fund who would cease contributing if a further opportunity were given, will he introduce a short measure this Session allowing those officers in the Railway and General Service to cease contributing to the Fund on the understanding that they will receive Treasury Bills for the amounts of their contributions to the Fund, especially as such a course will relieve the State of a heavy liability ?
 - (3.) When introducing such a measure, will he see that the officers in the Railway Service are treated in the same manner as those of the General Service in regard to the gratuity for service prior to the passing of the Public Service Act of 1895 ?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—Legislation would be required to issue Treasury Bills to ex-contributors, as well as to enable officers now contributing to cease contributing. I fear it will be almost impossible to pass legislation this Session. Although the capital of the Fund is being drawn upon to meet pensions already granted, the Honorable Member may rest assured that, when the matter of placing the Fund upon a sound actuarial basis is undertaken, it will be approached with a due regard for the legally acquired rights of ex-contributors and contributors alike.
- (13.) Increments to Officers in the Public Service :—Mr. Jessep asked the Attorney-General,—
- (1.) Has any decision been arrived at with regard to the appeals of officers in the Public Service who did not receive any increments last year owing to insufficient funds being provided ?
 - (2.) Is it proposed to grant increments dating from 1st July, 1899 to such officers ; if so, will he cause the decision in the matter to be made known without delay ?
- Mr. Wood answered,—An amount of £5,000 will be used to pay increments which were approved of for the year 1899–1900, but which could not be paid owing to the deficiency of funds.
- (14.) Clyde-Carlingford Railway :—Mr. Nobbs asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What is the reason of the delay in connection with the opening of the Clyde-Carlingford railway line ?
 - (2.) Can he inform the House of the approximate date of the opening of such line ?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) When this railway was taken over by the Government Parliament only voted a sufficient sum to pay for the actual purchase ; consequently nothing can be done to put the line in working order to hand over to the Railway Commissioners until funds shall have been voted on the Loan Estimates. I have made inquiries in reference to the delay, and I find it is about three months since the matter was concluded, and no Loan Estimates have since been passed.
 - (2.) For the above reason it is impossible to say how soon the line will be ready, but probably in three or four months after the Appropriation Act shall have been passed.
- (15.) Overtime of Postal Employees :—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Spruson, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a usage or rule of the Public Service that Civil Servants who are obliged to work on Sundays are paid overtime for such work ?
 - (2.) Is it so in the Postal Department ?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that mail drivers are obliged to work on Sundays without payment of overtime, while sorters are paid overtime for Sunday work ; and, if so, why is the distinction made ?
 - (4.) Are not mail drivers and sorters both recruited from the ranks of mail boys ?
 - (5.) Is it intended to put mail drivers and sorters on an equal footing by paying mail drivers for Sunday work ?

Mr.

24th October, 1900.

Mr. Crick answered,—

(1 and 2.) As far as concerns the Postal Department, it is the practice to pay overtime for Sunday work to officials whose regular duties do not require their attendance on Sundays. In certain cases—country postmasters, mail drivers, and receiver clearers, for instance—it is absolutely necessary for the officials to attend on Sundays, and the officials, in accepting their appointments, clearly understand this.

(3.) Yes. Mail drivers have to attend in their turn to perform duty on Sundays, and these officials clearly understood this when accepting their appointments. Mail drivers' hours on duty, including attendance for about one Sunday in the month, and allowing one day off each fortnight, only average about forty hours per week. It is not part of a sorter's regular duties to attend on Sundays.

(4.) Yes.

(5.) There is no intention of altering existing arrangements with regard to Sunday work.

(16.) His Honor Acting-Judge Barton:—Mr. Haynes asked the Attorney-General,—

(1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Edmund Barton, Q.C., was appointed to act as Judge at Broken Hill, and that he was also appointed to act as Judge at Grafton?

(2.) If so, was no Judge available for the work in or near either district; or could not some other arrangement have been made to save public money in the matter?

Mr. Wise answered,—

(1.) Mr. Barton was appointed an Acting Supreme Court Judge to preside at the Broken Hill and Grafton Circuit Courts.

(2.) The appointment of an Acting Judge for these two Courts has been made on five previous occasions during the last five years at the request of the Chief Justice. By this means the Full Court is enabled to sit in Sydney one week earlier than would be possible if an Acting Judge was not appointed. There was no Judge in or near the district who could have presided at the Courts without delaying the work of Term, and I do not think that any better arrangement could have been made in the public interest. A somewhat similar arrangement is made in the autumn circuits, and by this means a great convenience has been conferred on the public, as the Court now sits in Sydney three weeks longer in the year than it did previously.

(17.) Site for the Abattoirs:—Mr. Morgan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will the Government, in choosing the site for the abattoirs, select Crown lands in preference to private lands?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Certainly. Private lands will not be acquired for the purpose if a thoroughly suitable site can be found on Crown lands.

2. MUNICIPALITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. FitzGerald presented a Petition from certain producers of Muswellbrook and District, representing that if clause 109 of the Municipalities (Amendment) Bill is passed into law it will do Petitioners a vast amount of injury, and create extra expense in the marketing of products, and praying the House to amend the Bill by leaving out such clause. Petition received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Schedules A to D, Estimates 1900-1901, Public Works Department.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Report upon the case of Doctor Ludwik Bernstein, J.P., using expressions insulting to the Queen.

Ordered to be printed.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return respecting Marriages celebrated at Matrimonial Agencies.

(2.) Return of number of persons released under the provisions of the First Offenders Probation Act.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. MILITARY COURT OF INQUIRY—7TH INFANTRY (VOLUNTEER) REGIMENT (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Neild 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 the following papers connected with or relating to the Military Court of Inquiry held last year in connection with the 7th Infantry (Volunteer) Regiment, viz.:—

(1.) Charges and allegations made by the Officer Commanding the said Regiment against Major Waive, together with all correspondence, memorandums, and minutes between Major-General French, the Headquarters Staff, Colonel Neild, and Major Waive, having reference to the said charges and allegations, including the summary of evidence and list of witnesses proposed to be given and called.

(2.) All correspondence between Major-General French, His Excellency the Governor, and the Minister for Defence, respecting the appointment of a Court of Inquiry.

(3.) All instructions, open and secret, issued or given to the said Court.

(4.) All correspondence, memorandums, and minutes between the Military Authorities and Colonel Neild, and between the Military authorities and Major Waive and his solicitors, having reference to the supply of correspondence, reports, and other official documents for use in connection with the said Court, and particularly the repeated refusals of the General Officer Commanding to comply with the applications of Colonel Neild for his own reports upon the officers of his Regiment.

(5.) All documents put in before the said Court by Major Waive or his solicitors, or by any other person, including newspaper articles, letters, reports, paragraphs, and caricatures.

(6.) All minutes or reports of evidence taken by, and proceedings of, the said Court.

(7.) All correspondence, memorandums, and minutes between the Military Authorities, the Minister for Defence, the Attorney-General, and the Crown Law Officers, regarding the employment of counsel to represent the Crown, the General, or to assist the members of the said Court.

(8.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th October, 1900.

- (8.) All instructions issued or given to counsel so employed.
- (9.) All opinions, reports, or advice made or given by the said counsel, the Attorney-General, the Crown Solicitor, or any other person, to the Crown, the Military Authorities, or the said Court, upon or in connection with the matters to be brought, sought to be brought, or that were brought before the said Court.
- (10.) All vouchers, receipts, or other documents showing the sums paid to the said counsel, or to any other legal authority employed by the Crown, the Military Authorities, or the said Court, in connection with the same, together with all vouchers, receipts, or other documents showing the sums claimed by or paid to the members of the said Court, and by and to witnesses, giving particulars in each case, and indicating to what account the expenses of the said Court were or are to be charged.
- (11.) All correspondence, memorandums, and minutes relating to the applications made by and refused to the Officer Commanding the Regiment for legal assistance.
- (12.) All documents, reports, or other other papers (if in existence), showing that the members of the said Court, or any one of them, have passed the examinations prescribed by law, and has legally qualified for his present or any commission.
- (13.) The report of the said Court.
- (14.) The remarks of the General Officer Commanding thereon.
- (15.) All letters, statements, reports, affidavits, applications, and all other papers whatsoever, addressed to His Excellency the Governor, the Honorable the Premier, the Honorable the Minister for Defence, the Principal Under Secretary, the Major-General, the Chief Staff Office, or the President of the said Court, by any person whomsoever, relating to the constitution, proceedings, and report of the said Court.
- (16.) All letters, statements, reports, affidavits, applications, and all other papers whatsoever addressed to the same authorities in relation to the affairs of the said Regiment during the year 1900, together with the comparative attendances at parades, Easter training, and the relative number of efficient in 1899 and 1900 of the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th Regiments.
- (17.) A statement showing the number of times, and for what length of time or times, the said Court adjourned, because—(a) of its illegal or ineffectual appointment; (b) to enable one of its members to contest a Parliamentary election; (c) to enable one of its members to go on circuit; (d) to consult with the General Officer Commanding; (e) the number of times the Officer Commanding (Colonel Neild) was refused an adjournment for—(1) the purpose of obtaining legal assistance; (2) to obtain and peruse a copy of the evidence; (3) to call witnesses.
- Question put and passed.

5. **POSTPONEMENT**:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Government Railways Act Amendment Bill postponed until To-morrow.

6. **PAPER**:—Mr. See laid upon the Table,—Report of the Court of Inquiry upon matters between the Officer Commanding and Major Waine, and the administration of the 7th Regiment generally, together with Minutes of Evidence, &c.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Point of Order:—With reference to the documents just laid upon the Table, Mr. Neild submitted that, inasmuch as the Address to the Governor for them had not been presented to His Excellency, it was irregular to lay the papers upon the Table in anticipation.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that the Standing Orders permitted a Minister to present papers to Parliament at any time.

7. **MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR**:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 133.

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 in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters from the Richmond River; to provide for the payment of certain amounts in respect of the said works; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 20th October, 1900.

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

(2.) Width of Tires Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 134.

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 the width of the tires of stage carriages and vehicles constructed to carry loads, and the weight of loads to be carried on the said vehicles; to provide for painting on such vehicles the names and residences or places of business of the owners, and the weight of the vehicles; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

Government House,
Sydney, 23rd October, 1900.

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

24th October, 1900.

8. **BRODIE'S ENABLING 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 the sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; 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, 24th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

BRODIE'S ENABLING BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 24th October, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, Preamble, line 42. Before "Margaret" insert "Margaret Brodie now"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-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.

9. **COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS BILL:**—Sir William Lyne 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 for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale, and certain public buildings: to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.
Question put and passed.
10. **STAMP DUTIES AMENDMENT BILL:**—Sir William Lyne 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 Stamp Duties Act, 1898.
Question put and passed.
11. **CUSTOMS (SUGAR DRAWBACKS) BILL:**—Sir William Lyne 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 for a drawback of Customs Duties on sugar and glucose.
Question put and passed.
12. **PACIFIC CABLE ENABLING BILL:**—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Crick, 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 enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such object.
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 enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such object.
On motion of Mr. Crick, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Crick then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of the construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such objects,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
13. **SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) 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 Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 24th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

SYDNEY

24th October, 1900.

SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) BILL.

*Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 24th October, 1900.*JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 4. At end of clause *add* "Any such vacancy occurring before the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to have occurred at the commencement of this Act"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into consideration.

Question put and passed.

Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Council's amendment.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendment.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

14. MUNICIPALITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. See, "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,—

THURSDAY, 25 OCTOBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. See, 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.

15. SYDNEY CORPORATION (FURTHER AMENDING) BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. See, 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 amend the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 25th October, 1900, a.m.*

16. ELECTION EXPENSES BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Wise, 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 election expenses of candidates for Parliament; to regulate the payment of money provided for such expenses; to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 limit the election expenses of candidates for Parliament; to regulate the payment of money provided for such expenses; to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

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

(2.) Mr. Wise then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to limit the election expenses of candidates for Parliament; to regulate the payment of money provided for such expenses; to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—which was read a first time.

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

17. PUBLIC SERVICE (TAXATION OFFICERS) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Wise, 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 for the appointment as permanent, officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895.

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

24th October, 1900.

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 for the appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895.

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

- (2.) Mr. Wise then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895*,"—which was read a first time.

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

18. MINERS ACCIDENT RELIEF BILL (No. 2) :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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. Fegan, 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 provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900, a.m.*

19. GUNDAGAI TO TUMUT RAILWAY BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—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 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. O'Sullivan, 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 sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Gundagai to Tumut; 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; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900, a.m.*

20. COAL MINES REGULATION ACT (AMENDMENT) BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, 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. Fegan, 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 Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900, a.m.*

21. FEDERAL ELECTIONS BILL :—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Wise, 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 for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental 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 provide for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

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

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

24th October, 1900.

- (2.) Mr. Wise then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
22. PUBLIC HEALTH PROMOTION BILL:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Wise, 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 further and better provision for the promotion of public health, and for purposes consequent on and incidental 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 make further and better provision for the promotion of public health, and for purposes consequent on and incidental thereto.
On motion of Mr. Wise, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. Wise then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make further and better provision for the promotion of public health, and for purposes consequent on and incidental thereto*,"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
23. DENTISTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—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 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 Dr. Graham, 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 provide for the registration of dentists qualified to practise in New South Wales*."
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900, a.m.*
24. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill postponed until To-morrow.
25. PATON'S SETTLEMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garland 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. Garland, 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. Garland, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
26. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. See 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,—namely, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Henry Chapman, Mr. Dight, Mr. Edden, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Price, Mr. Rigg, Mr. See, Mr. Sleath, and Mr. Wise,—
Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at five minutes after Three o'clock a.m., until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 63.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 25 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Settlement Leases in the Central Division:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Macdonald*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Will he, before throwing open the Central Division leaseholds for settlement lease occupation, take some steps to prevent men who already hold large areas of land competing on equal terms at the ballot with applicants who do not own any land?

(2.) Will he take steps to prevent persons who have already exercised their right of selection, and disposal of their holdings, from competing in the ballot on equal terms with persons who have never held land before?

(3.) Will he bring in an amending Bill to reduce the maximum area for settlement lease from 10,240 acres to an area sufficient to maintain a home thereon, so that persons who own no land may have a better chance of getting some?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The importance of the considerations which have prompted the Honorable Member to make these suggestions is fully recognised, but I have no power under the law to prevent any person making an application, and the Legislature, when the Crown Lands (Amendment) Act, 1899 (No. 51 of 1899), was under discussion, vested in Local Land Boards the privilege of determining the priority of conflicting applications, and the right to send to ballot such applications as, in their opinion, have equal claims to priority. I, however, arranged a conference of as many Chairmen as could conveniently attend, and it was arranged that, other qualifications being equal, an applicant who does not possess pastoral or agricultural lands should have priority over one who does, and that applicants who have made conditional purchases or conditional leases, and dispossessed themselves of the same, should be generally considered less eligible than those who had not done so. Following these principles, it would seem that a Land Board might refuse to allow an applicant to go to ballot who, in the Board's opinion, had a sufficient area already. I will inquire from the Boards whether these rules are departed from, and the matter will be carefully considered in connection with any new legislation. The question—What area is sufficient for a selector?—is one on which diverse views are expressed; but while it has to be admitted that, if 5,120 acres are sufficient in a particular case, the holder of that area should not be entitled to obtain a lease of a similar area; the curtailment of the maximum area of 10,240 acres for a settlement lease would press against an applicant who had no land at all if a reduced maximum area happened to represent insufficient land for a new selector.

- (2.) Crown-street Tramway:—*Mr. Whiddon* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he cause inquiries to be made of the tramway authorities as to why it is that nearly every Saturday the regular travellers on the Crown-street tram-line have to put up with only one tram car during the busy midday trips?

(2.) Will he take steps to ensure the second car being put on during the busy part of the day on Saturday, thus saving the repeated inconvenience that the regular travellers on this line are subject to?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that there is a great demand on the rolling stock at certain times on Saturdays, and the number of cars have to be cut down to bare requirements. The traffic on Crown-street is limited, and reasonable attention is paid to the car accommodation on that line consistently with the claims of other localities. The traffic, however, is being carefully watched.

(3.)

25th October, 1900.

- (3.) Gang System on the Railways:—Mr. Cook asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is he aware that, under the gang system of working maintenance men, many of them have to travel over and repair from 60 to 70 miles?
 - (2.) Is he aware that to do this the men have to keep and feed horses, for which they get no allowance?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the gangers receive pay for a horse and cart?
 - (4.) If the system of working the men in gangs is maintained, will he consider the advisability of making the men some allowance for horse-keep?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—This matter will be inquired into, and the result of the investigation communicated to the Honorable Member.
- (4.) Registration of Hindoos as Dairymen:—Mr. Ewing asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that, if Hindoos comply with the Dairies Supervision Act, there is no power to prevent their registration as dairymen?
 - (2.) Is he prepared to introduce legislation to prevent them engaging in such vocations?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) While Hindoos are admitted into the Colony it will, I fear, be difficult to debar them from engaging in any particular avocation, provided that they strictly abide by the regulations governing the same. However, I shall consider the matter, and will be pleased to receive any information which the Honorable Member can furnish bearing upon it.
- (5.) Employment of Trades Unionists:—Mr. Storey asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it true that he authorised Mr. Brennan to publicly state that henceforth the Government would only give employment to painters who were able to exhibit their certificate of Trades Union membership?
 - (2.) If the foregoing be true, will he say what Act of Parliament gives him authority to give preference to trades unionists?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I have stated publicly that I will not drive men into the Trades Union, though I think it would be better for them to be there. Cannot remember authorising Mr. Brennan to make the statement; but, all things being equal, I certainly would give preference to a trade unionist over a non-unionist.
- (6.) Accounts, Darling Harbour Resumptions:—Mr. Storey asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Will he cause the Treasury to open a Suspense Trust Account in connection with the Darling Harbour resumptions?
 - (2.) Will he credit to such account all rents and revenue that have been and are to be received from the resumed areas up to final settlement of claims?
 - (3.) Will he make the interest that has and will be accruing the first charge upon the moneys represented in such trust account?
 - (4.) Will he give instructions for such trust account to be kept open until the whole of the valuations are completed and awards made?
 - (5.) Will he cause to be opened a general account for the resumed areas at Darling Harbour, each valuation, when agreed upon and paid, to be charged to such account?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—Arrangements will be made to preserve a separate record of all transactions in connection with the Darling Harbour resumptions.
- (7.) Promotion of Officers, Department of Justice:—Mr. Garland asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has any statement been made to him by the Under Secretary of Justice in reference to the charge of unfairness, as regards his recommendations for the promotion of officers, which was preferred against him by the Honorable Member for Sherbrooke in the House on Friday, 19th October?
 - (2.) If so, will he lay a copy of it upon the Table of the House?
- Mr. Wood answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) A copy of the statement will be presently laid upon the Table of the House.
- (8.) Wages of Gangers on the Railways:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. W. W. Young, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that gangers' wages on the railway have been reduced from 9s. to 8s. 6d. per day?
 - (2.) Did the present Ministry sanction such reduction in the standard rate?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I have referred the matter to the Railway Commissioners, who point out that 102 gangers are paid 8s. 6d. and 300 at 9s. per day. Increases from 8s. 6d. to 9s. have been withheld in view of financial considerations, but the wages of men receiving 9s. have not been reduced to 8s. 6d.
- (9.) Amendment of the Libel Law:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Attorney-General,—Is it intended that the Bill having for its object the amendment of the Libel Law will be proceeded with and passed during the present Session?
- Mr. Wood answered,—It is intended to proceed with this Bill in the Legislative Council.
- (10.) Infringement of Weighing Clauses, New Hartley Shale-mine:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Did the Chief Inspector receive information from the check weighman, New Hartley Shale-mine, Airley, on the 20th August, to the effect that the weighing clauses were being infringed at that mine?
 - (2.) If so, why was not action taken to compel the New Hartley Company to comply with the provisions of the Coal-mines Regulation Act in respect to weighing all minerals?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th October, 1900.

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) All mineral was being weighed at the date complaint was received, and it has been since the Act came into force. Before action could be taken it was necessary to have proof of a breach of the law; this was only recently obtained. Proceedings in the Local Court are set down for to-morrow.

- (11.) Hyde Park Scheme, City Railway Extension:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he afford the Members of this House an opportunity of expressing, by a direct vote, their opinion as to the proposal, emanating from a meeting of Ashfield residents, that portion of Hyde Park be taken for city railway extension purposes?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—No line which includes a portion of Hyde Park is under the consideration of the Government. The proposal to enter the city on the western side is by Mr. Deane, Engineer-in-Chief for Railways. It may ultimately return to the Central Station by way of Elizabeth-street.

- (12.) Death of James Dawson, Newcastle Hospital:—Mr. Edden asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is he aware that one James Dawson died in the Newcastle Hospital on the 2nd September, 1900, from injuries received in the Glebe Coal-mine, Newcastle?
- (2.) Is he aware that two death certificates were issued by Dr. Brade, one stating that Dawson died of blood-poisoning, the other stating that death was caused by shock?
- (3.) Will he call upon the Coroner to state the reason no inquest was held concerning the death of Dawson?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) I am not aware that more than one certificate was issued.

(3.) The Coroner reported to me, on the 18th ultimo, that he had noticed in a newspaper of the 7th idem a paragraph concerning the burial of Mr. Dawson on the 3rd September. Not having received any report with regard to the death, he at once made inquiry, and ascertained that the usual report of the death had not been made to the police by the authorities. I am informed that the Superintendent of the hospital states that, when giving a death certificate, he was not aware that the deceased had received his injuries in a mining accident, and that, as far as he knew, there were no special circumstances connected with the case requiring it to be reported. The Coroner was, however, satisfied that the injuries had been received accidentally, and that nothing would be gained by having the body exhumed and holding an inquest, and I did not consider any further action necessary beyond bringing the report under the notice of the Minister of Mines and Agriculture. My honorable colleague has, I understand, been inquiring into the matter.

- (13.) Leichhardt Electric Tramway:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he ascertain from the Railway Commissioners when it is likely the electric trams will start running to Leichhardt?

(2.) Will he also see if it would not be advisable for the Railway Commissioners to make use of a portion of the large area of land reclaimed by the Government with frontage to Long Cove Bay, close to the Leichhardt tram terminus, for the erection of power-house and stables, instead of purchasing land elsewhere at high prices from private owners?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed the matter is dependent on the completion of the additional boiler power at the power-house at Ultimo. The work is being pushed forward, and it will probably be about two months before completion.

(2.) I will be glad to refer this Question to the Railway Commissioners; but I understand it is already engaging their attention in connection with sites for electrical sub-stations and car sheds.

- (14.) Pensions to Retired Public Servants:—Mr. Kidd asked the Attorney-General,—In view of the opinion which he has given, that it is not necessary to amend the Public Service Act to enable officers who have broken periods of service to obtain their pensions for their full length of service upon their retirement, is he prepared to grant similar consideration to those officers who have been retired from the Service, and who had broken periods, for the full length of their service also?

Mr. Wood answered,—The Honorable Member must have been misinformed. I have never given such an opinion.

2. ACCIDENT TO ALBERT BURBANK ON RAILWAY PREMISES, TAMWORTH:—Mr. Gillics, 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 3rd July, 1900; together with Appendix.
Ordered to be printed.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 15th August, 1900,—“Land owned by Louisa H. Windus, District of Molong.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Minute of Under Secretary of Justice respecting charges preferred by the Honorable Member for Sherbrooke, Mr. B. B. O'Connor, with regard to alleged unfairness in the promotion of Police Magistrates.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

25th October, 1900.

4. NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899.*"

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 Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900.*

5. PATON'S SETTLEMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Garland, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. Garland then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise and enable the trustee or trustees for the time being of a certain indenture of settlement bearing date the twenty-second day of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, made between Theophilus Paton of the first part, Mary Ann Paton (then Mary Ann Allison) of the second part, and the Reverend John Dunmore Lang and Robert Watson of the third part; and under a certain instrument of transfer under the Real Property Act, dated the fifth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four; and under a certain declaration of trust dated the twenty-second day of April, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, under the hands and seals of Henry Elliott and Andrew Fenwick, to obtain payment out of Court of certain money now standing to the credit of the said trust estate in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, in its equitable jurisdiction; and to provide for making certain payments thereout; and for the investment of the balance thereof; and to declare and determine the trusts thereof; and to provide for the ultimate distribution thereof; and for other purposes.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise and enable the trustee or trustees for the time being of a certain indenture of settlement, bearing date the twenty-second day of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, made between Theophilus Paton of the first part, Mary Ann Paton (then Mary Ann Allison) of the second part, and the Reverend John Dunmore Lang and Robert Watson of the third part, and under a certain instrument of transfer under the Real Property Act, dated the fifth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four; and under a certain declaration of trust, dated the twenty-second day of April, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, under the hands and seals of Henry Elliott and Andrew Fenwick, to obtain payment out of Court of certain money now standing to the credit of the said trust estate in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, in its equitable jurisdiction; and to provide for making certain payments thereout; and for the investment of the balance thereof; and to declare and determine the trusts thereof; and to provide for the ultimate distribution thereof; and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900.*

6. USE OF THE GROSE, COLO, AND WARRAGAMBA RIVERS TO GENERATE ELECTRIC POWER (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, including the report of an officer of the Public Works Department, relating to the recent inspection of the Grose, Colo, and Warragamba Rivers, with the object of discovering whether these waters might not be put to profitable use as a medium for the generation of electricity for city lighting and other purposes.

Question put and passed.

7. CONSTRUCTION OF WEIR AT NYRANG CREEK (*Formal Motion*):—Dr. Ross moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all correspondence, reports, surveys, maps, and other documents, &c., having reference to the construction of a weir at Nyrang Creek, district of Molong and county of Ashburnham.

Question put and passed.

8. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill postponed until To-morrow.

9. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 135.

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 application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities, and interest in respect of the same; and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897.

*Government House,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900.*

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

25th October, 1900.

10. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORAL LAW SUSPENSION 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 suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

11. HOUR OF MEETING—MORNING SITTINGS (*Sessional Order*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That, unless otherwise ordered, this House shall meet for the despatch of Business at "10 o'clock a.m." on each day upon which Government Business now takes precedence.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Moore moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "10 o'clock a.m.," and inserting the words "2 o'clock p.m.,"—instead thereof.

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

Debate continued.

Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.

Original Question then put and passed.

12. PAPER:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copy of a Minute of His Excellency the Governor and Executive Council, authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "State Children's Relief Branch" to supplement the Vote "Charitable Institutions, Government Asylums—Contingencies." Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

13. SYDNEY HARBOUR TRUST BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, 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 make better provision for and in connection with the management of the port of Sydney; to establish and appoint the Sydney Harbour Trust Commissioners; to confer on such Commissioners certain powers in relation to such port, including, among other powers, the power to levy and collect certain tolls, dues, rates, rents, and charges, and to purchase and resume lands; to vest certain property in the said Commissioners; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on those objects.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 25th October, 1900.

14. PACIFIC CABLE ENABLING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Crick moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 26 OCTOBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

The House adjourned, at twenty-four minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 64.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 26 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Temporary Common, Canowindra:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Has he yet received from the District Surveyor at Orange any report respecting two reserves, parish of Collett, county of Ashburnham, district of Molong, viz., Nos. 184 and 16,094, which the Progress Committee at Canowindra, in September last (1900—5,688 Ms. Ind.), asked might be added, in the interest of the public, to the temporary common at Canowindra; if so, what is the nature of that report, or when is it likely to be received?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The District Surveyor's report was received on the 12th instant, and has been referred to the Department of Mines and Agriculture for information in connection with the Progress Committee's representations as to temporary common requirements.

- (2.) Epileptic Condition of man Sleight, sentenced to death:—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that the man Sleight, sentenced to death at Goulburn Circuit Court, was similarly sentenced, in 1884, on a charge of wounding with intent to murder?

(2.) Is he aware of the fact that Sleight is reputed to be a confirmed epileptic, and at periods is not responsible for his actions?

(3.) Will he cause Sleight to be examined by a specialist, so that this contention may be proved or disproved?

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1.) Sentence of death was recorded.

(2.) No.

(3.) The matter will be considered.

- (3.) Papers in Case Crown v. John Dight, Tamworth:—Mr. Sawers asked the Attorney-General,—Will he lay upon the Table of the House all papers and documents relating to the proceedings instituted by the Crown against John Dight, of Tamworth, for absenting himself from a sitting of the Jury Revision Court held in that district?

Mr. Wood answered,—I understand the Attorney-General has promised that he will lay the papers on the Table. There will be no objection.

2. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne 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 for the application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities, and interest in respect of the same; and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897.

Question put and passed.

3. WIDTH OF TIRES BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 the width of the tires of stage carriages and vehicles constructed to carry loads, and the weight of the loads to be carried on the said vehicles; to provide for painting on such vehicles the names and residences or places of business of the owners, and the weight of the vehicles; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

Question put and passed.

26th October, 1900.

4. PACIFIC CABLE ENABLING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Crick, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Crick then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of the construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such 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 enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of the construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean, and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 26th October, 1900.*

5. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill postponed until Wednesday next.
6. TUCKIAN FLOOD ESCAPE SCHEME BILL:—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters from the Richmond River; to provide for the payment of certain amounts in respect of the said works; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects.
- Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 39.

Mr. Wood,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Hurley,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. See,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Mcagher,
Mr. Dacey,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Richards,
Mr. Reymond,

Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. T. H. Griffith,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Dight,
Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Byrne,

Mr. Spence,
Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. W. W. Davis,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Carroll,
Tellers,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Gillies.

Noes, 3.

Mr. Gormly.
Tellers,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Molesworth.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

7. COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 provide for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale, and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental 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 provide for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale, and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale, and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto,*"—which was read a first time.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

26th October, 1900.

8. STAMP DUTIES AMENDMENT BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 Stamp Duties Act, 1898.

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 Stamp Duties Act, 1898.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Stamp Duties Act, 1898*,"—which was read a first time.

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

9. CUSTOMS (SUGAR DRAWBACKS) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read—on motion of Sir William 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 provide for a drawback of Customs Duties on sugar and glucose.

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 provide for a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar and Glucose.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar and Glucose*,"—which was read a first time.

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

10. LAND TAX (CONTRIBUTION) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, 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 section 12 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895*."

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 26th October, 1900.

11. MINES INSPECTION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan 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. Fegan, 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.

12. MINING BILL:—Mr. Fegan, pursuant to leave granted on the 5th October, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to mining; to establish Mining Appeal Courts; to give further facilities for the development of mining; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

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

13. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Fegan moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Five minutes before Five o'clock p.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 65.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 30 OCTOBER, 1900.

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 the Honorable Bernhard Ringrose Wise, Q.C., resigning his Seat as Member for the Electoral District of Ashfield.

Whereupon Mr. Hassall moved, That the Seat of The Honorable Bernhard Ringrose Wise, Q.C., Member for the Electoral District of Ashfield, hath become, and is now vacant, by reason of the resignation thereof by the said Bernhard Ringrose Wise.

Question put and passed.

2. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Administration (Validating) Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 136.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to validate certain orders of the Supreme Court giving power or leave to sell, mortgage, or lease real estate of deceased persons, and all acts done in pursuance thereof; to validate certain sales, mortgages, and leases of such estate; to provide for the granting of power to sell, mortgage, or lease such estate; and to authorise the postponement of the realisation of any estate of any such person used in any business, trade, or occupation, and the continuation of the use of the same for those purposes, and the carrying on of the said business, trade, or occupation,*"—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, 1900.

- (2.) Parliamentary Electoral Law Suspension Bill:—

BEAUCHAMP,

Governor.

Message No. 137.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to suspend the operation of the Electoral Law relating to the Parliamentary Lists and Rolls,*"—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, 30th October, 1900.

3. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Monument to Commemorate close of the South African War:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In the event of it being determined by the Imperial Government to proclaim a National Day of rejoicing to commemorate the close of the South African War, will the Government take into their serious consideration the desirability of erecting a National obelisk or monument, in one of our public parks, or other suitable place, to commemorate the close of the South African War; and, as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in defence of the Empire, such obelisk or monument to bear the names of our brave fellow-countrymen?

Mr. See answered,—This matter is under the consideration of the Government

(2.)

30th October, 1900.

(2.) Connection of Dwelling-houses with new Water-mains:—Mr. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he yet ascertained whether he can compel owners of dwelling-houses within the Metropolitan District to connect such dwelling-houses with the new water-mains, so that tenants may receive an adequate supply of water?

(2.) Is he aware that householders who are now connected with the old water-mains cannot obtain a sufficiency of water for ordinary household purposes?

(3.) If the present law does not permit him to interfere, will he endeavour to secure an alteration of the law enabling him to do so?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board has furnished me with the following information:—It is the practice of the Board to provide an ample supply of water in the street mains, and it is then the duty of the owners or occupiers of properties to convey the supply by private service-pipes from the street mains to the houses. In some streets, to meet additional demands for water, new mains have been laid; but it is not customary, nor is it considered desirable, to compel owners to transfer house connections from old to new mains, this being more a question between landlord and tenant, as no doubt the latter, if the supply were insufficient, would not remain in occupation of the premises. The owner would, therefore, in order to retain his tenants, make the necessary transfer.

(3.) Case of Engineer Surveyor Marshall:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has any inquiry been recently held by the Public Service Board concerning the conduct of Engineer Surveyor Marshall in accepting fees from one of the local steamship companies?

(2.) Will he lay the papers showing the result of the inquiry upon the Table of the House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) Yes.

(4.) Public School Teachers:—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Cook, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Will he furnish a list of teachers holding 1B certificates absolutely under the following headings:—(a) Name of teacher; (b) position (whether principal, mistress, or assistant); (c) date of literary examination; (d) date of award of classification; (e) present class of school; (f) date of entry into Service?

(2.) A list of all teachers holding 1B, subject to passing in one or more subjects, with like information.

Mr. Perry answered,—I have had a return prepared, which I will presently lay upon the Table.

(5.) Private J. Dawes, 3rd Infantry Regiment:—Mr. McGowan, for Mr. W. W. Young, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Can he give any information as to Private J. Dawes, No. 39, 3rd Infantry Regiment, B Company, who left for South Africa with the First Contingent in the "Aberdeen"?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—Nothing beyond that he left the name and address of his next of kin as his mother, Mrs. E. Dawes, Stanley-street, Bathurst.

(6.) Hours of Watchmen:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer—

(1.) Is it a fact that watchmen employed upon the public wharfs have to work twelve hours per day and night for seven days in the week, or eighty-four hours as a week's work?

(2.) Is he prepared to reduce the hours of these watchmen to sixty hours per week, and to six days instead of seven?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The watchmen in question work twelve hours per day or night while on duty; but they are allowed forty-two days off during the year, which reduces the average day or night's work to ten and a half hours.

(7.) Coal Received at Darling Harbour:—Mr. Spruson asked the Colonial Treasurer,—The number of tons of coal for shipment received by rail in hopper waggons at Darling Harbour cranes during each month since 1st January, 1900?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the following quantities of coal have been shipped by the Darling Harbour Cranes from January to September, 1900:—January, 5,571 tons; February, 3,456 tons; March, 6,621 tons; April, 8,658 tons; May, 7,207 tons; June, 10,938 tons; July, 13,750 tons; August, 11,916 tons; September, 10,274 tons; total, 78,391 tons.

(8.) Bands of the Partially-paid and Volunteer Forces:—Mr. Meagher asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the bands attached to the Partially-paid and Volunteer Forces tender for and play at various public functions and gatherings, to the detriment of bands composed of private citizens?

(2.) In view of the fact that citizen bands have to purchase their own uniforms, instruments, music, and pay for rent of practice-rooms, besides bandmaster tuition fees, while the Partially-paid and Volunteer bands are provided by the Government with instruments, uniform, music, and tuition free of charge, will he take steps to prevent such bands from tendering for public functions, and thus perpetuating unfair competition?

(3.) Is he aware that bands of the Partially-paid and Volunteer Forces carrying out contracts as aforesaid travel on the trams and trains at reduced rates, while the citizen bands pay full ordinary fares?

(4.) Will he put an end to the anomalous practice, by which the taxpayer practically subsidises military bands to take the bread out of the mouths of fellow-citizens who play in bands?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th October, 1900.

Mr. See answered,—

- (1.) It is understood that bands of Partially-paid and Volunteer Corps do not tender in their military capacity, though they may in whole or in part in their civil capacities.
- (2 and 4.) The matter will receive attention.
- (3.) A concession is allowed to military bodies in uniform, and it is assumed the military bands referred to obtain the advantage of this rate.

(9.) Return of Troops to New South Wales and New Zealand:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has he noticed a cable in the Press to the effect that troops in South Africa from New Zealand will be afforded opportunities for returning to that Colony before Christmas; and, if so, will he inform this House what steps (if any) have been taken in the direction of enabling New South Wales troops to pursue a similar course?
- (2.) Seeing that one of the reasons urged as to why troops should be sent to South Africa from New South Wales was that the experience they would there derive would be invaluable to the Colony on their return, will he take such steps as will render it impossible for the members of any of the New South Wales Contingent to be disbanded in South Africa?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I have communicated with the Military Authorities in South Africa, asking that as many as possible of the New South Wales Troops be permitted to return to Sydney by 1st of January next, to take part in the Commonwealth Celebrations.
- (2.) I have informed the Secretary of State for the Colonies that this Government is entirely opposed to the offering of special inducements to members of its Contingents to settle in South Africa, and asked that instructions may be issued that New South Wales Troops are not to be disbanded until their return to Sydney.

(10.) Regulations under the Government Railways Act:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Having in view the opinions expressed by the Full Court in the case *Searle versus Railway Commissioners*, "that the regulations dealing with employees' wages are not regulations under the "Railway Act," will he, as Minister for Railways, see that a new set of regulations are framed consistent with the letter and spirit of the Act?
- (2.) If the present Act does not give sufficient power in this direction, will he bring in an amending Railway Act this Session, to prevent the disorganisation of the Railway Service owing to these regulations being *ultra vires*?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) I have no power to make regulations dealing with the conditions of employment in the Railway Service, and the Commissioners assure me that the existing conditions, which are of a more liberal character than exist on any other railways, fully meet the requirements of the Railway Act.
- (2.) It is believed that the Railway Service was never more efficient or contented than it is at the present time.

(11.) Purchase of Steel Rails:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has the Government yet signed any contract or agreement for, or in any way pledged this Colony to, the purchase of a large quantity of steel rails from a local firm or syndicate?
- (2.) What is the estimated total amount of such purchase?
- (3.) What is the precise nature of such contract or agreement?
- (4.) What are the names of the parties or firms with whom such contract or agreement has been entered into?
- (5.) Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of the House copies of all contracts, agreements, correspondence, minutes, and other documents relating to the above transaction?
- (6.) Have any public tenders been called for the supply of these steel rails?

Sir William Lyne answered,—An offer has been made by the Blythe River Iron Mines (Limited) which, under certain conditions, will be approved, but no contract has yet been signed whereby the Government guarantees, in the event of the syndicate erecting the necessary smelting and rolling mills within a period of two years from the signing of the contract, and depositing the sum of £10,000 at the Treasury as a guarantee of *bona-fides*, to take 100,000 tons of rails, extending over a period of about four years, and not less than 25,000 tons in any one year, at a price equal to that quoted in Great Britain, plus steamer freight and expenses incidental to exporting such materials from Great Britain. Public tenders were not invited for the supply of these rails. Copies of the papers will be laid upon the Table if moved for in the usual way.

4. PAPERS:—

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Lambton, under the Nuisances Prevention Act, 1897. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
- (2.) Report of the Commissioner on Sites for the Seat of Government of the Commonwealth. Ordered to be printed.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Return of Teachers holding classifications of 1B, either absolutely or subject to passing the prescribed examination in one or more subjects.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

30th October, 1900.

5. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Spruson presented a Petition from certain residents of Sydney and suburbs, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licenses, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petition received.
6. PROPOSED GOVERNMENT ALIGNMENT OF FLOOD-STREET, LEICHHARDT:—Mr. Hawthorne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Proposed Government alignment of Flood-street, Leichhardt," have leave to sit during the sittings of the House.
Question put and passed.
7. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT:—Mr. Sleath (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That Mr. Hurley be discharged from attendance upon the Select Committee on "Administration of the Military Department," and that Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick be added to the said Committee.
Question put and passed.
8. LIBRARY COMMITTEE:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That leave be given to the Library Committee to sit during the sittings of the House.
Question put and passed.
9. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Printing Committee have leave to sit during the sittings of the House for the remainder of the present Session.
Question put and passed.
10. MINISTERIAL STATEMENT:—Sir William Lyne informed the House that he had received a telegram from Great Britain this afternoon to the effect that the telegram which appeared a few days ago, stating that the troops who were coming out to Australia were to be sent out in order to attend the opening of the first Federal Parliament in Melbourne, was incorrect. One thousand representative troops were coming out to be present at the inaugural ceremony of the Commonwealth on the 1st January next.

11. BRODIE'S ENABLING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. E. M. Clark, 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. Clark, 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 authorise the sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; and for other purposes.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th October, 1900

12. AGRICULTURAL LEASES BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Bennett moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 17.

Noes, 26.

Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. Watkins,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Bennett,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Lees,
Mr. Holman,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. David Davis,	
Mr. Henry Chapman,	
Mr. Moore,	
Dr. Graham,	
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Dacey,	
Mr. Arthur Griffith,	
Mr. Smith,	
Mr. Edden,	

Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Nielsen,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Sponco,
Mr. Millard,	Mr. Cunn,
Mr. J. H. Young,	Mr. Wood,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Lec,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Taylor,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Pyers.
Mr. Hurley,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Byrne,	
Mr. Colten,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Garland.

And so it passed in the negative.

On motion of Mr. Bennett, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

13. PATENTS AND TRADE MARKS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Point of Order:—Mr. Spruson drew Mr. Speaker's attention to clauses 5, 23, and 67, and pointed out that the introduction of the Bill should have been preceded by a Message from the Governor.

Mr. Speaker decided in favour of the objection taken.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, the Order of the Day was discharged.

Ordered, that the Bill be withdrawn.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th October, 1900.

14. COAL-JUMPERS BASKETS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. 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 amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Smith, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
15. TRUCK BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Cook 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. Cook, 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. Cook, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
16. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
 (1.) Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill; second reading.
 (2.) Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
17. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS 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.
 Question put.
 The House divided.
- | Ayes, 15. | | Nocs, 31. |
|---------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Mr. Watkins, | | Dr. Graham, |
| Mr. Cann, | | Mr. J. H. Young, |
| Mr. Meagher, | | Mr. Bruncker, |
| Mr. O'Sullivan, | | Mr. Cook, |
| Mr. Wright, | | Mr. Spruson, |
| Mr. Affleck, | | Mr. Mahony, |
| Mr. Edden, | | Mr. Henry Chapman, |
| Mr. Hawthorne, | | Mr. See, |
| Mr. Gillies, | | Mr. Crick, |
| Mr. Nobbs, | | Mr. Jessep, |
| Mr. Lees, | | Mr. Fegan, |
| Mr. Arthur Griffith, | | Sir William Lyne, |
| Mr. Holman. | | Mr. Macdonald, |
| <i>Tellers,</i> | | Mr. Wood, |
| Mr. Nielsen, | | Mr. Anderson, |
| Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick. | | Mr. Ducey, |
| | | Mr. Pyers, |
| | | Mr. Henry Clarke, |
| | | Mr. Garland, |
| | | Mr. Carroll, |
| | | Mr. Nicholson, |
| | | Mr. Taylor, |
| | | Mr. David Davis, |
| | | Mr. Byrne, |
| | | Mr. Burnes, |
| | | Mr. Hurley, |
| | | Mr. Smith, |
| | | Mr. McFarlane, |
| | | Mr. Cohen. |
| | | <i>Tellers,</i> |
| | | Mr. Law, |
| | | Mr. Cruickshank. |
- 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.
18. COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*changed from*) COMPANIES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Cohen 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. Cohen, 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 and an amended Title.
 On motion of Mr. Cohen, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
19. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
 (1.) Municipal District of Inverell Reduced Area Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading.
 (2.) Tied Houses Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
20. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Meagher moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Mr. Meagher, 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. Meagher, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

30th October, 1900.

21. FIRE INSURANCE POLICIES BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Meagher moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 24.

Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. David Davis.
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Nelson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Smith,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Jessep.
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Henry Chapman,	
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Quinn,	
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Nicholson,	
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Moore,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. Cook,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Watson.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Wilks.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Meagher, 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.

22. PAPER :—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the document—Return of Teachers holding classifications of 1B, either absolutely or subject to passing the prescribed examination in one or more subjects—laid upon the Table this day by Mr. Perry, be printed.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned, at thirteen minutes after Eleven o'clock p.m., until To-morrow at Ten o'clock a.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 66.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 31 OCTOBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Administration of the Forest and Timber Department:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the very serious allegations of incompetency, &c., made at the Forest and Timber Conference, now sitting in Sydney, against forest rangers and other officers charged with the administration of forestry matters in New South Wales?

(2.) Will he cause close inquiry to be made as to the qualifications (if any) possessed by these officers at present occupying positions of the character referred to?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The resolutions of the Timber Conference have not yet been formally presented to me by that body, and I have considered it expedient to wait until they have been placed before me before taking any action. I have noticed remarks that some of the field officers are less experienced in forestry matters than they might be; but their duties have been less in the direction of advising on forestry matters than in checking the infringement of the Timber Regulations which are at present in force.

(2.) Inquiry before Land Board at Dubbo:—Mr. Haynes asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware, with respect to the recent public inquiry before the Land Board at Dubbo, relative to the merits of the different applications for land, that the Chairman of the Board handed the various applications to a private land agent, and that he then permitted the land agent to examine and cross-examine each applicant?

(2.) Will he say on what authority the Chairman acted, and whether it is proposed to allow so extraordinary a proceeding to continue?

(3.) Could not the Department provide a statutory declaration for the applicants, so as to meet the requirements of the public interest?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1 and 2.) I am not aware, but will make inquiry into the matter.

(3.) A statutory declaration has already been provided, a copy of which I append for the Honorable Member's information:—

Declaration by an Applicant for a Settlement Lease.(a) Name in full. I, (a)
(b) Residence. of (b)

do hereby solemnly declare and affirm that I am the applicant for the settlement lease described on the front hereof; that the application is made in good faith; that my sole object in making the application is to obtain a lease of the land, in order that I may hold and use it for my own exclusive benefit, according to law; and that the several answers to the questions in the Schedule hereto are true and correct.

Schedule.

1. What is your occupation?
2. What was the date and the place of your birth?
3. Are you single, married, widower, or widow? If you have been married, state the ages of any children who may be living.
4. Has an application for a homestead selection or settlement lease, or an original conditional purchase, been made by you, and confirmed, or an original homestead lease, and notified as approved—after 1st June, 1895? If so, give particulars. 5.

31st October, 1900.

5. Have you already made any application for Crown lands which has not been dealt with? If so, give particulars.
6. Do you hold from the Crown any land requiring residence at the present time?
7. Are you now, or have you ever been, the owner of any conditional purchases, conditional leases, or lands held in fee simple? If so, give particulars of them.
8. On what dates did you divest yourself of the land which you do not now own?
9. Have you taken part in any ballot for Crown lands? If so, state how many, and give place and date of each.
10. Have you been successful in any previous ballot, and has the Land Board disallowed such application, or have you withdrawn such application?
11. What has been your experience in farming or grazing?
12. What capital, plant, or stock have you that can be utilised for carrying on farming or grazing pursuits?

And I make this solemn declaration as to the matters aforesaid according to the law in this behalf made, and subject to the punishment by law provided by any wilfully false statement in any such declaration.

(Signature of declarant)

(c) A Justice of the Peace, Commissioner of the Supreme Court for taking affidavits, Notary Public, or Land Agent.

Made before me at _____ this
day of _____ 190 .

(c)

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Further Papers respecting the Metropolitan Charities Association.
- (2.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Warren.
- (3.) By-laws of the Borough of Cowra.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. COAL-LUMPERS BASKETS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Smith, read a third time, and *passed*.Mr. Smith then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to fix the size and regulate the weight of baskets used in discharging coal-ships.*"

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 size and regulate the weight of baskets used in discharging coal-ships,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 31st October, 1900.*4. TRUCK BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Cook, read a third time, and *passed*.Mr. Cook then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act 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; and to regulate the service of legal process.*"

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 regulate contracts made with respect to and the payment of wages; to prohibit such payment being made in goods or otherwise than in money; and to regulate the service of legal process,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 31st October, 1900.*5. COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL (*changed from*) COMPANIES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Cohen, read a third time, and *passed*.Mr. Cohen then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Companies Acts of 1874 and 1888.*"

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 Companies Acts of 1874 and 1888,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, including an amendment in the Title, in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 31st October, 1900.*

COMPANIES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 31st October, 1900.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Page 1, Title. Omit "Acts of 1874 and 1888" insert "Act, 1899."

Page 1, clause 1, line 7. Omit "Acts, 1874 and 1888" insert "Act, 1899."

Page 1, clause 1, line 11. Omit "fifty-seven of the Companies Act 1874" insert "fifty-five of the said Act, or in compliance with section fifty-seven of the Companies Act, 1874, thereby repealed."

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

31st October, 1900.

- Page 2, clause 1, line 8. *Add* at end of subclause "and may include in such relief any shares in respect of which the memorandum of association of such company has been signed by any signatory thereto."
- Page 2, clause 1, line 11. *Omit* "thirty-three of the Companies Act, 1874," *insert* "two hundred and thirty-two of the Companies Act, 1899."
- Page 2, clause 1, line 30. *After* "section" *insert* "fifty-five of the Companies Act, 1899, or of section"
- Page 2, clause 1, line 31. *After* "1874" *insert* "as the case may be."
- Page 2, clause 2, line 37. *Omit* "the" second occurring, *insert* "this"
- Page 2, clause 2, lines 39 and 40. *Omit* "thirty-three of the Companies Act, 1874," *insert* "two hundred and thirty-two of the Companies Act, 1899."
- Page 2, clause 3, line 41. *Omit* "Acts" *insert* "Act."
- Page 2, clause 3, line 42. *Omit* "1898" *insert* "1900."
- Page 2, clause 3, line 42. *Omit* "Acts, 1874 and 1888," *insert* "Act, 1899."

Examined,—

J. H. CANN,
Chairman of Committees.

6. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the day*),—on motion of Mr. Meagher, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Meagher then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to regulate the practice of Medicine and Surgery and other matters 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 regulate the practice of Medicine and Surgery and other matters connected therewith,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 31st October, 1900.

7. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Tied Houses Bill, postponed until Thursday, 22nd November.

8. MUNICIPALITIES (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 progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

9. CRIMES BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 138.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to Criminal 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, 31st October, 1900.

10. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Justices Acts Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER:—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the law relating to procedure before Justices, and to appeals from Justices,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 31st October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. See, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

- (2.) Children's Protection Act Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER:—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend and extend the Children's Protection Act, 1892,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 31st October, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

CHILDREN'S

31st October, 1900.

CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL.

*Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 31st October, 1900.*JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 2, clause 3, line 6. *After* "constable" *insert* "or any officer appointed under the Principal Act or this Act"
- Page 2, clause 4, lines 19 and 20. *Omit* "a charge to be made" *insert* "the bringing and disposing of any charge"
- Page 2, clause 4, lines 21 to 23. *Omit* "or until such person has been committed for trial, or dealt with by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction, or the charge against him has been dismissed"
- Page 2, clause 5, line 34. *After* "Court" *insert* "under the provisions of this Act or the Principal Act"
- Page 2, clause 5, line 35. *Before* "Industrial" *insert* "State Children Relief Acts or the"
- Page 2, clause 5, line 36. *After* "child" *insert* "to be boarded out or"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 2. *Omit* "deal with the child" *insert* "order the child to be committed to the control of the State Children Relief Board under the provisions of the State Children Relief Acts or to be dealt with"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

(3.) Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to empower the trustees of certain lands at Dubbo, in the Colony of New South Wales, dedicated and granted for the use of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, to mortgage the said lands and to raise money on mortgage of the said lands; and for other purposes in connection therewith,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 31st October, 1900.W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

11. TREASURY BILLS DEFICIENCY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 139.

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 issue of Treasury Bills to cover the Deficiency Debt up to 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Government House,
Sydney, 30th October, 1900.

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

12. WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Working of the Free Public Library" have leave to make a visit of inspection to the Public Library of New South Wales and its Lending Branch.
Question put and passed.13. DISMISSAL OF MRS. ABRAHAM'S, SHAFTESBURY GIRLS' ASYLUM:—Mr. Holman (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Dismissal of Mrs. Abraham's, Shaftesbury Girls' Asylum," have leave to sit during the sittings of the House.
Question put and passed.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. See moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at nineteen minutes after Eleven o'clock p.m., until To-morrow at Ten o'clock, a.m.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 67.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 1 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Action of Police at Buckkulla Station:—Mr. Spence asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that a mounted constable visited Buckkulla Station, near Inverell, at roll-call on the 16th instant?
(2.) That he stayed there all night, and in the morning visited the men's camp, and, on behalf of the squatter, tried to induce them to accept non-union terms?
(3.) Will he give instructions that in future the police are not to act as Pastoral Union agents, but to hold aloof altogether?

Mr. See answered,—I will presently lay upon the Table copies of police reports which have been received on the subject.

- (2.) Mr. Bucknell, Registrar-General's Department:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for Mr. Dugald Thomson, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) As a consequence of Judge Fitzhardinge's report, made pursuant to Royal Commission, was Mr. Bucknell, of the Registrar-General's Department, suspended from duty by the Colonial Secretary, and called upon to show cause why he should not be dismissed from the Public Service?
(2.) Did not he show conclusively that Judge Fitzhardinge's finding, as regards himself, was not supported either by the evidence taken on commission or by the facts which were afterwards proved by statutory declarations?
(3.) Does it appear by Executive minute that His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, subsequently approved of Mr. Bucknell being reinstated in his former position?
(4.) When the Public Service Board was reorganising the Registrar-General's Office in 1895, did they call upon Mr. Bucknell for any statements or suggestions in regard to the reorganization of the office?
(5.) Was Mr. Bucknell in any way (directly or otherwise) connected with the inquiry or charges upon which Mr. Inch was dismissed?
(6.) Has Mr. Bucknell, in connection with charges made in a recent Parliamentary debate, forwarded to the Registrar-General a request for a public inquiry?

Mr. Wood answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
(2 and 3.) A statement was furnished by Mr. Bucknell, enclosing statutory declarations by Mrs. Du Vernet, Mr. H. Chappell, Mr. D. H. Bucknell (solicitor), and himself, which showed that Mr. Bucknell had not been guilty of any improper conduct, and he was reinstated by the Governor-in-Council in his former position.
(4.) No.
(5.) No.
(6.) Yes.

- (3.) Sites of the proposed Federal Capital:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
When will he afford this House an opportunity of casting a direct vote regarding the respective merits of Yass, Bombala, and Orange, as sites of the proposed Federal Capital?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I cannot positively give definite information just now.

(4.)

1st November, 1900.

- (4.) Regulation of the City Traffic by the Police:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the police officers who are placed on duty at the various street-crossings within the city to regulate the traffic are compelled to continue at their posts for a period of more than five hours without relief?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the very severe strain caused by those officers having to remain in the 6-foot way of the George-street tram-line is having a prejudicial effect mentally and physically upon the men?
 - (3.) Will he make arrangements to have the hours of duty of these officers readjusted, so that the consecutive hours will not exceed four?
 - (4.) Will he substitute for the helmets now worn, particularly by these officers, who have no opportunity of obtaining shelter from the sun's rays, a helmet or cap that will give the necessary degree of protection to the wearer?
- Mr. See answered,—The following answers have been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police:—
- (1 and 3.) The duty roster, as at first arranged on trial, has lately been altered. It will be so fixed as to ensure an equal distribution of the work.
 - (2.) No; they will not be kept continuously on the duty.
 - (4.) This has already been approved.
- (5.) Ashton Magazine Rifle:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is he aware of the fact that competent authorities have declared the superiority of the Ashton magazine rifle over the Lee-Metford and Mauser rifles; and does he know that the inventor is a New South Wales native?
 - (2.) In view of the Colony's need of a large supply of small-arms, and the inability of the War Office to meet the demand for some time, will he instruct the Agent-General to ascertain whether the patentees of the Ashton rifle are able to furnish a supply of same, capable of taking the British Army Regulation cartridges, within a reasonable time, and at what cost?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1.) I am not aware.
 - (2.) The Major-General Commanding the Military Forces states that he cannot recommend the Government to adopt any type of weapon not in the Imperial Service.
- (6.) Travelling Stock Bill, —Tick Bill:—Mr. Lees asked the Secretary for Mines,—What hope he has of passing the Travelling Stock Bill, the Tick Bill, the Bill to replace Rabbits in the Noxious Animals Pest Act, and also the Brands and Stock-stealing Prevention Bill, during the present Session?
- Mr. Fegan answered,—The Bill to replace rabbits in the Stock and Pastures Act has already been passed, and I have every hope that the other Bills mentioned by the Honorable Member, with the exception of the Brands Bill and the Travelling Stock Route Bill, will become law before the Session closes.
- (7.) Control of Theatres:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) What supervision (if any) is exercised over the various theatres and other places of amusement in the city?
 - (2.) Are such places licensed; and, if so, is any restriction placed upon the number of people to be seated, and what means are taken to protect the public from overcrowding?
 - (3.) If such is done, whose duty is it to supervise same, and are there any instances of police or other interference to prevent overcrowding?
 - (4.) Will he, for the protection of the public, cause theatrical and other managers to have posted, in conspicuous places of theatres and places of amusement, the registered number of people each portion of such place is privileged to seat, and otherwise provide for inspection or inquiry to protect against overcrowding?
- Mr. See answered,—This is done by regulations, a copy of which I will presently lay upon the Table.
- (8.) Drivers of the Electric Trams:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Would it not be possible to provide a necessary covering for electric tram drivers for excessive wet weather; and, if so, will the Railway Commissioners inquire into the best means for providing such covering?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed by the Commissioners this matter has had careful consideration, and it is pointed out that the drivers have cover overhead, but risk would be involved in providing screens. The drivers are provided with suitable waterproof clothing.
- (9.) Service between Sydney and the Islands in the Pacific:—Mr. Cohen asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that a contract has been entered into for a monthly service between Sydney and the Islands in the Pacific, and that a subsidy of £1,500 is to be paid for a period of ten years?
 - (2.) Were tenders publicly called for?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This Question ought to be asked of the Postmaster-General, on whose recommendation I dealt with the matter. I can, however, tell the Honorable Member what has been done. Burns, Philp, & Co. had a contract before, but it was an irregular one, and only for a two-months' service. The French Government and the German Government were both making desperate efforts to get the trade of these and other islands, to which Burns, Philp, & Co.'s steamers trade. For an additional subsidy of £1,500 a year, Burns, Philp, & Co. agreed to run a monthly service, which will last for ten years. I conceived that it was in the interests of the Colony that the offer, which is a very cheap one, should be accepted. I know it is an absolutely good arrangement. There is no other firm but Burns, Philp, & Co. trading there, and no other firm can perform the services as cheaply, and, there being reasons why I wanted the thing concluded at once, I accepted the contract.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st November, 1900.

2. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—Mr. F. Clarke presented two Petitions from certain residents of Gladstone and Kinchella, Macleay River, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petitions received.

3. PAPERS:—

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Minute of the Public Service Board and evidence in regard to the suspension of Mr. A. Marshall, Assistant Engineering Surveyor, Department of Navigation. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—

(1.) 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 section 7, Public Trusts Act, 1897.

(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.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Southend, county of Cumberland, for a Public Park at Bulli Pass.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Cancellation of Proclamations, dated 14th and 21st November, 1899, under the Imported Stock Act of 1871.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Borough of North Botany.

(2.) Regulations for issue of Theatrical Licenses.

(3.) Report respecting conduct of Police in connection with shearing at Bukkulla Station.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. CASE OF QUARTERMASTER-SERGEANT TROY:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Case of Quartermaster-Sergeant Troy" have leave to sit during the sittings of the House.
Question put and passed.

5. SHEARERS ACCOMMODATION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Perry, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

BEAUCHAMP,
Governor.

Message No. 140.

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 proper and sufficient accommodation of shearers.

Government House,
Sydney, 26th June, 1900.

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

6. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT:—

- (1.) Mr. Sleath (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Select Committee on "Administration of the Military Department" have leave to make a Special Report.
Question put and passed.

- (2.) Whereupon Mr. Sleath, as Chairman, brought up a Special Report from the Committee, which was read by the Clerk, by direction of Mr. Speaker, as follows:—

The Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, appointed on 26th July, 1900, "to inquire into and report upon the general administration of the Military Department and despatch of troops to South Africa," and to whom was granted, on 15th August, 1900, "leave to sit during the sittings of the House or any adjournment thereof," and on 27th September, 1900, "leave to report its opinions or observations, accompanied with Minutes of Evidence, from time to time," have the honor to report the following resolution:—

"That the Chairman report to the House that Major-General French, after having been duly summoned as a witness before the Committee, and having been duly sworn, refused to answer the following question put to him by the Chairman:—'What is the number of cartridges "possessed by the Colony?"; it having been proved to the Committee that Major-General French had been instructed by the Honorable the Colonial Secretary to answer such question, when put to him by the Chairman, and information on this point having been already given to the House by the Honorable the Colonial Secretary—and the Chairman reports the question to the House, as to whether the said question was a lawful question, which the said Major-General was lawfully compellable to answer."

No. 3 Committee Room,
Legislative Assembly,
31st October, 1900.

RICHARD SLEATH,
Chairman.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sleath then moved, That, in the opinion of this House, the Question referred to in the Special Report, just read by the Clerk, is a "lawful" and proper one, and should be answered by Major-General French.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Hogue moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the word "lawful," and inserting "at the same time the Question is one which this House, having regard to the interests of the country, and the efficiency of the Military Service, considers ought not to be asked," instead thereof.

Question

1st November, 1900.

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

Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, "That the Question be now put."

Question put,—That the Question be now put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 46.

Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Watson,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. W. W. Davis,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Law,
Mr. See,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Phillips,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Cotton,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Hughes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. Bennett,	

Nocs, 25.

Mr. Nobbs,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Garland,
Mr. Storey,	
Mr. Hogue,	
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	
Mr. J. H. Young,	
Mr. Mahony,	
Mr. Bruncker,	
Mr. Price,	
Mr. Morgan,	
Mr. Molesworth,	
Mr. Lees,	
Dr. Graham,	
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Cohen,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Henry Chapman,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Gormly,	

And it appearing by the Tellers' Lists that the number in favour of the motion, being a majority, consisted of "at least forty Members,"—

Question put,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
The House divided.

Ayes, 57.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. Garland,	Mr. Hughes,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Quinn,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. W. W. Davis,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. See,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Watson,
Dr. Graham,	Mr. Perry,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Smith,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Austin Chapman,

Nocs, 14.

Mr. Neild,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Terry,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Byrne,	Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Moore,	Mr. Bruncker,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. McFarlane,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Lees,
Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Cohen,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Gormly,	Mr. Price,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Phillips,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Morgan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Storey,
<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. Meagher,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Moore moved, That the Question be amended by adding the words "if directed by the Minister for Defence to do so."

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

Mr. Thomas moved, "That the Question be now put."

Question put,—That the Question be now put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 45.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Smith,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Taylor,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. See,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Nielsen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Holman,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Quinn,	

Nocs, 28.

Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Lee,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Cohen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Storey,	Mr. Price,
Mr. J. H. Young,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,	
Mr. Bruncker,	
Mr. Mahony,	
Dr. Ross,	
Mr. Molesworth,	
Dr. Graham,	
Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Lees,	
Mr. Cook,	
Mr. Ashton,	
Mr. Nobbs,	
Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. Chanter,	
Mr. Morgan,	
Mr. Miller,	
Mr. Kidd,	
Mr. Henry Clarke,	
Mr. Garland,	

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1st November, 1900.

And it appearing by the Tellers' Lists that the number in favour of the motion, being a majority, consisted of "at least forty Members,"—

Question,—That the words proposed to be added be so added,—put and passed.

Question, as amended, then proposed.

Mr. Haynes moved,—“That the Question be now put.”

Question put,—That the Question be now put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 48.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Edden,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. See,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Hasnall,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Jessop.
Mr. Nielsen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Holman,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Quinn,	
Mr. Cotton,	
Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. Smith,	
Mr. Taylor,	
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Meagher,	

Noes, 26.

Mr. Cook,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Storey,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Molesworth,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Lees,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Wilke,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. F. Clarke.
<i>Tellers</i>
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Miller.

And it appearing by the Tellers' Lists that the number in favour of the motion, being a majority, consisted of "at least forty Members,"—

Question, as amended, put,—That, in the opinion of this House, the Question referred to in the Special Report just read by the Clerk, is a lawful and proper one, and should be answered by Major-General French, if directed by the Minister for Defence to do so,—and voices given,—Mr. Deputy-Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Deputy-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. E. M. Clark and Mr. Miller.

7. SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL:—Mr. Deputy-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 procedure of the Supreme Court*,"—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 November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 1st November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, line 1. Omit "Trials by Judge, without a jury" insert "Common Law Procedure."

Page 2. After clause 8 insert the following new clause:—

Under section one hundred and eighty-eight, section one hundred and ninety-one, and section one hundred and ninety four of the Common Law Procedure Act, 1899, the cause of action shall be deemed to have arisen within the jurisdiction in the case of an action arising out of contract if either—

- (a) the contract was made within the jurisdiction, or
- (b) the breach thereof was made or committed within the jurisdiction wherever the contract was made.

Page 2, line 36. Omit "Originating summons in Equity" insert "Equity procedure"

Page 3, clause 12. Omit sub-sections (2) and (3).

Page 3. After clause 12 insert the following new clauses:—

- (1) The Judges of the Court, or any three of them, may make rules of Court for all or any of the following purposes, that is to say:—
 - (a) For the purpose of abridging or enlarging the time fixed by any statute for the taking of any step in any proceeding in the Court.
 - (b) For the purpose of regulating the manner in which applications to the Court under any statute may be made, and the practice and procedure to be observed upon any such application.
 - (c)

Foreign attachment against absent defendant.

Judges to make rules relating to procedure in the Court generally.

1st November, 1900.

- (c) For the purpose of preventing the filing of pleas for the object of delay, or of striking out such pleas when so filed, or of putting any party who has filed such a plea upon terms as to his defence in respect of any cause of action as to which the writ of summons might be specially endorsed under the twenty-fourth section of the Common Law Procedure Act, 1899.
- (d) For the purpose of providing how costs shall be awarded upon any application under any statute where such statute makes no provision as to how such costs are to be awarded.
- (e) For the purpose of regulating the sittings of the Court and of the Judges thereof sitting in Chambers, and for the distribution among the Judges of the business of the Court.
- (f) And generally for the purpose of regulating the practice and procedure of the Court.

(2) Such rules when so made shall, unless and until disallowed, annulled, or altered, regulate all matters to which they extend, notwithstanding the existence at the passing of this Act of any statutory or other provision inconsistent therewith.

Nothing in any rules of Court to be made under this Act shall affect the mode of giving evidence by the oral examination of witnesses in trials by jury, or the rules of evidence, or the law relating to jurymen or juries.

Non-compliance with any of the rules of Court in the Schedule to this Act, or made under the authority of this Act, shall not render any proceeding void unless the Court or a Judge thereof so directs, but such proceedings may be set aside either wholly or in part as irregular, or amended or otherwise dealt with in such manner and upon such terms (if any) as appear to be just.

All rules of Court made under the powers herein contained shall, immediately after the making thereof, be laid before both Houses of Parliament if then sitting, or if not within ten days of the next sitting thereof; and if either of the said houses, by any resolution passed within thirty days after such rules have been so laid before it, resolves that any such rule or any part thereof ought not to continue in force, then such rule or part shall immediately cease to be binding.

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,
Deputy Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Deputy-Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

8. COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Deputy-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 amend the Companies Acts of 1874 and 1888*," including the amendment in the Title.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 1st November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter after Eleven o'clock p.m., until To-morrow at Ten o'clock a.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 68.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 2 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Proposed Meteorological Station on Mount Canoblas:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he take into consideration, or obtain from the Government Astronomer, an opinion as to the advisability of establishing a meteorological station on Mount Canoblas, in the district of Orange, in the interest of science, and a more reliable compilation of meteorological laws relating to climatology and public health?

Mr. Perry answered,—The Government Astronomer reports that the cost of establishing and maintaining an observation station on Mount Canoblas would be considerable, and that for scientific purposes such a station would be of little use. Its chief advantage would be to determine the fitness of the locality for the purposes of a sanitarium.

(2.) Commonwealth Celebrations:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Archer*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Will he tell the House the names of the Members selected to act on the Decoration Committee?

(2.) Has he made any special arrangements with the Honorable Members of the historic boroughs of Botany, where Captain Cook first landed, and Parramatta, where Governors in the early days resided; and, if not, will he give instructions to the Honorable Members of those districts to have those places thoroughly decorated?

(3.) Will he have a sum of money given to each Municipality to entertain the poor on the occasion of the Federation Carnival?

(4.) Will he make arrangements with the Railway Commissioners to give free access to and from the city for one or two days during the coming carnival, so that the country people and workmen may be enabled to enjoy the sights now being prepared in Sydney by the Government?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) *Mr. W. L. Vernon*, Government Architect; *Mr. E. Du Faur*, President of the National Art Gallery of New South Wales; *Mr. William Lister Lister*, President of the Art Society of New South Wales; *Mr. Sydney Long*, President of the Society of Artists; *Mr. John Barlow*, President of the Institute of Architects of New South Wales; *Mr. Varney Parkes*; and *Mr. F. A. Franklin*.

(2.) I have made no special arrangement with the Parliamentary representatives of Parramatta and Botany for the decoration of those places, as, owing to their proximity to Sydney, the inhabitants will doubtless come in large numbers to see the decorations here. The decoration of Parramatta and Botany is, I think, a matter for local initiative.

(3.) The Government intend to make the entertainment of the poor a feature of the celebrations, but I am unable to promise that a grant will be made to each Municipality.

(4.) Free trains are, I fear, out of the question, but the Railway Commissioners intend providing facilities for country residents desirous of visiting Sydney.

(3.) Property of the Government at Circular Quay:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What portion (if any) of the properties known as Change-alley and adjoining buildings at Circular Quay, let for advertising and other purposes, belong to the Government?

(2.) Are any portions let on lease, or otherwise; if so, for what terms?

(3.) In view of the congested condition of traffic at this point of Circular Quay, owing to the omnibus, tram, and ferry traffic, will he resume, where necessary, the properties referred to for the purpose of removing them and widening the Quay at this portion of it?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No portion of the building known as Change-alley belongs to the Government, but the property adjoining; used for advertising and other purposes, does.

(2.) The property belonging to the Government is let to monthly tenants, with the exception of the weigh-bridge, which is let on lease which will expire on the 14th March, 1901.

(3.) This matter will probably receive consideration.

(4.)

2nd November, 1900.

(4.) Gates on Road from Eugowra to Cookamidgery Station:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) In view of the serious danger arising to teamsters and the travelling public by having to open and shut some six or seven gates, erected by a squatter, on the public road from Eugowra to Cookamidgery Station (some of the gates being only a short distance apart), will he see that instructions are issued to his Department to have these gates and obstructions to traffic to the Railway Station removed forthwith?

(2.) Was his attention drawn, by Dr. Ross and the Eugowra Progress Committee, to the fact that owing to the existence of these gates on this public road several serious accidents have occurred lately, through teamsters and the travelling public having to open and shut these gates?

(3.) Will he, therefore, under the circumstances, see that steps are taken to have these gates removed?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I invite the Honorable Member's attention to my reply of 4th ultimo to his Question on the same subject, and would like to point out that on the 30th ultimo he was asked by letter for the names and addresses of any persons obstructing the road, with a view to their being warned of their legal liability in the matter.

(5.) Gates on Road from Goolagong to Eugowra:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he see that steps are taken to have all the gates that are erected on the road from Goolagong to Eugowra, district of Molong, and which are a great danger to teamsters and the travelling public, and to settlers in taking their produce to market, removed forthwith?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The Department of Lands does not accept the responsibility of keeping roads free from obstructions, but persons who obstruct roads are liable to certain penalties. At present I am awaiting a reply to a letter written to the Honorable Member on the 29th ultimo, asking for the names and addresses of the persons responsible for the obstructions in connection with the road in question, with a view to their being warned of their legal liability.

(6.) Railway Routes, New England Table-land to the North Coast:—Mr. Hurlley, for Mr. Pyers, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) In view of the promises made some time since by him, and his two immediate predecessors, will he withdraw the Grafton to Casino and Glen Innes to Inverell lines from the Business Paper of this House until the route from the North Coast to the New England Table-land has been decided by the Public Works Committee?

(2.) Was there a promise given that no portion of any of said lines should be gone on with until one of the three rival routes, viz., Casino to Tentersfield, Grafton to Glen Innes, Guyra to Goff's Harbour, was decided by the Works Committee?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I would feel obliged if the Honorable Member would produce my promise. I have no recollection of having made one. The nearest approach to such a guarantee was a statement I made on 22nd December to the Honorable Member for the Tweed, who asked for the promise. I then replied that the line advocated by that Honorable Member—a connection between the table-land of New England and the North Coast—would go before the Committee with others, so that the Committee may decide which route shall be adopted. That was not a promise to stay the construction of the Grafton-Casino line, which must some day be constructed as a portion of the North Coast line.

(7.) Horse-ferry Dock and Road of Approach at Dawes Point:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has the horse-ferry dock and road of approach at Dawes Point been completed; and, if so, when?

(2.) What steps (if any) have been taken for the initiation of the service between Dawes and Blue's Point?

(3.) If no steps have been taken, will he at once confer with the Municipal Council of North Sydney and others interested with a view to the immediate running of this very necessary service?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The work was reported as completed on 11th October, and I caused the Treasury to be informed on the 18th idem, as that Department will make the necessary arrangements for initiating the service. The Honorable Member had better, therefore, address himself to the Colonial Treasurer.

(8.) Radius of the Penny Postage System at Rylstone:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Postmaster-General,—

(1.) Was not an application recently made by Rylstone residents, supported by the local Progress Association, with the object of having the penny-postage system extended from that town to post offices within the 13 miles radius, and was not such application refused?

(2.) Have not several similar applications from other country centres of no greater importance been since granted?

(3.) What is the system adopted in the matter of granting or refusing such applications?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) No.

(3.) The practice has been to extend this concession to large centres, the total revenue from which, and from the smaller places within the 13-mile radius thereof, aggregates about £2,500 a year.

2. OLD-AGE PENSIONS:—Mr. Molesworth presented a Petition from the Most Reverend the Archbishop of Sydney, President of the Synod of the Diocese of Sydney, stating that, in view of the severe distress so often consequent on old age, the Synod is of opinion that a well devised system of pensions for the aged should be at once passed by the Parliament, and praying the House to take the premises into its favourable consideration, and grant such relief as it may deem fit.
Petition received.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

2nd November, 1900.

3. PAPERS:—Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—
 (1.) Amended Telegraphic Rates.
 (2.) Amended Telegraphic Rates to Africa and America.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gornly, as Chairman, brought up the Fifteenth Report from the Printing Committee.
5. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Bogan Gate to Bulbodney. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
6. COUNTRY TOWNS WATER AND SEWERAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 further and better provision for and in relation to the water supply, sewerage, and drainage of country towns; 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; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.
 Question put and passed.
7. TREASURY BILLS DEFICIENCY BILL:—Sir William Lyne 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 issue of Treasury Bills, to cover the Deficiency Debt up to the 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
 Question put and passed.
8. SHEARERS ACCOMMODATION BILL:—Mr. Perry 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 for the proper and sufficient accommodation of shearers.
 Question put and passed.
9. COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
10. STAMP DUTIES AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
11. CUSTOMS (SUGAR DRAWBACKS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, and an amended Title.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on Tuesday next.
12. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Culcairn to Germanton*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the line of railway from Culcairn to Germanton, as "recommended" by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Moore moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word "recommended," and inserting the words "reported upon," instead thereof.
 Question proposed,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
 Debate continued.
 Proposed amendment, by leave, withdrawn.
 Original Question then put and passed.

2nd November, 1900.

13. **WIDTH OF TIRES BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 the width of the tires of stage carriages and vehicles constructed to carry loads, and the weight of the loads to be carried on the said vehicles; to provide for painting on such vehicles the names and residences or places of business of the owners, and the weight of the vehicles; and for purposes consequent on or incidental 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 regulate the width of the tires of stage carriages and vehicles constructed to carry loads, and the weight of the loads to be carried on the said vehicles; to provide for painting on such vehicles the names and residences or places of business of the owners, and the weight of the vehicles; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

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

14. **TUCKIAN FLOOD ESCAPE SCHEME BILL:**—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters from the Richmond River; to provide for the payment of certain amounts in respect of the said works; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those 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 sanction the construction of certain works in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters from the Richmond River; to provide for the payment of certain amounts in respect of the said works; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of certain works in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood-waters from the Richmond River; to provide for the payment of certain amounts in respect of the said works; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects*,"—which was read a first time.

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

15. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (Railway from Temora to Wyalong):**—

Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the construction of a line of railway from Temora to Wyalong, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Debate ensued.

The House adjourned, at Five o'clock p.m., until Tuesday next at Ten o'clock a.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 69.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 6 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

ELECTORATE OF URALLA-WALCHA:—Mr. Speaker informed the House that, upon the passing of the resolution of the 2nd October, 1900, declaring the Seat of the late William Henry Burgess Piddington, Esquire, vacant, he had issued a Writ for the election of a Member to serve in the room of Mr. Piddington, and that such Writ had been duly returned, with a certificate endorsed thereon by the Returning Officer of the election of Michael John MacMahon, Esquire, to serve as Member for the Electoral District of Uralla-Walcha.

2. **MEMBER SWORN**:—Michael John MacMahon, 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 Uralla-Walcha.
3. **ASSENT TO BILLS**:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Sydney Corporation (Further Amending) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 141.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Sydney Corporation (Amending) Act, 1900*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

- (2.) Land Tax (Contribution) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 142.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend section 12 of the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

- (3.) Gundagai to Tumut Railway Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 143.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Gundagai to Tumut; 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; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

(4.)

6th November, 1900.

(4.) Coal Mines Regulation Act (Amendment) Bill :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 144.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

(5.) Dentists Bill :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 145.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the registration of dentists qualified to practise in New South Wales,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

(6.) Miners Accident Relief Bill (No. 2) :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 146.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for allowances to persons injured by mining accidents, and the relations of persons killed or injured by such accidents; for that purpose to provide for contributions by owners of mines and persons employed in or about mines, and out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund; and for purposes incidental to or consequent upon those objects,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

(7.) Paton's Settlement Bill :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 147.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise and enable the trustee or trustees for the time being of a certain indenture of settlement bearing date the twenty-second day of November, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, made between Theophilus Paton of the first part, Mary Ann Paton (then Mary Ann Allison) of the second part, and the Reverend John Dunmore Lang and Robert Watson of the third part; and under a certain instrument of transfer under the Real Property Act, dated the fifth day of November, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-four; and under a certain declaration of trust dated the twenty-second day of April, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, under the hands and seals of Henry Elliott and Andrew Kenwick, to obtain payment out of Court of certain money now standing to the credit of the said trust estate in the Supreme Court of New South Wales, in its equitable jurisdiction; and to provide for making certain payments thereof; and for the investment of the balance thereof; and to declare and determine the trusts thereof; and to provide for the ultimate distribution thereof; and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

(8.) Brodie's Enabling Bill :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 148.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the sale, mortgage, and leasing of certain lands and hereditaments settled by John Brodie and Ellen, his wife; and for other purposes,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 5th November, 1900.

4. QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Pilot-boatmen :—*Mr. Mollesworth*, for *Mr. Dick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the pilot-boatmen are compelled to work on the average sixteen hours per day?
- (2.) Are they paid for overtime, or is an allowance of time off granted for excessive hours worked?
- (3.) If not, will he cause arrangements to be made for giving them one or other of the concessions mentioned in Question 2?

(4.)

6th November, 1900.

- (4.) Is it a fact that the customary annual holidays have been withheld; for how long have they been in abeyance, and when will they be resumed?
 (5.) If it be a fact that these men are sweated, will he extend to them the same relief which has been granted not only to other Civil Servants but to shop employees?
 (6.) Are the pilot-boatmen under the jurisdiction of the Public Service Board?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) No, not on the average.
 (2.) Overtime is not paid for, and with the present staff it is impracticable to allow time off.
 (3.) This matter is at present receiving consideration from the Public Service Board.
 (4.) Yes, since 30th May, 1900. The matter is now under consideration.
 (5.) The Department is now being reorganised and graded, and certain recommendations have been made which will, if given effect to, enable the men to receive annual leave of absence and some concession for long hours.
 (6.) Yes.

- (2.) Reduction in Price of Staple Products:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that a large number of industrious leading farmers in the Colony of New South Wales are at the present time anxious to know the cause of the unprecedented fall in the price of wool, wheat, &c., during the present season?
 (2.) Will he therefore endeavour to obtain from the Government Statistician some valid or approximate reasons for this great reduction in the price of our staple products, viz., wool and wheat, &c., in order that some action can be taken to bring the matter under the notice of the Imperial Government?
 (3.) Will the Government give the necessary instructions to have the information furnished by the Government Statistician on this important subject circulated amongst all the farmers' unions throughout the Colony?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The answer which I shall give to the Honorable Member's other somewhat similar Question (No. 11) will apply to these questions also.

- (3.) Holidays to Railway Employees:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Wilson*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the holiday hitherto allowed to fitters and other employees on the Great Northern Railway, in lieu of the Eight-hour holiday, has this year been withdrawn from them?
 (2.) If such be the case, will he endeavour to have this holiday allowed to them with their yearly holidays, as usual?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that a holiday is not granted generally to the Railway Service in connection with "Eight-hour" demonstrations, the concession being limited to the localities where the demonstration has been held, and directions were given by the Commissioners to allow it this year to districts concerned. If anyone has been overlooked, it is suggested the matter be brought under the Railway Commissioners' notice.

- (4.) Transfer of Public Officers to Federal Service:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Austin Chapman*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Referring to the reply furnished to Question No. 23 on 25th July last, will he kindly inform the House what steps he is taking to ensure that a fair proportion of the Officers who will be needed to form the Staffs of the Federal Ministerial Departments shall be selected from amongst the Public Servants of this Colony?
 (2.) Will he make public, as early as possible, the method of procedure which should be adopted by New South Wales Public Servants desirous of offering their Services to the Federal Government?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Commonwealth Arrangements Bill now before the House deals with this matter as far as possible; but nothing definite can be arranged until after the arrival of the Governor-General and the appointment of the Federal Executive, with whom all appointments will rest. Steps will then be taken to see that a fair proportion of the Officers required are taken from this Colony.

- (5.) Engine-drivers, &c., Harden to Narrandera:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that engine drivers, firemen, and guards, working night goods trains Nos. 56 and 91, Junee to Harden and return, also 9A, Junee to Narrandera and 16 up, Narrandera to Junee, are on duty never less than twelve hours, and sometimes as much as fourteen hours at a stretch?
 (2.) Is it a fact that it occurs that some of these men are called upon to work these particular trains three days in succession?
 (3.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House the total hours on duty on each day for each driver, firemen, and guard working these particular trains in the months of August, September, and October of this year?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The information will be prepared, and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, as soon as possible.

- (6.) Electric Trams at Milson's Point:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for *Mr. E. M. Clark*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the electric trams at Milson's Point stop at from 120 to 130 yards from the ferry steamer there?
 (2.) Is it not possible for these trams to stop much closer than at present; and, if not, will a timetable be run to permit of passengers, particularly old people and ladies, having sufficient time to reach the ferry steamer on arrival of tram?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed,—

- (1.) That the distance from the cross-over road to the buffer stops is 84 yards.
 (2.) That to bring trams closer to the ferry would cause difficulty and delay in dealing with a number of trams in a confined terminus, while the necessary shunting would be attended with risk. The trams run frequently, and as far as possible connect with steamers, and the officer-in-charge at Milson's Point has discretion to delay trams or steamers a few minutes if required, to meet emergencies.

(7.)

6th November, 1900.

(7.) Regulation of City Traffic by the Police:—Mr. O'Connor, for Mr. Smith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) In view of the hazardous nature of the duties performed by the police officers engaged regulating the traffic on George-street, Sydney, will he consider the desirability of granting such officers extra remuneration?

(2.) Is he aware that officers performing similar duties in the city of Melbourne receive 1s. 6d. extra per day, in addition to their regular wage?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) This duty has been performed by the police at important street intersections for years past. It is trying, but not particularly hazardous, and police constables will not be permanently employed on such duty. The question of granting additional allowance is, therefore, not one for consideration at present.

(2.) No. I am informed they receive sixpence per diem extra allowance, but are specially selected men, and but seldom changed.

(8.) Meal-time for Tram-guards:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he kindly inform the House when the new regulation recently announced by the Railway Commissioners, in connection with the meal-time to be allowed to tram-guards, will come into force?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that it is necessary to train a number of new men so as to arrange for the relief duty, and this service is now in hand. It is expected that the men running on the electric trams in George-street can be relieved for meals in about a fortnight.

(9.) Report on Anthrax in the Cobar District:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to a telegram appearing in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 1st November, from Cobar, to the effect that one "Mr. Doyle, of Cannonbar, lost a valuable blood stallion, valued at 200 guineas, last week, owing to anthrax, resulting from eating thistles?"

(2.) Will he obtain a report from some competent officer in his Department, as to the real facts of this case, or whether the disease called anthrax, which is so prevalent amongst stock throughout the Colony, can result from eating thistles, as it has been alleged, or from what other cause or source this fatal disease originates?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) No information has been received from any source other than the newspaper paragraph referred to. It is very improbable that anthrax would be communicated from eating thistles.

(2.) Thistles have under certain circumstances, such as hunger and empty stomachs, when taken in quantity caused death, but have not produced anthrax; that disease being caused by the germs, microbes, or bacillus of the disease in the blood of the animal. The presence of the disease can only be positively determined by microscopical examination of the blood. A report will, however, be obtained.

(10.) Free Coinage of Silver:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does the recent unprecedented fall in the price of land, wool, wheat, and other produce not involve a serious and heavy loss upon pastoralists and farmers in the Colony?

(2.) Is it not a fact that Mr. Balfour (leader of the House of Commons), the Chairman of the Bank of England, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce of London, Manchester, and Glasgow, &c., have expressed the opinion that the fall in the price of our colonial staple products, &c., has occurred owing to the overthrow of the "free coinage of silver," seeing that the Colonies are now called upon to pay three bales of wool where one formerly paid a debt, and three bags of wheat where one sufficed?

(3.) Is it not a fact that in consequence of this serious fall in the price of our staple produce, &c., and overthrow of the free coinage of silver, that the Colony loses thereby at least not less than £10 per head of the total population?

(4.) Will the Government, under these circumstances, see that steps are taken to instruct the Government Statistician (Mr. Coghlan) to look into and report on this important matter, in order that the Government can take immediate steps to approach the Imperial Government so as to bring about, if possible, an international settlement that so seriously affects the pastoral and farming interest of this Colony, and which, according to the Governors of the Bank of England, will be favourably considered by the Imperial authorities?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Questions put by the Honorable Member refer to matters of the highest importance, and I will consider if it be possible to have an inquiry made as suggested by him.

(11.) Excise Duties:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the gravity of the situation, is it the intention of the Government to pass into law during the present Session a measure dealing with the excise duties, so as to bring them into conformity with those of the neighbouring Colonies before the establishment of the Commonwealth?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Yes; it is proposed to deal with the matter this Session. As a matter of fact, the Bill is now practically ready for introduction.

(12.) Major Holmes, Water and Sewerage Board:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) *In re* the matter of absence from duty of Major Holmes, Secretary to the Water and Sewerage Board, will he, once and for all, give definite refusal to the proposal that that gentleman should receive payment from the Board for the period during which he was away in South Africa, in addition to his pay as a military officer?

(2.) By whom were Mr. Holmes's duties as Secretary to the Water and Sewerage Board performed during his absence?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I have already given a definite refusal.

(2.) Mr. E. Parker.

(13.)

6th November, 1900.

- (13.) Site for the Federal Capital:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Does he seriously think that New South Wales Parliament or people need be at all exercised in mind for some years to come *re* the question of determining upon a site for the permanent federal capital?
 - (2.) Will he consider whether a direct expression of this Parliament's views on the subject will have any effect whatever in expediting such selection;—will he, before the close of the present Session, set apart a day for the consideration and discussion of Mr. Oliver's report?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) I have no reason to anticipate that the representatives of the other Colonies in the Federal Parliament will act in bad faith in the matter of fixing the site of the federal capital.
 - (2.) I cannot think that the representations which this Parliament will make to the Federal Parliament in the matter will be lightly treated. I am unable at present to fix the date when Mr. Oliver's report will be considered.
- (14.) Land Tax Assessments:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) When is it proposed that the new assessments shall be made in connection with the Land Tax Act?
 - (2.) What is the estimated cost to the Department of such new assessment?
 - (3.) Is he aware of the fact that the Land Tax Bill, as originally introduced, contained a provision whereby owners were expected to make their own assessments, the State being entitled, if land appeared to be very considerably undervalued, to step in and assume possession on payment of owner's own estimated value, with a percentage added?
 - (4.) Will he consider whether much trouble and expense would be saved by the adoption of this system, and that a considerably larger revenue would likewise be derived from the operation of the tax; and would not the proposed Closer Settlement Bill be by this means rendered absolutely unnecessary?
 - (5.) Will he introduce a short amending Bill this Session for the purpose of incorporating this principle in the measure alluded to?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) It is not proposed at the present, or any future time, to make a new general assessment of the whole of the lands of the Colony. Advantage will be taken of the provisions of the Land Tax (Assessment Books) Act, 1900, passed this Session, to assess the Colony gradually, taking one or more districts at a time.
 - (2.) The cost will appear in the form of a permanent addition to the salary expenditure of the Department, and the additional expenditure will be a little over 1 per cent. of the present revenue from land tax.
 - (3.) Yes.
 - (4 and 5.) The system suggested has some advantages, and many disadvantages. It would not enable the Government to dispense with the valuation staff, and there is nothing to show that trouble or expense would be saved, or that a larger revenue would be derived. Under any circumstances the owners would only be asked to furnish unimproved values for land tax purposes, whereas if lands were to be resumed under a Closer Settlement Act, it would be the improved value, and not the unimproved value, which would be required.
- (15.) Senior-constable Quelch:—Mr. W. W. Young, for Mr. Nielsen, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has Senior-constable Quelch been paid any money in connection with the Quelch Royal Commission; if so, how much, and upon what grounds?
- Mr. See answered,—Yes; £52 10s. To cover legal expenses incurred in defending charges made against him.
- (16.) Federal Celebrations—Increments to Public Servants:—Mr. Archer, for Mr. Ferris, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) In view of the coming celebrations of the inauguration of the Australian Commonwealth, will he state what, and how many, days are to be set apart as public holidays?
 - (2.) Also, will he take the necessary steps that will lead to the accrued payments (before the end of the year) of increments now due to Public Servants under the Public Service Regulations?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) I think the holidays will practically last for a week, though, of course, the Banks cannot close all that time on account of the great inconvenience which would be caused.
 - (2.) When the Appropriation Act has been passed, and the necessary funds made available, steps will be at once taken for the payment of the increments due to the various officers.
5. LIQUOR ACT:—Mr. Hogue presented a Petition from certain residents of Glebe, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petition received.
6. EARLY CLOSING ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Archer presented a Petition from certain residents of Burwood, representing that, whilst under the Early Closing Act all shopkeepers are compelled to reduce the hours of labour, those employed in confectioners', fruiterers', and tobacconists' shops have to work on Sundays; and praying that in the Early Closing Act Amendment Bill provision may be made to compel such shops to close on the Sabbath Day.
Petition received.
7. WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL:—Mr. Thomas presented a Petition from the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of New South Wales, praying the House to pass, at an early date, a measure which will extend the franchise to women.
Petition received.

6th November, 1900.

8. PAPER :—Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for a Stormwater Channel at Marrickville. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

9. COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental 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 provide for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th November, 1900.*

10. STAMP DUTIES AMENDMENT BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Stamp Duties Act, 1898.*"

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 Stamp Duties Act, 1898.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th November, 1900.*

11. CUSTOMS (SUGAR DRAWBACKS) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Fegan, read a third time, and *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar.*"

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 for a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th November, 1900.*

12. MUNICIPALITIES (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,—

WEDNESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at five minutes after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 70.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 7 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Pastoral Leases in the Central Division:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) What number of pastoral leases situated in the Central Division have expired within the present year?
- (2.) What are the dates on which each of such leases have terminated?
- (3.) In what Land District are such lands situated, and what is the area in each particular district?
- (4.) What part of such lands is being prepared for settlement, and what area is intended to be offered in each of the districts named?
- (5.) Will he state the area in each district that is intended to have set apart for homestead selections, settlement leases, and improvement leases?
- (6.) When is it intended that such lands will be open for application in each of the districts named?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I am having the information collected, and will forward it to the Honorable Member very shortly.

(2.) Classified and Unclassified Roads, Wagga District:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he lay upon the Table of the House a statement showing the different amounts granted for repairs and maintenance of classified and unclassified roads in the Wagga Roads District for the financial year ending 30th June, 1900, giving the amounts expended and the amounts allowed to lapse?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Yes; if moved for in the usual way.

(3.) Provisional School at Crainbob:—Mr. Gormly asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) On what date did he sanction the construction of a Provisional School at Crainbob?
- (2.) Has the school been erected?
- (3.) If not, what has been the cause of delay?

Mr. Perry answered,—

- (1.) On 4th April last.
- (2.) No.

(3.) Delay has been caused in connection with the selection and securing of the site. This has now been resumed, and a tender for the erection of a school building has been accepted.

(4.) University Examination Fees:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—In cases where students or candidates go up for the Senior and Junior University Examinations, and happen to fail to pass, will he see that some steps are taken to enable those who have failed to pass to again go up for a subsequent examination without having to pay a second fee?

Mr. Perry answered,—I do not think it expedient that candidates who fail at an examination should be permitted to attend a subsequent examination of a similar character without paying an additional fee, inasmuch as the expense of conducting the examination is the same, whether the candidates pass or fail.

(5.) Yambulla Gold-field:—Mr. Kidd, for Mr. Holman, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that extensive leasing concessions are now being granted at Yambulla gold-field, near Eden?
- (2.) Will he consider whether the field can be worked satisfactorily under mining rights?
- (3.) Was not a promise made at the opening of the Wyalong field that all similar fields should be worked by parties working under miners' rights?

Mr.

7th November, 1900.

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) A number of application for gold leases at Yambulla have been lodged, and several have been issued.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) I am not aware that a general promise of the kind was made, but when the field started only miners' rights titles were issued. It is, however, a question whether the Wyalong field would not have been better developed and employed a larger number of miners under the combined leasing and miners' rights systems, had they been in force from the inception of the field. It is the intention of the Department to deal with the Yambulla field in the way in which it is considered will tend best to its development and the employment of labour.

(6.) Road from Bulga Road to West Portland:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—What amount of money was granted last year for expenditure on the road from Bulga Road to West Portland, Hawkesbury District, and what portion of same was expended on such road?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—If the Honorable Member will move for this in the form of a return, it will be supplied.

(7.) Arrears of Conditional Purchasers:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Lands Department are sending out notices to selectors who are in arrears of payment informing them that forfeitures will be enforced unless the arrears are paid up?

(2.) Will he see that no forfeitures are made until the holders have time to harvest and sell their crops?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) The practice of the Department for years past is to remind selectors who are in arrear of the liability of their holdings to forfeiture.

(2.) The Department deals as generously as possible with selectors who are in arrear, and does not enforce forfeiture where there appears to be a possibility of payment being made within a reasonable period. I will give the fullest consideration to the Honorable Member's request.

(8.) Land Exchange at Mickabill and Waroo:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the following telegram appearing in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 6th instant from Forbes, in which it is stated that "the Local Land Board has been sitting since Wednesday taking evidence on the exchange of land applied for by C. S. McPhillamy, who offers 10,303 acres at Mickabill for a similar area on Waroo," and that the Board have recommended that the exchange be granted?

(2.) Is it not a fact that at the inquiry the application for the exchange was strongly opposed by selectors in that locality, who want the land thrown open for selection?

(3.) In view of these conflicting circumstances, will he cause copies of the Board's decision to be laid upon the Table of this House for the information of Honorable Members, and before the Minister gives his final decision in this important matter of land exchange?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I am aware that an exchange proposal in which *Mr. McPhillamy* is interested has been before the Land Board, but the papers have not yet been forwarded to the Lands Department since the case was heard, and I am not aware what evidence was given before the Board. I have no objection to forward a copy of the Board's decision to the Honorable Member or to lay it upon the Table of the House if such a course be deemed expedient.

(9.) Walcha Railway:—*Mr. MacMahon* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When does he propose to submit the Walcha Railway for the consideration of Parliament and the Public Works Committee?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—So soon as the state of public business will permit. The line has been surveyed, and all the necessary reports are to hand.

(10.) Construction of Weirs on the Billabong Creek by the Unemployed:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) The number of unemployed that were employed by the Government and sent to construct three weirs on the Billabong Creek, near Parkes, and the amount of money that was expended in completing the work?

(2.) The number of bridges that were constructed in consequence of the construction of these three weirs, and cost of the same?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—These works are not yet complete; the information, therefore, will be supplied later on.

(11.) Construction of Weir at Nyrang Creek:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it not a fact that for several years past *Dr. Ross* has made application on behalf of the settlers in the locality to have a weir constructed at Nyrang Creek, in the district of Molong, and that the construction of this necessary public work is as far off this day as it was four or five years ago?

(2.) Upon what laws of equity or public grounds can he justify the construction of three weirs on the Billabong Creek, and refuse to carry on similar works at Nyrang Creek?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—When funds are available the work at Nyrang Creek will be attended to.

(12.) Penny Postage Radius at Cudal:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Postmaster-General—

(1.) Did he, some few months back, receive a communication from the Municipal Council of Cudal (sent through *Dr. Ross*) asking that the penny-postage system within the 13-mile radius be extended to Cudal, and was such application refused?

(2.) Is it not a fact that applications of a similar character have since been sent in from other country centres, and their requests granted, viz., to Blayney and several other townships, and why was the application from Cudal refused?

(3.) Are there any rules or regulations by which such applications are refused or granted?

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th November, 1900.

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) Yes, in a few cases. As stated in answer to a similar Question asked by the Honorable Member for Rylstone, on Friday last, the practice is to consider favourably applications from large business centres, the revenue from which, and for places within the 13-mile radius thereof, aggregates about £2,500 per annum, which conditions do not exist in the case of Cudal.

(13.) Garland Receiving Office:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Postmaster-General,—(1.) What is the reason that no definite action has been taken by the Department to bring about some change in the way of redressing the public grievance and irregularities that have occurred at the Garland Receiving Office, and which necessitated *Dr. Ross*, in August last, to move the adjournment of the House to draw attention to this matter?

(2.) Will he, without further delay, see that the matter is taken into immediate consideration, with the view of having the person in charge of this office removed, so that the residents in the locality may be relieved from any further annoyance and inconvenience in being compelled to send and post their correspondence elsewhere, rather than allow them to be tampered with in passing through this office?

Mr. Fegan answered,—The Honorable Member was informed on 19th September that the alleged irregularities in connection with the Garland Receiving Office would be further inquired into by an Inspector when next in the district, and on 20th ultimo the Honorable Member was informed, in reply to a further letter, that the Inspector would probably make the promised inquiry in about two or three weeks from that date. I am informed that the officer will visit the place next week.(14.) Moree Bore Farm:—*Mr. Smith*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Moree Bore farm lands have been leased to the Chairman of the Moree Land Board at 6d. per acre?

(2.) Is it a fact that 10s. per acre can be obtained by other residents of Moree and district?

(3.) Is it a fact that the matter did not come under the consideration of the Board?

(4.) Will he consider whether the Chairman of the Board should be permitted to rent these areas at a lower rental than the Department can obtain?

Mr. Fegan answered,—I think the Honorable Member must refer to certain lands, some of which are held under special lease and some under permissive occupancy by *Mr. A. Thompson*. *Mr. Thompson* is not Chairman of the Moree Land Board, but is a member of that Board, and carries on the business of wool-scourer, &c. The land held under permissive occupancy was put up to lease by public competition, but not sold. A permissive occupancy can be determined at any time. *Mr. Thompson* pays 7s. per acre per annum for the land in his special lease, and 5s. per acre per annum for the land which he holds under permissive occupancy. I may mention that *Mr. Thompson* did not sit as a member of the Board when his own case was before the Board.(15.) Alienation of Land fronting Brisbane Water or Broken Bay:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has any officer of the Department reported upon an application for the alienation of a portion of land fronting Brisbane Water or Broken Bay?

(2.) If so, was the report in favour or against the alienation?

(3.) Will he decline to favourably consider any application for the alienation of any of the fore-shores in the locality in question?

Mr. Fegan answered,—An application has been made by *Mr. R. Davis*, for the Executors of the late *James Cox*, to purchase part of a 100-foot reserve not far from the Woy Woy Railway Station. If this is the case to which the Honorable Member refers, a report was made by the District Surveyor to whom the case has been returned for further information. The case has not yet come before me for decision, but will receive careful consideration when it does.(16.) Criminals in Gaols of the Colony:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Minister for Justice,—

(1.) How many criminals, whose death sentences have been commuted on the ground of insanity, are at present confined in the common gaols of the Colony?

(2.) How many prisoners have committed suicide since the introduction of the system of separate treatment into our gaols, and who are they?

(3.) How many prisoners have mutilated themselves during the same period, and who are they?

(4.) How many prisoners have been carried out of their cells in an unconscious or semi-unconscious state, the result of loss of blood from wounds self-inflicted, during the same season, and who are they?

Mr. Wood answered,—The information desired by the Honorable Member will be obtained as early as possible, and laid upon the Table in due course. It is not, however, considered desirable that the names of any prisoners should be furnished.2. PAPER:—*Mr. O'Sullivan* laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 25th October, 1900,—“Construction of Weir at Nyrang Creek.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for *Mr. Sleath* (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That the Report of the Court of Inquiry upon matters between the Officer Commanding and Major *Waine*, and the administration of the 7th Regiment, generally, together with Minutes of Evidence, &c., laid upon the Table of this House on 24th October, 1900, be referred to the Select Committee now sitting on “Administration of the Military Department.”

Question put and passed.

4. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill postponed until Tuesday next.

7th November, 1900.

5. TREASURY BILLS DEFICIENCY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 authorise the issue of Treasury Bills, to cover the Deficiency Debt up to the 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 authorise the issue of Treasury Bills, to cover the Deficiency Debt up to 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the issue of Treasury Bills, to cover the Deficiency Debt up to the 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects*,"—which was read a first time.

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

6. SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 with amendments.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

7. DUBBO PASTORAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND HORTICULTURAL ASSOCIATION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 149.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to empower the trustees of certain lands at Dubbo, in the Colony of New South Wales, dedicated and granted for the use of the Dubbo Pastoral, Agricultural, and Horticultural Association, to mortgage the said lands, and to raise money on mortgage of the said lands; and for other purposes in connection therewith*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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 November, 1900.

8. REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved without Notice, That the Refreshment Committee have leave to sit during the sittings of the House for the remainder of the present Session.

Question put and passed.

9. MUNICIPALITIES (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 progress, and obtained leave to sit again To-morrow.

10. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Early Closing (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the Early Closing Act, 1899*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 7th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 7th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, lines 27 and 28. *Omit* "and any shop assistant" *insert* "of a shop not being a shop mentioned in Schedule One to the Principal Act"

Page 2, clause 3, line 34. *After* "years" *omit* remainder of clause.

Page 3, clause 4, line 3. *Omit* "pursuance of this Act" *insert* "the same manner as provided in the preceding section for existing country shopping districts." Page

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th November, 1900.

- Page 3, clause 5, line 8. *After* "in" *insert* "Part One of"
- Page 3, clause 5, lines 9 and 10. *Omit* "within the metropolitan area" *insert* "and shops conducted by a proprietor without the assistance of any employee or employees"
- Page 3. *After* clause 5 *insert* the following new clause:—
 "In the case of any shop mentioned in section one of the Principal Act any shopkeeper who has elected to close at one o'clock on Wednesday may keep his shop open till ten o'clock on Friday: Provided that in such case his closing time on Saturday shall be six o'clock"
- Page 3, clause 6, line 14. *After* "any" *insert* "shopping"
- Page 3, clause 7, line 26. *After* "any" *insert* "shopping"
- Page 4, clause 8. At end of clause *add* "in the first line of the said section"
- Page 4, clause 9. *Omit* clause 9.
- Page 4, clause 11. At end of clause *add* "In the case of shop-assistants employed in hairdressers' shops in the metropolitan district, the half-holiday mentioned in subsection two of section nine of the said Act shall be allowed on Wednesday or Saturday of each week, and the closing time on the former day shall be notified as provided for in subsection two of section one of the Principal Act." Holiday for bread carters.
- Page 4. *After* clause 11 *insert* the following new clause:—
 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Principal Act, every baker in the metropolitan area shall give to every person engaged by him as a bread carter, or acting for him in that capacity, one whole day as a holiday, on the third Wednesday in each month: Provided that in the event of any public holiday under the Banks and Bank Holidays Act, 1898, falling in the same week as the third Wednesday in any month, such whole day holiday shall be observed on such public holiday, and not on the third Wednesday,
 And on such third Wednesday in each month, or on such public holiday, as the case may be, no bread shall be delivered by cart to a customer by any person engaged by a baker in the metropolitan area.
- Page 4, clause 12, line 38. *After* "month" first occurring *insert* "of his employment"
- Page 5, clause 15, lines 36 to 39. *Omit* "the definition of 'close' in section twenty-one of the Principal Act is hereby repealed, and the following definition is hereby substituted therefor:—
 "'Close' means closed against the admission of the Public"
- Page 5, clause 15, line 40. *Omit* "also"
- Page 6, clause 16, line 6. *After* "of" *insert* "ventilation or of"
- Page 6, clause 16. At end of clause *add* "or, in the case of a retail butcher, persons entering or leaving only in connection with the delivery of meat to the shop of such butcher"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHREY,

Deputy-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.) Pacific Cable Enabling Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of the construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 7th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
 President.

(3.) Money-lenders and Infants Loans Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to regulate the business of money-lenders, and to render penal the inciting infants to borrowing money,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
 Sydney, 7th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
 Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Hawthorne, for Dr. Graham, read a first time.

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

11. SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 procedure of the Supreme Court,*"—but proposes to amend the new clause to follow clause 12, by omitting paragraph (a); by omitting from paragraph (c) the words "preventing the filing of pleas for the object of delay, or of striking out such pleas when so filed, or of putting any party who has filed such a plea upon terms as to his defence in respect of any cause of action as to which the writ of summons might be," and inserting the words "providing for the verification on oath of all pleas filed in actions arising under a writ," instead thereof; by omitting paragraph (d); and by omitting subsection (2), in which amendments the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 7th November, 1900.

The House adjourned, at twenty-two minutes after Eleven o'clock p.m., until To-morrow at Ten o'clock a.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
 Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 71.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 8 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Pillaging on Government Wharfs:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been called to the extensive pillaging now so prevalent in connection with the landing of merchandise at the different Government wharfs, notably Cowper's Wharf, Woolloomooloo, in many cases so serious that the consignees are robbed of half the contents of their packages?

(2.) Have any of the shipping companies complained to the authorities of the serious want of proper protection on these wharfs at night-time?

(3.) Is it a fact that one shipping company complained to the authorities, insisting upon the Government's responsibility in this matter, and that the officer in charge of these wharfs has repudiated any responsibility on the part of the Government?

(4.) Is it a fact that the officers of one of the shipping companies called the attention of the Government officer in charge to a number of suspicious-looking persons prowling about on the wharfs towards evening, and when requested by such officers to have these men removed, the Government officer stated that he had no power to remove them, with the result that these suspicious-looking persons are allowed to prowl about the wharfs after the work of discharging had ceased?

(5.) Is he aware that it is generally believed that the pillaging occurs in Sydney, from the fact that loose goods are frequently seen packed between the different stacks of cases on the wharfs, evidently awaiting an opportunity for them to be taken away?

(6.) In view of the serious loss, inconvenience, and annoyance that the mercantile community are put to owing to disputes which occur (through this pillaging) between shipping companies and consignees, often amounting to a repudiation of a just claim, will he be good enough, as a matter of common justice to the persons interested, to cause regulations to be framed which will prevent for the future the wholesale pillage of merchandise at the different wharfs, thus saving this serious loss to importers generally?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The attention of the Manager of public wharfs has been drawn to the fact that lately a few packages of goods landed on the public wharfs have been broken open and a portion of their contents stolen.

(2.) One shipping company has complained.

(3.) Yes; one shipping company attempted to throw responsibility on the Government in regard to this matter, but it was not accepted. The Government never have accepted, and could not accept, such responsibility, and no attempt has ever been made to throw it upon them, excepting by the company referred to.

(4.) Yes; the Wharfinger at Cowper Wharf was on one occasion asked to have some men who were on the wharf removed, but as these men were not breaking the law no steps for their removal could be taken. It has always been recognised that, except on very special occasions, the public should have free access to all public wharfs.

(5.) No.

(6.) The small amount of pillage which occurs can be prevented by the agents of ships putting on watchmen to protect their cargo, a course which is followed by experienced shipping firms.

(2.)

8th November, 1900.

- (2.) Water Channel from Crooked Creek to Lake Albert:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What decision has he arrived at in regard to the proposal to cut a water channel from Crooked Creek to Lake Albert?
 - (2.) Does he intend to have the work carried out under the conditions of one of the tenders received, and, if not, will he lay the papers in connection with the proposal upon the Table of the House?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Instructions have been given to accept the lowest tender received at once, and proceed with the work.
- (3.) Police Officers engaged in Quarantine Duties:—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. Holman, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that special allowances made to police officers engaged in quarantine duties have not yet been paid?
 - (2.) If so, will he undertake that payment shall be made immediately?
- Mr. Sec answered,—This allowance will be paid when the Appropriation Act has been passed.
- (4.) Federal Demonstration Committee:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has the Federal Demonstration Committee been yet appointed; if not, when will they be, and where will be their head-quarters or office?
 - (2.) Will he give the names of those composing the above committee, and the instructions which have been issued to them as to their duties?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The committee has not yet been appointed. Inquiries are, however, now being made among the gentlemen whose services it is desired to secure, with a view of ascertaining whether they will accept seats on the committee.
- (5.) Establishment of a Crematorium:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- When does he propose to make the requisite grant of £5,000 for the establishment of a crematorium within the metropolitan area?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I decided some months ago that a sum of money for the establishment of crematoria could not be placed upon the Estimates.
- (6.) Special Grant for Road to the Canoblas:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of his recent visit with a Parliamentary party to Orange and Mount Canoblas (4,500 feet above sea-level), one of the proposed sites for the Federal capital, will he see that some steps are taken to have placed at the disposal of the Orange Municipal Council a special grant for the purpose of having the road to the Canoblas made more attractive and passable for tourists, so that our magnificent mountain scenery and unequalled health resorts and beauty spots may become more widely and popularly known throughout Australia?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—A report by telegraph has been called for from the local officer of the Roads Department at Orange in regard to the state of the road to which the Honorable Member refers.
- (7.) Brain of Joe Governor, Aboriginal Murderer:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact, as reported in the *Daily Telegraph* of the 6th instant, that the "brain and top of the skull" of Joe Governor (one of the Bree-long murderers) has been forwarded to Sydney for the information of University students; if so, at whose request and by whose authority was the application granted?
 - (2.) What pathological, physiocological, or scientific object is to be gained by such a proceeding, unless for some latent morbid curiosity?
 - (3.) Is it not a fact that the medical profession some few years back made an application to the Victorian Government for the brain of the notorious murderer "Deeming" after the execution, which the Government then in office and power refused to comply with?
 - (4.) Under these circumstances, why should a similar proceeding be granted by the Government of New South Wales?
 - (5.) If the proposed examination (or alleged anatomy) of the brain of notorious murderers after death will disclose any reliable facts in connection with the perpetration of the diabolical crime of murder, will the Government, on similar pathological, physiocological, and scientific grounds, cause the brain of drunkards, suicides, and criminals of all kinds to be examined after death for the benefit, not of medical students alone, but the general public?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—This Question was answered yesterday by my honorable colleague the Chief Secretary.
- (8.) Sub-boards of the Public Service Board:—*Mr. Carroll*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has the practice, at one time largely resorted to by the Public Service Board, of appointing Sub-Committees or Sub-Boards to interview officers stationed in the Metropolitan area, and inquire into their qualifications, duties, &c., been declared by the Attorney-General to be illegal?
 - (2.) Has such practice been discontinued?
- Mr. Sec answered,—
- (1.) The Attorney-General has expressed the opinion that the Public Service Act does not authorise the appointment by the Public Service Board of Sub-Boards to perform the duties indicated.
 - (2.) The Public Service Board have not recently appointed any Sub-Boards for the purposes indicated.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th November, 1900.

- (9.) Costs in Case under Early Closing Act:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is he aware that in a recent case a shopkeeper, being proceeded against under the Early Closing Act, and the case being dismissed, was mulcted in costs?
 - (2.) Will he alter this method of procedure, and, in cases where no conviction is obtained, see that his Department pays the costs?
- Mr. Perry* answered,—
- (1.) No. There must be some misapprehension in this case. Such a course is never taken. It is only in the event of a conviction that the defendant is cast in costs.
 - (2.) Answered by No. 1.
- (10.) Access to Patients in Vegetable Creek Hospital:—*Mr. Kidd*, for *Mr. Quinn*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has his attention been called to the fact that the Committee of the Vegetable Creek Hospital refuse to allow *Dr. C. MacCarthy*, a local duly-qualified medical officer, access to his patients in the hospital on account of the hostility of the medical officer attached to the hospital—*Dr. Shaw*—with the result that in cases of consultation a doctor 26 miles away is called in at considerable expense, and to the obvious peril of the patient, particularly at times when the road between the two doctors is more or less impassable on account of the weather?
 - (2.) In the interests of the hospital and of patients in critical cases where consultation is necessary, will he inquire into this local feud, and if the embargo on the second duly-qualified medical officer, *Dr. MacCarthy*, is not removed, will he withhold the Government subsidy this year?
- Mr. See* answered,—This is a matter in which the Government cannot interfere, as section XI of the Public Hospitals Act, 1898, places the whole power of appointments in the hands of the Committee of Management of the Hospital.
- (11.) Aboriginal Children refused Admission to Public School at Collarendabri:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for *Mr. Chanter*, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Were six aboriginal children refused admission to the Public School at Collarendabri?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the Board for the protection of Aborigines had arranged that these children should be properly clothed and sent to school in a cleanly condition?
 - (3.) Is he aware that it is not practical to send these children to any other school?
 - (4.) Is he aware that aboriginal children in many other parts of the Colony attend the Public Schools, and no complaint whatever is made against them, as they are properly clothed and in a cleanly condition?
 - (5.) Does he intend to adhere to his decision not to allow these children to attend the school?
 - (6.) If so, will he, in the interests of morality and justice, make separate provision for them, in order that they may be taught to become reputable citizens in the future?
- Mr. Perry* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) Yes.
 - (3.) The Inspector of Schools in recommending the exclusion of the children, as requested by parents, suggested that the aboriginals in question be removed to the Gulargambone and Brewarrina Aboriginal Stations, where special schools for black children are in existence.
 - (4.) Wherever the parents have objected to the admission of aboriginal children they have been excluded.
 - (5.) Yes, in view of parents' objections.
 - (6.) Any application for the establishment of an aboriginal school at Collarendabri will be considered on its merits.
- (12.) Claim of *J. L. Davidson*:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Has he received a letter from Messrs. Williams and Wilson, solicitors, in reference to the claim of *J. L. Davidson* for damages to his property by reason of the close proximity of Paddington Police Station?
 - (2.) If so, and in view of the Select Committee's report recommending *Mr. Davidson's* claim to the favourable consideration of the Government, will he now say what action he proposes to take?
- Mr. See* answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) More pressing business has prevented consideration being given to the matter.
- (13.) Proposed Mooki Springs Exchange:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has his attention been directed to the evidence of *Mr. Hall*, surveyor, given in connection with the proposed Mooki Springs exchange, in which he stated that if such exchange were granted "it would preclude *Tanner* (an objecting selector) from increasing his holding"?
 - (2.) Is he aware of the fact that *Tanner* had made application for portion of this Crown land proposed to be exchanged?
 - (3.) Does he know that, in spite of this evidence, the exchange has been recommended, and will he give special attention to the matter before agreeing to adopt the Board's recommendation?
- Mr. Fegan* answered,—The report of the Local Land Board has not been received, but when it comes to hand special consideration will be given to the matter referred to by the Honorable Member.
- (14.) Allegation made against Officer of the District Court:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for *Mr. Garland*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has he caused inquiries to be made into the allegation made during the debate on the Estimates, "that an officer of the District Court very cleverly bought up all the copies of the "*Government Gazette* containing the rules of the Court, and thus compelled the public to buy a "book containing these rules, as edited by him?"
- (2.)

8th November, 1900.

- (2.) Is such statement correct?
 (3.) Does any officer of the District Court make any profit from the sale of any book containing the District Court rules?

Mr. Wood answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) No. The allegation is absolutely without foundation. I will presently lay on the Table a copy of a report I have obtained from the Registrar of the District Court on the subject
 (3.) No. Any profit goes to the Treasury.

(15.) Holidays to Maintenance Men :—Mr. Nobbs asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has he considered the question of granting twenty-one days' leave of absence per annum to maintenance men employed on the public roads of the Colony, as promised some two months ago?
 (2.) What decision has he arrived at in connection with the matter?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Some months ago I gave orders that the maintenance men all over New South Wales should receive one week's leave every year, and be paid for all holidays, including Christmas and Good Friday, and they are now enjoying these concessions. I cannot see my way to do more at present.

(16.) Police Superannuation Fund :—Mr. Nobbs asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Does the Government intend, during the present Session, to introduce a Bill to regulate the Police Superannuation Fund, as promised in July last?
 (2.) If not, when do the Government intend to bring such a Bill before Parliament?

Mr. See answered,—I am afraid the pressure of public business will prevent me from doing this. It is very easy to ask Questions of this kind, but it is a much more difficult thing to carry them out. I am as anxious as any Honorable Member that the Police Superannuation Fund should be put in proper order. I am already making inquiries with that view, and as soon as it is possible to deal with the matter it will be dealt with.

2. PAPERS :—

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—Amended Regulation No. 35, under the Crown Lands Acts.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Report of Registrar of the District Court, Sydney, respecting certain statements made by Mr. B. B. O'Connor, M.P., in the Legislative Assembly on 17th October, 1900, *re* purchase of copies of *Government Gazette* containing District Court Rules.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order, made on 25th October, 1900,—“Use of the Grose, Colo, and Warragamba Rivers to generate Electric Power.”
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. NON-RESIDENTIAL CONDITIONAL PURCHASES (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. FitzGerald moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—

- (1.) The number of non-residential conditional purchases taken up since the passing of the Land Act of 1885.
 (2.) The Land Districts in which they are severally situated.
 (3.) The names of the present holders of such conditional purchases the conditions of which are yet unfulfilled.
 Question put and passed.

4. POSTPONEMENT :—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Juvenile Smoking Suppression Bill postponed until Tuesday next.

5. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Narrabri, Mr. 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 action of the Railway Commissioners in refusing to receive a deputation from the inhabitants to protest against the withdrawal of the running of passenger trains into Narrabri West Station.”
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

6. OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Debate ensued.

Motion for the adjournment of the Debate, by leave, withdrawn.

Original Question again proposed.

Debate continued.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

8th November, 1900.

7. NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Deputy-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 Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 8th November, 1900.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 8th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, line 7. *After "classed" insert "in class 2 of Division (D) and"*
Page 2, clause 4. *At end of clause add "General Rule 12 of the said Schedule shall not apply to
"such steamships."*

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Deputy-Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

8. SUPREME COURT PROCEDURE BILL:—Mr. Deputy-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 7th November, 1900, in reference to the Supreme Court Procedure Bill,—agrees to the Assembly's amendments upon the Council's amendments in this Bill.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 8th November, 1900.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

The House adjourned, at Eleven o'clock p.m., until To-morrow at Ten o'clock a.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 72.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 9 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Bread supplied to Government Institutions:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What are the names of the contractors who are supplying bread to the following institutions:—Darlinghurst Gaol, Goulburn Gaol, Parramatta Gaol, Callan Park, and Gladesville Hospitals, Coast Hospital, Victoria Barracks, "Sobraon," Randwick Reformatory, Biloela Gaol?
- (2.) Do such contractors comply with the regulations issued to govern the supply of bread to Government Institutions?
- (3.) Will he have the regulations strictly enforced?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) Darlinghurst Gaol, Mr. George Carrie; Goulburn Gaol, Mr. Alfred H. Line; Parramatta Gaol, Mr. J. Downey; Callan Park Hospital, Mr. G. Carrie; Gladesville Hospital, Messrs. Butler and McKye; Coast Hospital, Mr. W. A. Marlow; Victoria Barracks: Bread for troops, Messrs. Butler and McKye—Garrison Hospital, Mr. John Conlon; N.S.S. "Sobraon," Mr. John Conlon; Randwick Reformatory, Mr. William White; Biloela Gaol, Mr. John Conlon.
- (2 and 3.) I will refer these Questions to the Department of Labour and Industry, and communicate with the Honorable Member again.
- (2.) Railway Refreshment-rooms:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- Will he urge the Railway Commissioners to take steps in the direction of ceasing to lease railway refreshment-rooms when the periods for which they are at present held expire; and will he suggest that, in the interests of the travelling public, said refreshment-rooms be in future conducted and managed by the Commissioners themselves?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the rule is to invite tenders publicly for the leasing of the refreshment-rooms, and the leases are being continued under the existing holders for a year under exceptional circumstances. The Commissioners have under consideration the question of conducting the refreshment-rooms under their own control.
- (3.) Commonwealth Celebrations:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Having in view the statement of the Prime Minister that £20,000 is to be expended on the Commonwealth Celebrations, will he give instructions that a share of this amount be given to each country municipality?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The whole of the sum of £20,000 to which the Honorable Member refers will be required to meet the cost of the demonstration in Sydney, where the Governor-General will land, and where, obviously, the principal demonstration must be made.
- (4.) Pursuit of the Breelong Blacks:—Mr. Richards asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Will he call for the names of all civilians known to the Police authorities to have persevered in the hunt for the Governors?
- (2.) The names of civilians who can furnish proof, independent of Police knowledge, that they have devoted time and money in pursuing the Governors?
- (3.) In the case of the civilian Shaw, who arrested the aboriginal murderer, Jacky Underwood, now under sentence of death, also of civilians Byers and Wood, will he refer consideration of their respective claims for reward, and all claims by civilians, to a Commission?
- Mr. See answered,—
- (1 and 2.) Endeavours will be made to obtain this information.
- (3.) Rewards have been authorised to Mr. Shaw and others who assisted to capture Underwood. Messrs. Byers and Woods' application, and all others, will receive careful consideration.

(5.)

9th November, 1900.

(5.) Leichhardt to Abbotsford Tramway:—Mr. W. W. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the motors running on the line from Leichhardt to Abbotsford are run without a fireman, having sometimes as many as three cars on?
- (2.) Is it a fact that in July last the Commissioners for Railways issued a circular to gangers and fatters, stating that, from the date mentioned, gangers' wages should not exceed 8s. 6d. per day?
- (3.) Is he aware that the standard rate was 9s.?
- (4.) Did the Governor in Council approve of or sign such circular?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

The Railway Commissioners supply the following information:—

(1.) Yes.

(2, 3, and 4.) What is probably referred to is a circular from the Engineer-in-Chief for Existing Lines intimating that applications for increases could not be entertained, but it was only intended to cover the consideration of increases for the current half-year, such questions being considered half-yearly. The Commissioners some days ago gave directions for the resubmission of the matter, and increases to the maximum rate are to be considered next month for the coming half-year.

(6.) Crown Lands held by Mr. Faulkner:—*Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Does a Mr. Faulkner hold a lease of 38,211 acres of Crown lands on Moira, in the Deniliquin district, and 20,000 acres on Perricoota for an annual payment of £378 and £146, respectively?
- (2.) If so, and seeing that it is flooded country on which there is a good deal of feed in summer time, will he consider the advisableness of cutting up those areas into, say, blocks of 2,000 acres each, so that selectors in the districts named may have an opportunity of securing this summer country for their stock?

Mr. Hassall answered,—Messrs. J. S. Faulkner & Sons hold 38,211 acres, comprising the Moira Resumed Area and late Leasehold Area, at a rental of £379 10s. 3d. (Occupation License and Preferential Occupation License Fees) for the current year. The Australian Mutual Provident Society are the registered holders of Perricoota Resumed Area, comprising 20,053 acres, at a rental of £146 4s. 5d. (Occupation License Fee) for the current year. Almost the whole of the above areas are comprised within forest reserves on the Murray River frontages. These reserves are barred from conditional sale and conditional lease under the Crown Lands Acts. The reserves are valuable on account of the timber they contain, and unless the reserves were cancelled (a course which would not recommend itself) the land could not be made for selection. The question whether it would be possible and expedient to make the land available for settlement lease will, however, be considered.

2. LIQUOR ACT:—*Mr. Hawthorne*, for Mr. Millard, presented a Petition from certain residents of Moruya and District, praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing.
Petition received.
3. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the second reading of the Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill postponed until Tuesday next.
4. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—King Division, Mr. Reid, 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 conduct of Ministers with reference to the election at Ashfield.”
And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and negatived.
5. COMPANIES ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
FREDK. M. DARLEY, *Message No. 150.*
Lieutenant-Governor.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend the Companies Act, 1899*,”—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 9th November, 1900.*

6. WOMEN'S FRANCHISE BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 extend the Parliamentary franchise to women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental 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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

9th November, 1900.

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 extend the Parliamentary franchise to women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to extend the Parliamentary Franchise to Women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto*,"—which was read a first time.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at Five o'clock p.m., until Tuesday next at Four o'clock.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

WILLIAM McCOURT,

Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 73.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 13 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

ELECTORATE OF ASHFIELD:—Mr. Speaker informed the House that, upon the passing of the resolution of the 30th October, 1900, declaring the Seat of the Honorable Bernhard Ringrose Wise, Q.C., vacant, he had issued a Writ for the election of a Member to serve in the room of Mr. Wise, and that such Writ had been duly returned, with a certificate endorsed thereon by the Returning Officer of the election of Frederick Earle Winchcombe, to serve as Member for the Electoral District of Ashfield.

2. **DEATH OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG AND GOHA:**—Mr. Speaker reported that he had received from the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor the following letter:—

C.O., 00-111.

Government House, Sydney, 9th November, 1900.

Sir,

With reference to previous correspondence, I have now the honor, by direction of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor, to state that a despatch has been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, intimating that Her Majesty has commanded that Her most cordial thanks are to be conveyed to the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales for the kind expressions of condolence forwarded on the occasion of the death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient Servant,

H. M. COCKSHOTT,

Private Secretary.

The Honorable the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

3. **CULCAIRN TO GERMANTON RAILWAY BILL:**—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 151.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 6th November, 1900.

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

4. **QUESTIONS:**—

(1.) **Permanent Officers in South Africa:**—*Mr. Neild*, for Mr. Morgan, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to allow those officers on the Permanent Staff who are away in South Africa to resume their positions when they return?

Sir William Lyne answered,—In so far as the power of the Government extends, each case will be dealt with upon its merits.

(2.)

13th November, 1900.

- (2.) Hearing of Appeals by the Full Court:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is he aware that general complaint is made by litigants to the effect that great delay is occurring in connection with the hearing of appeals by the Full Court, mainly because of the circumstance that of late a very considerable portion of the time of the Judges has been occupied in dealing with "*In re Gent one*" matters brought before them?
 - (2.) Will he consider whether, if any section of the community is to be inconvenienced, it should rather be these legal gentlemen who have come under the ban of the Law Institute than legitimate litigants who are awaiting the hearing of appeals, &c., by the Full Court?
 - (3.) Will he see that such steps are taken as will enable Full Court appeals, &c., to be dealt with in a much more expeditious manner than has been the case during the present and past Terms?
- Mr. Wood answered,—The following replies have been supplied by the Attorney-General:—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) Answered by No. 1.
 - (3.) I am not aware that any delays have occurred. As a matter of fact, the appeal work is more forward than it has been for years, and last Term the list was all but clear.
- (3.) Moree Bore Farm:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. Arthur Griffith, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) With reference to his reply to the Question asked by Mr. Hughes on 7th November, will he, in view of the great demand for land in the locality, consider the advisability of offering for public competition on annual lease the fourteen blocks at the Moree Bore now held by Mr. A. Thompson under a permissive occupancy at 5s. per acre?
 - (2.) With reference to the 2,500 acres of land at Wallow Bore held under special lease by Mr. A. Thompson, will he consider the advisability of resuming this area, with a view to throwing same open under settlement lease?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—
- (1.) A report has just come to hand in which it is pointed out that the land has been offered several times, and in which a recommendation is made that the lands should be offered to special lease under altered conditions.
 - (2.) I have no objection to a report being obtained, but as the Land Board, after an inquiry in open Court, recommended the granting of Mr. Thompson's application for a special lease, good reasons would necessarily have to be adduced before the present occupant could be disturbed. The lessee is bound by conditions which include the fencing of the whole of the land, and the clearing and cultivation of a proportion of it.
- (4.) Sydney Shipping Office:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the staff of the Sydney Shipping Office is unable to perform the work required to be done in the office?
 - (2.) Will he have additional clerical assistance appointed, so that the seamen of the port can have their interests properly and efficiently attended to?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the staff of the Shipping Master's Office is quite equal to the work devolving upon it.
- (5.) Lachlan Gold-mining Company, Forbes:—Mr. Smith asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Is he aware that the workmen employed by the Lachlan Gold-mining Company, Forbes, are compelled to work upon Sunday?
 - (2.) Will he take steps to have the practice discontinued?
- Mr. Pegan answered,—I am informed that the men are not compelled to work on Sunday, but that twelve of them have worked on Sundays of their own free will. The manager states that in future three men will be engaged, one on each shift, pumping the mine to keep the water down, so that the other men can start work on the Monday; three others, one on each shift, have to be kept on to watch the battery. On Sunday last twelve men were working to get a shaft down to open up a new level, the present level being worked out. If the shaft were not sunk the mine, it is stated, would have to stop working, and the other men would have been thrown idle. I shall, however, cause further inquiry to be made as to whether the work done on Sunday at this mine is an actual necessity.
- (6.) Balmain Tramline:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he urge the Railway Commissioners to expedite the work of duplicating the Balmain tramline, with a view to opening the same, and affording Balmain's 30,000 people a five or ten minutes service, in time for the Commonwealth Demonstrations?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I have consulted the Railway Commissioners, who regret that the duplication cannot be completed in time for the celebrations. Extensive work is to be done, and it has been delayed by the late arrival of rails and difficulty of obtaining metal.
- (7.) Central Division Leases:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Lands,—On or about what date are the Central Division lands to be thrown open, and will he inform the House what proportion of the lands rendered available will be offered to the public?
- Mr. Hassall answered,—All the land in the expired Central Division Leaseholds suitable for closer settlement, and not required for permanent reserves, is being surveyed and classified as rapidly as the resources of the Department will permit. The Honorable The Premier and Colonial Treasurer indicated, a short time since, that about 1,000,000 acres would be made available for the public early next year, and action in this direction is in progress.
- (8.) China Contingent:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Will he inform this House as to the reason why an officer of the China Contingent, a son of Captain Hixson, returned to this Colony without taking part in work in China?
 - (2.) How many members of the Hixson family were included in that Contingent, what positions did they hold, and what was their pay?
 - (3.) Is Captain Hixson at present on leave on service pay, or, if he is not on leave, does he receive service pay; if on leave, for what period will such leave continue?

Sir

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

13th November, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered.—The following information has been furnished by the Captain Commanding the Naval Forces:—

(1.) Lieutenant F. W. Hixson returned because he was on the Staff—one of the 'Special Service Officers having superseded him in the command of his Company.

(2.) Three, namely,—the Captain Commanding and two Lieutenants; the Captain's pay was at the rate of £600 a year, and the Lieutenants received £1 a day.

(3.) When Captain Hixson returned he was discharged from the China Contingent, and resumed his position as Captain Commanding Local Naval Forces.

5. PAPER:—Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Rules of the Supreme Court (in Lunacy).
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. MEMBER SWORN:—Frederick Earle Winchcombe, 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 Ashfield.

7. BULGA TO WEST PORTLAND ROAD (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, &c., relating to the expenditure of grant upon the Bulga to West Portland Road.
Question put and passed.

8. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill postponed until To-morrow.

9. TRAVELLING STOCK BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Fegan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 152.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 travelling of stock, and for the regulation of travelling stock; to provide reserves and driftways for such stock, and for the management, regulation, and improvement of such reserves and driftways; for the mustering, collecting, and driving of stock; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 12th November, 1900.

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

10. MESSAGES FROM THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Excise Reduction Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 153.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, spirits, and beer.

Government House,

Sydney, 9th November, 1900.

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

(2.) Companies Death Duties (Amendment) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 154.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Companies (Deaths Duties) Act, 1899.

Government House,

Sydney, 9th November, 1900.

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

11. ANJOURNMENT:—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 provisions for carrying out the Federal Celebrations, and the actions of certain Public Servants therewith.”

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.

13th November, 1900.

12. CHILDREN'S PROTECTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Neild, 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. Neild, 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 and extend the Children's Protection Act, 1892.*"
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 13th November, 1900.
13. POSTPONEMENTS :—The following Orders of the Day postponed :—
(1.) Seaman Act Amendment Bill; second reading;—until Tuesday next.
(2.) Railway Commissioners Appointment Bill; second reading;—until To-morrow.
(3.) Money-lenders and Infants Loans Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading;—until To-morrow.
14. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION 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 Dr. Ross, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
15. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
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,—namely, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Byrne, Mr. Cann, Mr. Fegan, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Lees, Sir William Lyne, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Moore, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Smith, Mr. Spence, and Mr. Wilks,—
Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at three minutes before Eleven o'clock p.m., until To-morrow at Ten o'clock a.m.
- F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.
- WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 74.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 14 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Officers on the Permanent Staff in South Africa:—*Mr. Affleck*, for *Mr. Morgan*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to allow those officers on the Permanent Staff who are away in South Africa to resume their positions when they return?

Mr. See answered,—I have nothing further to add to the reply which was given to a similar question asked yesterday.

(2.) Gratuity to Members of the Military Staff:—*Mr. E. M. Clark* asked the Colonial Secretary,—(1.) Is it a fact that the Government has authorised the payment to members of the Military Staff of a gratuity equal to two months' pay for their services in connection with the despatch of troops to South Africa?

(2.) Will he see that these generous intentions of the Government are not defeated by the parsimonious action of the General Officer Commanding in endeavouring to effect unauthorised reductions and in delaying payment?

Mr. See answered,—I have not been able to get the information. I am quite in agreement with the Honorable Member, and will see that what he suggests shall be carried out as far as practicable.

(3.) Appointment of Additional Police:—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. Dacey*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—As additional police will be required in Sydney during the Commonwealth Celebrations, will he see that the reinforcements are drawn from the "never-never" parts of the Colony, so that worthy men who have spent years beyond the bounds of civilisation may be permitted to witness our rejoicings?

Mr. See answered,—Police will be drawn from the country generally, from such stations as are found most practicable.

(4.) Bottling Aerated Water:—*Mr. Smith* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is he aware that some aerated water manufacturers in the city adopt the hand method of bottling, requiring the workmen to bite the corks in the process?

(2.) Will he cause a strict investigation to be made amongst the city manufacturers, with a view to preventing this unclean and unhealthful practice?

(3.) Is he aware that workmen suffering from cancer in the mouth have been employed as bottlers in these aerated water manufactories?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Hand-bottling is done in certain cases.

(2.) Such an investigation has recently been made, and all proprietors who bottle by hand have been asked to provide proper appliances for squeezing the corks, and to post up notices prohibiting the practice complained of, on pain of instant dismissal in cases of infraction of the rule.

(3.) No. Inquiry has been made, but no such case has been traced. As a matter of fact, there is very little hand-bottling done in these factories, the great bulk of the work being carried out by machine.

(5.) Use of the Grose, Colo, and Warragamba Rivers to generate Electric power:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he given attention yet to the report of *Mr. Raw*, an officer of his Department, re the matter of utilising the waters of the Grose River for the generation of electric power, &c.?

(2.)

14th November, 1900.

(2.) Does he propose to further act upon it; and with this object in view, will he have a further and more detailed report prepared?

(3.) Is he favourable to the idea of offering a bonus of (say) £5,000 for the best and most complete scheme for carrying into effect the project to which these queries refer?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Yes; and I think highly of the proposal. I will consider the suggestions of the Honorable Member.

(6.) Working Hours of Tanners and Curriers:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Did he some time ago promise a deputation to introduce a measure to regulate the hours of men employed in the tanners' and curriers' trade; and, if so, when does he propose to introduce the Bill?

Mr. Perry answered,—A Bill has been prepared, and will be introduced when the state of public business permits.

(7.) Application to purchase land by William Smith:—Mr. Hurley, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) How long is it since William Smith, of Gallymont, first applied to purchase portion of allotment No. 193, referred to in papers now in Lands Office—"Alu. 1900 and 13,541"?

(2.) When will this land be offered at auction; and who is responsible for the unwarrantable delay that has taken place?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The land in question was advertised for sale on the 16th June, 1899. Before that date, however, two persons represented they were in legal occupation of parts of the portion, and had effected improvements thereon. This necessitated the withdrawal of the sale as advertised. The land has since been resurveyed so as to exclude the parts occupied by the persons mentioned, and the portion, as thus reduced in area to 2 acres 2 roods 28½ perches, is to be offered for sale on the 18th January next. What has stood in the way of completion of the matter has been the claims to parts of the land having been set up under the Mining Act, and the necessity for resurveying the land, paying regard to these claims.

2. PUBLIC INSTRUCTION ACT AMENDMENT BILL:—Mr. Arthur Griffith moved, without Notice, That the Order of the Day for the second reading of the Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill, which lapsed by the House being counted out on Tuesday, 13th November, 1900, be restored to the Paper, and stand an Order of the Day for Wednesday next.
Question put and passed.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Return respecting Officers of the Prisons Department.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Sec laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Borough of Granville.

(2.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of ‘‘Accidents.’’”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. CULCAIRN TO GERMANTON RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

5. TRAVELLING STOCK BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan 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 better provision for the travelling of stock, and for the regulation of travelling stock; to provide reserves and driftways for such stock, and for the management, regulation, and improvement of such reserves and driftways; for the mustering, collecting, and driving of stock; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
Question put and passed.

6. COMPANIES DEATH DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne 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 Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899.
Question put and passed.

7. EXCISE REDUCTION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne 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 Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, spirits, and beer.
Question put and passed.

8. JUVENILE SMOKING SUPPRESSION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Dr. Ross, read a third time, and passed.

Dr. Ross then moved, that the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community.*”

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th November, 1900.

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 restrict and prohibit the use of tobacco, cigars, and cigarettes by juvenile members of the community,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.*

9. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill postponed until Tuesday, 27th November.
10. METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. See, and read by Mr Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 155.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 registration of certain vehicles and the regulation of the traffic of certain animals; to amend and extend the Metropolitan Traffic Act, 1900; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 13th November, 1900.*

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

11. NAVIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, 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 Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.*

12. OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Sir William Lyne, "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 Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

13. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Supreme Court Procedure Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 156.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the procedure of the Supreme Court,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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 November, 1900.*

- (2.) Pacific Cable Enabling Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 157.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Government of New South Wales to join with certain other Governments in the cost of the construction and maintenance of a cable across the Pacific Ocean; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to such objects,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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 November, 1900.*

14th November, 1900.

14. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Coal-lumpers Baskets Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to fix the size and regulate the weight of baskets used in discharging coal-ships,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

COAL-LUMPERS BASKETS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 14th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, line 5. Omit "of not less than two pounds nor more than ten pounds" insert "not exceeding forty shillings"

Page 2, clause 6, line 17. Omit "January" insert "February"

Examined,—

W. J. TRICKETT,
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.) Broken Hill Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to authorise the acquisition of lands and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards by the municipality of Broken Hill, within or in the vicinity of the municipality of Broken Hill,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 14th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 3, clause 5, lines 21 and 22. Omit "within a distance of twenty miles from any boundary of the municipality" insert "in any part of the county of Yancowinna"

Page 3, clause 5, line 22. After "slaughter" omit remainder of clause, insert "at any place other than the said Abattoirs for the purpose of trade any cattle to be used within the municipality for the food of man"

Page 4, clause 8. Omit clause 8.

Page 5, clause 11, line 19. Omit "prescribed"

Page 5, clause 11, line 19. After "charges" insert "mentioned in the said by-laws"

Page 6, clause 14. At end of clause add "Provided that nothing in this Act shall be taken to alter or in any way lessen the powers of the Board of Health as authorised by law, and that the necessary expert inspectors of cattle and meat shall be appointed subject to the approval of that Board"

Examined,—

W. J. TRICKETT,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

(3.) Commonwealth Arrangements Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(4.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

14th November, 1900.

(4.) Stamp Duties Amendment Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Stamp Duties Act, 1898,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(5.) Customs (Sugar Drawbacks) Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(6.) Truck Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act 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; and to regulate the service of legal process,*"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 14th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

TRUCK BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 14th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 3, clause 7, line 17. *After "cheque" insert "or"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 17. *After "draft" insert "payable to the bearer on demand drawn upon
 "any Bank carrying on business in New South Wales"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 17. *After "or" insert "in an"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 19. *Omit "the"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 19. *Omit "of a banker"*
 Page 3, clause 7, lines 19 and 20. *Omit "either generally or with any particular persons or class
 "of persons only" insert "other than a retail shopkeeper or publican"*
 Page 3, clause 7, subsection (1). *Omit subsection (1).*
 Page 4, clause 10, line 14. *After "bush" first occurring insert "to ringbark trees"*
 Page 4, clause 10, line 33. *After "seamen" insert "or domestic servants"*
 Page 4, clause 10, line 33. *After "in" insert "or in connection with"*
 Page 5, clause 12, line 10. *After "includes" insert "postal notes, Post Office orders and"*
 Page 5, clause 12, line 14. *After "under" insert "any Imperial Act or"*

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-Chairman of Committees.

Ordered by Mr. Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration To-morrow.

(7.) Medical Practitioners Amendment Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to regulate the practice of Medicine and Surgery and other matters connected therewith,*"—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, 14th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 14th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 1, Title. *Before "regulate" insert "further"*
 Pages 1 and 2, clause 1. *Omit clause 1.*
 Page 2, clause 2, line 13. *Omit "aforesaid" insert "a legally qualified Medical Practitioner
 "within the meaning of the Medical Practitioners Act, 1898, or any Act amending the
 "same"*
 Page 2, clause 2. *Omit subsections (a) and (b).*
 Page 2, clause 2, lines 23 and 24. *Omit "Medical Practitioners Act, 1898," insert "said Acts"*

Page

14th November, 1900.

Board may
place upon
separate register
names of un-
qualified persons
in certain cases.

Page 3. *After* clause 3 *insert* the following new clause:—

"In the case of any person not possessed of qualifications entitling him to registration under the Medical Practitioners Act, 1898, or the Acts amending the same, it shall be lawful for the Medical Board in its discretion to place upon a separate register the name of any such person, provided he gives proof that he has passed through a due course of study at a recognised School of Medicine and Surgery, and that he has practised in a reputable manner as a Medical Practitioner in New South Wales during fifteen years prior to the passing of this Act, and such person when so registered shall have all the rights of a registered Medical Practitioner, and shall be subject to all the provisions of the aforesaid Acts."

Page 3, clause 5. *Omit* clause 5.

Page 3, clause 7, line 19. *After* "Practitioners" *insert* "Acts further"

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,

Deputy-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. RACING ASSOCIATION BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Watkins, that the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council:—

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having appointed a Select Committee on "Racing Association Bill," and the Committee being desirous to examine the Honorable Henry Carey Dangar, 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, 14th November, 1900.

16. AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Crick, 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 acquisition of private lands for purposes of settlement, and to provide for dealing with and disposing of such lands.

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 acquisition of private lands for purposes of settlement, and to provide for dealing with and disposing of such lands.

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

(2.) Mr. Crick then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the acquisition of private lands for purposes of settlement, and to provide for dealing with and disposing of such lands*,"—which was read a first time.

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

17. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Temora to Wyalong*):—

The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the Debate, on the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "That it is expedient that the construction of a line of railway from Temora to Wyalong, as recommended by 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,—

THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

18. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Narrabri to Walgett*):—

Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that a line of railway from Narrabri to Walgett, with a branch to Collarenebri, as referred by the Legislative Assembly to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Question put and passed.

19. MINING LAWS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan 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. Fegan, 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. Fegan, the report was adopted.

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

The House adjourned, at five minutes after One o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

WILLIAM McCOURT,

Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 75.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 15 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Mr. Hannell, Shipping Master of Newcastle:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is he aware that Mr. C. Hannell, Shipping Master of Newcastle, was absent from his duties on Wednesday, 24th October, 1900?
 - (2.) Is he aware that owing to the Shipping Master being absent from his office seamen could not have their business attended to?
 - (3.) Will he institute an investigation as to the cause of the Shipping Master's absence from his duties upon the date named?
 - (4.) In view of the increased shipping and discharging of seamen in the Port of Newcastle, will he recommend the appointment of a Deputy Shipping Master?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1 and 3.) Mr. Hannell was, I am informed, absent from his duties on the date mentioned from 12:30 p.m., in connection with the Newcastle Hospital Benefit Races, of which he was the promoter.
- (2.) The business of the office was not neglected during the few hours Mr. Hannell was absent, but was carried on by the two clerks employed therein. As a matter of fact, very little business was transacted on the date in question, only twelve seamen being passed through the office, most of them before noon, and no complaints were received.
- (4.) No Deputy Shipping Master is required at Newcastle, as the work is being efficiently carried out by the present staff. I may add that I think Mr. Hannell is a most efficient officer.

- (2.) Steam Punt for the Taree Ferry:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. J. H. Young, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Can he state when the steam punt promised for the Taree ferry will be sent to that place?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I regret I cannot state definitely at present, as, owing to the loss at sea of a ferry punt some few months ago, the proposed transfer of certain punts has had to be postponed; but no unnecessary delay will take place.

- (3.) Adulteration of Food and Liquor:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) The number of cases or samples of food and liquor that have been submitted to the Government Analytical Chemist for analysis during the last twelve months?
 - (2.) The number of cases in which adulterations—and what they consisted of—were found to exist, and which are prejudicial to public health?
 - (3.) The nature of the articles that were submitted for analysis; and the quantity of adulterations (if any) found to exist in each article so analysed respectively?
 - (4.) Will he furnish a list of the names of the persons appointed as inspectors of food and liquor adulterations?
 - (5.) Number of persons convicted during last twelve months for selling food and liquors containing adulterations?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Three hundred and thirty-nine.
- (2.) One hundred and nineteen, comprising water, formalin, boric and salicylic acids in milk skimmed milk; water in spirits; strychnine in kola nut tonics; starch in cocoa.
- (3.) I shall presently lay upon the Table a return giving this information.
- (4.) No such list is extant; but Local Authorities under the Public Health Act have power to collect samples within their district.
- (5.) This information is in course of preparation, and will be laid upon the Table as soon as completed. (4.)

15th November, 1900.

- (4.) Appointment of Wharfingers under Wharfs Resumption Act:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it intended, in making appointments of persons to act as wharfingers, &c., under the Wharfs Resumption Act, to show preference towards retrenched Civil Servants?
 - (2.) Is he aware that in this connection public complaint is made to the effect that the positions referred to are being filled by the appointment of clerks from several of the large shipping offices, to the exclusion of the retrenched Civil Servant?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) The Commissioners to be appointed under the Act are empowered to nominate their Staff for the approval of the Governor-in-Council. I am unable to say if any preference will be shown to retrenched Civil Servants who may be applicants for employment, but think it unlikely.
 - (2.) As the Commissioners are not yet appointed, no permanent appointments to their Staff have or can be made.
- (5.) Hours worked on the Ferry and Tug Services in Sydney and Newcastle Harbours:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) When does he propose to introduce his promised legislation for the reduction of the hours worked by the men employed on the ferry and tug services in Sydney and Newcastle Harbours?
 - (2.) In view of the late cases of steamer collisions in harbours, and for the public safety, will he press on this very urgent legislation during the present Session?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—If it is possible to deal with this matter during the present Session, I will do so.
- (6.) Report on Road from Carcoar to Forrest Reefs:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) How many weeks is it since the local officer at Blayney was asked to report on the matter of making a road from Carcoar through Messrs. Links and Fitzpatrick's land at Forest Reefs?
 - (2.) Will he demand an explanation from the local officer as to the cause of the long delay in reporting?
 - (3.) Will he also bring the conduct of this officer, in connection with this matter, before the Public Service Board?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I regret to find that this matter, although sent to the local officer nearly three months ago, has not yet been reported upon. The Honorable Member may rely upon my assurance that unless a satisfactory explanation be forthcoming at once I shall take such action as will prevent such a mistake occurring again.
- (7.) Bridge over Coombing Creek, near Carcoar:—Mr. Waddell asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) How long ago is it since the local officer at Blayney was asked to furnish measurements with a view to constructing a bridge over Coombing Creek, near Carcoar?
 - (2.) Will he demand an explanation from the local officer as to the long delay that has taken place?
 - (3.) Will he also bring the conduct of this officer, in connection with this matter, before the Public Service Board, with a view to preventing such vexatious delays occurring in future?
- Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—
- (1.) Papers *re* Coombing Creek Bridge were forwarded to the local officer for report on the 10th September, 1900.
 - (2.) Yes; immediately.
 - (3.) I certainly will take some steps as soon as I receive the officer's explanation.
- (8.) Contract for Steel Rails:—*Mr. Bruncker*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table of the House the particulars of the offer to make 100,000 tons of steel rails for the Government?
 - (2.) Will he consult Parliament, or give Parliament an opportunity of considering the proposed terms, before acceptance of contract?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the offer does not bind the tenderers to use more than 25 per cent. of New South Wales ore?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1 and 2.) I intend to submit the matter to Parliament at an early date.
 - (3.) I stipulated to the parties that not less than 25 per cent. of New South Wales ores should be used. I may state also that the principal portion of the most valuable ore discovered in the Australian Colonies is in Tasmania. It was intended to erect smelters in Tasmania, and I think that I am doing this Colony a great deal of good in getting 25 per cent. of its ore brought in with the other rich ores by the stipulation I have made.
- (9.) Employment of Mr. George Lewis:—*Mr. Hawthorne*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is there not an officer in charge of the Electoral Department named McIntyre?
 - (2.) What position does the "George Lewis," whose name appears upon an Electoral Return laid upon the Table a few days ago, hold in connection with the Electoral Returns?
 - (3.) Is the George Lewis referred to in the Public Service; if so, upon whose recommendation, and by whose authority?
 - (4.) Were the Public Service Board consulted; and, if he has been employed, did they recommend it?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) He is a member of the Federal Electoral Commission.
 - (3 and 4.) No. He was placed on the Commission on account of the great experience gained in connection with the last division of the Colony for Electoral purposes.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th November, 1900.

(10.) Pastoral Leases in Central Division:—Mr. Gormly asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he answer Question No. 1, asked by Mr. Gormly on November 7th, in reference to pastoral leases in Central Division; and, if so, when?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The information has been collected, and will be forwarded to the Honorable Member to-day.

(11.) Case of Regina v. Kruger, at Newcastle:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that in a recent case at Newcastle, Regina v. Kruger, wherein the police prosecuted, that the prosecution failed owing to the police officer in charge being unable to adduce sufficient evidence to satisfy the presiding magistrate?

(2.) In view of the great importance of crimping and other prosecutions affecting seamen, will he consider the desirableness of granting legal assistance to the police in conducting the prosecutions?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Shipping Master's Office reports that the case to which the Honorable Member refers has not come under its notice.

(2.) Yes.

2. OLD-AGE PENSIONS:—Mr. Cann presented a Petition from certain residents of Broken Hill and District, stating that in view of the distress and suffering, so often consequent on old age, Petitioners are of opinion that some active steps should be taken by the State to give satisfactory and permanent relief; that a well-devised scheme of Old-age Pensions will alone satisfactorily meet and relieve the existing conditions, and praying the House to take the foregoing premises into favourable consideration and grant such relief as may seem best.
Petition received.

3. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—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. Perry laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Superintendent of the Industrial School for Girls, Parramatta, for the year 1899.

(2.) Report of the Superintendent of the Carpenterian Reformatory for the year 1899.

(3.) Report of the Superintendent of the Nautical School-ship "Sobraon" for year ended 30th April, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Return respecting articles submitted to the Government Analytical Chemist for analysis during last twelve months.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Sydney—Pymont Division, Mr. Smith, 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 unlawful and improper action of Pilots and Surveyors of the Navigation Department accepting gratuities or tips from various shipping firms in Sydney, as disclosed by the sworn evidence contained in the Report of the Inquiry by the Public Service Board."

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

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

5. INSCRIBED STOCK (REGISTRAR) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of the Stock of the Colony.*"

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 Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of the Stock of the Colony,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 15th November, 1900.

6. OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Neild 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 first proviso in clause 9, and for the consideration of a new clause to provide for the boarding out of pensioners in certain cases,"—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

15th November, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 48.

Mr. Cann,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. Egan,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. MacMahon,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Reymond,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Bennett,

Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Dight,
Mr. Spence,
Mr. McGowen,

Mr. Ross,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Holman,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Terry,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. David Davis,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Carroll,
Tellers,
Mr. Richards,
Mr. Moore.

Noes, 14.

Mr. Neild,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Brunner,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Cohen.

Tellers,

Mr. Millard,
Mr. Thomas Brown.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question then put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Bill do now *pass*.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Whereupon Sir William Lyne moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for Old-age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of or consequent on the aforesaid object.*"

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 for Old-age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of or consequent on the aforesaid object,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 15th November, 1900.*

7. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

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

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

8. DEFAMATION 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 Law of Defamation,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 15th November, 1900.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a first time.

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

9. RACING ASSOCIATION BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

In answer to the Message from the Legislative Assembly, dated the 14th November, 1900, requesting leave for the Honorable Henry Carey Dangar, a Member of the Legislative Council, to attend and be examined before a Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly on the "Racing Association Bill," 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 thinks fit.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 15th November, 1900.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

10. CULCAIRN TO GERMANTON RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; 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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

15th November, 1900.

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 Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes.

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

- (2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act of 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

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

11. BOUNDARY-STREET BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney, for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of 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 vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney, for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of Sydney.

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

- (2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney, for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of Sydney*,"—which was read a first time.

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

12. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 provide for the application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities, and interest in respect of the same; and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897.

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 provide for the application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities, and interest in respect of the same; and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

13. PUBLIC SERVICE (TAXATION OFFICERS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 16 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

14. MINING LAWS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

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 clause 2,"—instead thereof.

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.

Question,—

15th November, 1900.

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 2,—put and passed. On motion of Mr. Fegan, 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 amendments.

On motion of Mr. Fegan, the report was adopted

Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

15. POSTPONEMENTS :—

(1.) The remaining Notices of Motions and Orders of the Day of Government Business,—until To-morrow.

(2.) Coal-lumpers Baskets Bill ; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Legislative Council's amendments,—until To-morrow.

16. BROKEN HILL ABATTOIRS, MARKETS, AND CATTLE SALE-YARDS 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 Mr. Moore, Temporary 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 authorise the acquisition of lands and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards by the municipality of Broken Hill, within or in the vicinity of the municipality of Broken Hill.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th November, 1900, a.m.*

17. TRUCK 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 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. Cook, the report was adopted.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act 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 ; and to regulate the services of legal process.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th November, 1900, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at twenty-eight minutes after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 76.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 16 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Hire of Steamers of Newcastle S.S. Co.:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Smith*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What steamers of the Newcastle S.S. Company did the Government engage to convey Members of Parliament and other invited citizens down the harbour to witness the departure of the various Contingents sailing from Sydney and Newcastle for South Africa?

(2.) What amount was paid for each steamer?

(3.) Is he aware that none of the crews received any extra remuneration for work performed upon the occasions named?

(4.) Should any of this Company's steamers in future be employed, will he stipulate that the crews must be paid extra remuneration?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The "Newcastle" and the "Namoi." The former was engaged on three occasions, and the latter on one.

(2.) For the "Newcastle," £50 for each of the three occasions; for the "Namoi," £50.

(3.) No.

(4.) I hardly think this is a matter in which the Government can interfere.

- (2.) Pastoral Leases in the Central Division:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. Thomas Brown*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—With respect to expired pastoral leases in the Central Division, is it intended to give the late lessees any special consideration in the direction of converting such lands, or portion of same, into some other form of extended lease; and, if so, has any general policy been determined upon with respect to same?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The intention with regard to the Central Division leases is to make all considerations subordinate to any legitimate demand for land for residential settlement.

- (3.) Procedure by Land Boards in dealing with Applications:—*Mr. Hayes* asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is he aware that at the last meeting of the Land Board, at Walgett, to deal with applications for land, the Board decided to first examine and consider the application forms sent in by the applicants, reject those considered not eligible, and then examine in Court the others, and ballot for those considered equal?

(2.) Is he also aware that, at the recent sitting of the Land Board at Parkes, the Chairman was asked if he would adopt the same procedure it was reported the Land Board at Walgett had adopted. The Chairman said the Board was of opinion each applicant should be heard, and this hearing included the right of testing the *bona-fides* of other applicants. The Board would permit of applicants tendering evidence and cross-examining other applicants on the evidence given by them?

(3.) If this is correct, will he take immediate steps to bring about uniformity of procedure by all Land Boards in dealing with applications for land, and prevent the great dissatisfaction that now exists, and the cost and waste of time applicants have to suffer?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) I am aware that a majority of the Boards regard the personal examination of all applicants to be necessary. Their views on the subject were sought when the practice of one Board in rejecting applications without personally examining the applicants came to be known.

(3.) Yes, as far as possible; but section 6 of the Act No. 51 of 1889 seems to vest the whole matter in the Land Board, as it provides that "the order of priority of conflicting applications made, tendered, or lodged to or with the Land Agent simultaneously, shall be determined by the Local Land Board, and where in the opinion of the Board any such applications have equal claims

16th November, 1900.

“claims to priority, the order of their priority shall be determined by ballot.” The Act empowers the Governor to make regulations not as to the manner in which priority shall be determined, but merely as to who shall hold the ballot, and in what manner it shall be held. I have, however, referred to the Crown Solicitor certain questions on the matter.

(4.) Reduction in price of Staple Products:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In view of the answers furnished to questions by Dr. Ross on 6th November, in reference to reduction in price of staple products, has his attention been directed to a sub-leader in the *S. M. Herald* of Monday last, the 12th instant, on this all-important subject?

(2.) Will the Government, in dealing with the matter of the proposed inquiry (promised to Dr. Ross *re* the fall in the price of land, wool, wheat, and other produce), give ample scope in order that the cause of the continued depression that has occurred during the last few years can be accurately or approximately ascertained from the best English, American, and Continental sources, and public opinion published in leading and commercial journals?

(3.) Is it not a fact that farmers complain that there must be some exciting or abnormal cause in existence to account for the alarming fall in the price of land, wool, wheat, sugar, &c., and which, if not checked by Government action, must again in the near future bring about a train of serious and disastrous consequences to the financial institutions of the Colony, as occurred in 1893?

(4.) Is there any truth in the statement alleged by the farmers that now that Mr. McKinley is again returned to power as President of the United States, the Government should at once support his proposals, now in the hands of the British Government, viz., that the English, Austrian, Canadian, and Indian Mints be thrown open with the American and Continental Mints to the free and unlimited coinage of silver on the same lines as our best Mints treat gold to day?

(5.) Further, is there any truth or reliance to be placed in the statement that France, Germany, Australia, and Russia have agreed to support Mr. McKinley, provided that England does so likewise, seeing that she blocks the way, and English financial institutions' reports blame Australia in not complying with Mr. McKinley's request?

(6.) Is it not a fact that farmers maintain that as Mr. McKinley, writing recently to the Chairman of the Bank of England, said that neither Mr. McKinley or the Majority of his Cabinet had changed in the slightest in their desire to bring about an international settlement of this great question, and that the President was prepared to receive from the British Government any proposals that would restore to the people their money?

(7.) Will he, therefore, under the circumstances, stand by the farmers and producers of the Colony, and see that they get their rights?

(8.) Will he, also, cause to be laid upon the Table of this House copies of the British Blue Book containing the report of the present Commission on Indian Currency, as seen in the Free Library?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have referred these questions to the Government Statistician, who points out that they are of an academical character such as are not usually answered in Parliament.

(5.) Infringement of the Indecent Publications Act:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister for Justice,—

(1.) Have any prosecutions yet been initiated against newspaper proprietors or others for infringements of the Indecent Publications Act?

(2.) Is he aware of the fact that certain papers and pamphlets last week freely circulated throughout the Colony were intercepted and refused transmission through the Queensland and Victorian Post Offices?

Mr. Wood answered,—In reply to the Honorable Member, I would ask him to put this question to the Chief Secretary. The police initiate these prosecutions; I know nothing about them.

(6.) Refund of Contributions to the Superannuation Fund:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the condition of the Civil Service Superannuation Fund as disclosed by recent statements, will he take such steps as may be necessary for the protection of the interests of those Civil Servants who, immediately the opportunity was given them, voluntarily withdrew from contributing thereto, and make provision for the immediate refund to them, with interest, of the amounts compulsorily deducted from their salaries as contributors to the fund. If it be necessary for special legislation to be enacted in order to admit of the refund referred to being made, will he take steps to have a Bill submitted to Parliament without delay?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I cannot promise legislation to enable refunds to be made forthwith to those officers who ceased to contribute to the Civil Service Superannuation Fund, during this Session; but the Honorable Member may rest assured, although the capital of the fund is being drawn upon to meet pensions already granted, that when the matter of placing the fund on a sound actuarial basis is undertaken, it will be approached with a due regard for the legally-acquired right of ex-contributors and contributors alike.

(7.) Acting Superintendent of Mails:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Postmaster-General,—Who is the present Acting Superintendent of Mails in the absence of Mr. Wyndham Davies?

Mr. Crick answered,—Mr. Unwin is acting in place of Mr. Davies.

(8.) Dismissal of Officers from the Public Service:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What are the names, with length of service and salaries, of officers dismissed by the Public Service Board in 1896?

Sir William Lyne answered,—A return giving the information asked for by the Honorable Member will be prepared and laid upon the Table as soon as possible.

(9.) Production of Wheat:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. Ashton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What quantity of wheat, according to the Government Statistician, was produced in the six federating States during each of the last ten years?

(2.) What quantity of wheat was required during each of such years for home consumption?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This information is being prepared, and I hope to be able to lay it upon the Table by Wednesday next.

(10.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th November, 1900.

(10.) The Federal Elections:—Mr. Hughes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that local politics will not be involved in the Federal Campaign, will Civil Servants be permitted to take part therein?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have consulted the Public Service Board in this matter, and they are decidedly of the opinion that it is not desirable for public servants to take prominent parts in political campaigns, whether connected with State or Federal politics. To permit of this would, the Board think, give rise to a most unseemly and undesirable state of affairs.

2. PAPERS:—Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Return respecting Public Servants suspended during 1895.
- (2.) General Rules of Courts of Marine Inquiry, under the Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899.
- (3.) Return showing number of Public Bills introduced by the Government since 1895, and by whom drafted.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Amended Telegraph and Telephone Rates.
- (2.) Notification of charge for use of trunk line connecting the Telephone Exchanges at Ballina, Casino, Coraki, and Lismore.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

- (3.) Magistrates Report and Evidence in case of Mr. G. P. Webb, late Postmaster at Minmi.

Ordered to be printed.

3. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Sixteenth Report from the Printing Committee.

4. METROPOLITAN TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. See 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 for the registration of certain vehicles, and the regulation of the traffic of certain animals; to amend and extend the Metropolitan Traffic Act, 1900; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to these objects.

Question put and passed.

5. WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

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

Question put and passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Tuesday next.

6. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Fegan, for Sir William Lyne, pursuant to leave granted on 15th November, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities and interest in respect of the same, and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897.*"—which was read a first time.

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

7. MINING LAWS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Fegan, *passed*.

Mr. Fegan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, the Mining Laws Amendment Act of 1896, and the Mining Act of 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 the Mining on Private Lands Act of 1894, the Mining Laws Amendment Act of 1896, and the Mining Act of 1889.*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th November, 1900.*

8. TRAVELLING STOCK BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, Mr. Deputy-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 travelling of stock, and for the regulation of travelling stock; to provide reserves and driftways for such stock, and for the management, regulation, and improvement of such reserves and driftways; for the mustering, collecting, and driving of stock; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

The Temporary 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 travelling of stock, and for the regulation of travelling stock; to provide reserves and driftways for such stock, and for the management, regulation, and improvement of such reserves and driftways; for the mustering, collecting, and driving of stock; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

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

(2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make better provision for the travelling of stock, and for the regulation of travelling stock; to provide reserves and driftways for such stock, and for the management, regulation, and improvement of such reserves and driftways; for the mustering, collecting, and driving of stock; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.*"—which was read a first time.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

16th November, 1900.

9. OYSTER FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Sec, and read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—
 FREDK. M. DARLEY, Message No. 158.
Lieutenant-Governor.
- In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 resumption for certain purposes of oyster culture leases granted under the Fisheries Act, 1881, or the Oyster Fisheries Act of 1884, and for purposes consequent on or incidental to that purpose.
- Government House,*
Sydney, 15th November, 1900.
- Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on the Bill.
10. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Sec moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill, on motion of Mr. Sec, read a third time, and *passed.*
 Mr. Sec then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to further amend the Parliamentary 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 further amend the Parliamentary Electoral Law,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th November, 1900.
11. PUBLIC SERVICE (TAXATION OFFICERS) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed.*
 Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895.*"
 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 for the appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 16th November, 1900.
12. EXCISE REDUCTION BILL:—
 (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Deputy-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 Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, spirits, and beer.
 Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
 Ordered, on motion of the Temporary Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
 The Temporary 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 Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, spirits, and beer.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise the Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, spirits, and beer,*"—which was read a first time.
 Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday next.
13. COMPANIES DEATH DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Deputy-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 Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899.
 Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
 Ordered, on motion of the Temporary Chairman, that the report be *now* received.
 The Temporary 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 Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
14. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 The House adjourned, at Five o'clock p.m., until Tuesday next at Ten o'clock a.m.
- F. W. WEBB, WILLIAM McCOURT,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. *Speaker.*

New South Wales.

No. 77.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 20 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

- (1.) Navigation (Amendment) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 159.

Lieutenant-Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Navigation (Amendment) Act, 1899,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 19th November, 1900.

- (2.) Children's Protection Act Amendment Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 160.

Lieutenant-Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend and extend the Children's Protection Act, 1892,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 19th November, 1900.

- (3.) Stamp Duties Amendment Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 161.

Lieutenant-Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to amend the Stamp Duties Act, 1898,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 19th November, 1900.

- (4.) Customs (Sugar Drawbacks) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 162.

Lieutenant-Governor.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for a drawback of Customs Duties on Sugar,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 17th November, 1900.

20th November, 1900.

(5.) Commonwealth Arrangements Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 163.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the making of arrangements with the Government of the Commonwealth for the use and occupation of Government House and the Governor's residence at Moss Vale and certain public buildings; to authorise public officers of this Colony to act for the Commonwealth; to enable officers of the Commonwealth to act in any public office in this Colony; to authorise the performance of work or services or the supply of articles for the Commonwealth; to provide for the making of arrangements as to such matters; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 17th November, 1900.*

2. NARRABRI WALGETT AND COLLARENDABRI RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 164.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 public roads; and for other purposes.

*Government House,
Sydney, 15th November, 1900.*

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

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Agricultural Societies:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) When does he propose to adopt the recommendations of the Board appointed to report upon the Agricultural Societies of the Colony?
- (2.) Is he in favour of carrying out the Board's recommendations?

Mr. Fegan answered,—The recommendations made by the Board have not been adopted, but amended regulations governing the payment of subsidies were issued to the different Agricultural Societies on the 28th October last.

(2.) Hours of Senior-constables and Sergeants of Police:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that senior-constables and sergeants doing duty at the Central Police Station are only required to serve watches of eight hours each, while senior-constables and sergeants doing duty in the city and suburbs, other than the Central Police Station, are required to put in continuous duty for twenty-four hours, starting from 10 a.m. one morning until 10 a.m. the next morning?

(2.) Is it a fact that these officers are allowed one hour each for dinner and tea and four hours' rest during the night and early morning, with the understanding that they may be called at any time (which is often) during this rest?

(3.) If such is the case, will he confer with the Inspector-General of Police with the view of making shorter watches in the stations other than the Central, as it is generally believed that this continuous duty acts injuriously on the health of the officers, especially during the summer months?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police,—

(1 and 3.) The arrangement of watch-house duty in alternative twenty-four hours has already been in force hitherto, but an alteration was tried with success at the Central Police Station, and will be extended to other lock-ups.

(2.) Yes.

(3.) Holidays in the General Division of the Public Service:—Mr. Spence, for Mr. Smith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Have the necessary arrangements been made by the Public Service Board to enable them granting increased annual holiday leave to the public servants in the General Division of the Public Service?

(2.) What is the estimated cost of granting the additional holiday allowance to the public servants of the General Division?

(3.) What additional expenditure was incurred in granting the one week's extra annual holiday leave to servants employed in the Professional and Clerical Divisions of the Public Service?

(4.) Will he endeavour to expedite the granting of the additional week's holiday leave to the General Division of the Public Service?

Sir

20th November, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1 and 4.) This matter is now receiving consideration.

(2.) £4,969 18s. 6d.

(3.) The additional expenditure incurred in granting an extra week's annual leave to the officers of the Professional and Clerical Divisions has never been computed, but probably will not amount to a large sum, as the regulations provide that the duties of an absent officer shall, as far as possible, be performed by his fellow-officers, without additional salary or remuneration. In regard to officers of the General Division, however, it is necessary in many cases to employ other hands to take the place of those absent on leave.

(4.) Treatment of Seamen at Newcastle :—*Mr. Spence*, for Mr. Smith, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that seamen have been paraded through the streets of Newcastle from the Lock-up to the Boat Harbour?

(2.) Will he have this practice discontinued?

(3.) Is it a fact that seamen are placed on watermen's boats—without the irons being removed—for the purpose of taking them on board their vessels?

(4.) Is it not contrary to the regulations to retain irons upon prisoners on small boats?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of police:—

(1.) Seamen have been marched from the Lock-up to the wharf, but when practicable a prisoner's van has been used.

(2.) Yes, as far as possible.

(3.) Seamen are never placed on watermen's boats. They are taken on board their ships in the police launch during the day, and in the police skiff at night. Handcuffs are always removed immediately on leaving the wharf except in cases where the persons in custody are violent.

(4.) I am not aware that it is contrary to any regulation to retain irons upon prisoners in small boats when circumstances render it necessary.

(5.) Retiring Allowance to Messrs. Wilshire and Manton :—*Mr. Kidd*, for Mr. Chanter, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Were Messrs. O. Wilshire and John A. Manton employed as Assistant Inspectors of Fisheries in the Murray District at a salary of £75 per annum each?

(2.) In consequence of their retirement, are they not entitled to a retiring allowance based upon one month's pay for each year of service?

(3.) Has this money been paid to them, as shown in the report of the Fisheries Commission?

(4.) If not, what is the reason, and when will the amounts be paid?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2.) A gratuity was assigned to these officers on their retirement from the Fisheries Department.

(3 and 4.) The gratuity was paid to Mr. Manton on the 23rd August, 1898; but the amount assigned to Mr. Wilshire has not been paid, as it has been held that this officer is still in the Government service.

(6.) Prosecutions under the Indecent Publications Act :—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Have any prosecutions yet been initiated against newspaper proprietors or others for infringements of the Indecent Publications Act?

(2.) Is he aware of the fact that certain papers and pamphlets last week freely circulated throughout the Colony were intercepted and refused transmission through the Queensland and Victorian Post Offices?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) No, but the matter is receiving careful attention.

(2.) Neither the Postal nor the Police Department is aware that this is the fact.

4. PAPERS :—

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Return respecting hours of duty of Engine-drivers, Firemen, and Guards working night goods trains between Junee and Harden, and between Junee and Narrandera.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Concord, county of Cumberland, for reclamation of certain low-lying mud flats in the vicinity of Long Cove.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. NARRABRI WALGETT AND COLLARENDABRI RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. O'Sullivan* 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 Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 public roads; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.

6. OYSTER FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. See* 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 resumption for certain purposes of Oyster Culture Leases, granted under the Fisheries Act, 1881, or the Oyster Fisheries Act of 1884, and for purposes consequent on or incidental to that purpose.
Question put and passed.

20th November, 1900.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for The Tweed, Mr. Meagher, 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 imperative necessity of making immediate provision for the members of the Police Force entitled to retirement under the provisions of the Police Superannuation Act.”

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

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

Debate ensued.

Point of Order:—The Honorable Member for Yass, Mr. Affleck, drew Mr. Speaker's attention to the Notice, standing No. 27 on the Business Paper, in Mr. Meagher's name, and submitted that it would be irregular to anticipate the consideration of that Notice.

Mr. Speaker concurred in the objection taken, and declared this motion for adjournment out of order.

8. **AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Crick moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 43.

Mr. See,	Mr. O'Connor,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Richards,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Henry Chapman,	Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Smith,	Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Price,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Brunner,	Mr. David Davis,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Rose,	Mr. Waddell,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. E. M. Clark.
Mr. Goodwin,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Spruson,	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Watson.
Mr. W. W. Davis,	

Noes, 15.

Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Holman,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Watkins.

Tellers,

Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Molesworth.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Crick, 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.

9. **COMPANIES DEATH DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—Sir William Lyne, pursuant to leave granted on 16th November, 1900, presented a Bill, intitled “*A Bill to amend the Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899*,”—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.
10. **CASE OF WILLIAM REID**:—Mr. Holman, 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 August, 1900.
Ordered to be printed.
11. **PAPER**:—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Papers relating to the recent Railway Accident on the Zig-Zag.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
12. **CULCAIRN TO GERMANTON RAILWAY BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
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 To-morrow.
13. **BOUNDARY-STREET BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
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 the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

20th November, 1900.

14. **EXCISE REDUCTION BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
15. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—The remaining Government Business postponed until To-morrow.
16. **COAL-LUMPERS BASKETS BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—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 amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

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 fix the size and regulate the weight of baskets used in discharging coal-ships.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
 Sydney, 21st November, 1900, a.m.*

The House adjourned, at five minutes after Twelve o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 78.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

- (1.) Text Book on Agriculture for Public Schools:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—In order to induce a deeper interest to be taken by the general public in the intrinsic value of agriculture and agricultural chemistry in its various branches, will he take into consideration the advisability of having a suitable illustrated hand or text book, to be printed at a nominal price, for the use of our Public Schools, but more especially for the use of the rising generation?
Mr. Perry answered,—Yes.

- (2.) Payment to Temporary Officers for Holidays:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Were the temporary officers under the General Division of the Public Service stopped pay for the enforced holidays in connection with the Record Reign Celebrations in 1897?
(2.) Is it a custom of certain Departments of the Service not to pay temporary officers, with some years of service, for holidays?
(3.) In view of the enforced holidays of the Commonwealth Celebrations, will he take steps to pay temporary officers for those holidays?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) This information can only be obtained by asking the various Departments to furnish a return of pay stopped for holidays in connection with the Record Reign Celebrations.
(2.) Temporary officers in receipt of daily rates are allowed pay for public holidays, and, in regard to temporary employees whose services are engaged on piece-work in certain Departments, pay is allowed for holidays, providing the persons so employed have been continuously on duty for a period of one month prior to the holiday.
(3.) It is somewhat difficult to give a definite answer unless specific cases are mentioned, but the practice referred to in answer to No. 2 will be followed.

- (3.) The City Railway:—Mr. Winchcombe asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will he give the House an opportunity of discussing the City Railway proposals?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—As soon as other public business will permit. The Honorable Member may, however, rest assured that the proposal will be submitted for consideration before the Session closes.

- (4.) Circulars to Coal-mine Owners respecting Engine-men:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) With reference to his statement that he had issued circulars to the owners of coal mines to the effect that no engine-man shall leave his post while there are any men below ground, what further steps does he propose to take to see that his instructions are strictly enforced?

(2.) Is he aware of any cases in which the instructions contained in the circular have been ignored?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) The circular referred to was duly issued, and all the Inspectors have been instructed to see that the Act was complied with.

(2.) No.

- (5.) Holiday to Railway Employees on Eight-hour Day at Newcastle:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Did the public holiday on the Newcastle Eight-hour Day, on October 17th, apply to the railway men in the whole district of Newcastle?

(2.) Did the railway men working at Teralba get the holiday or a day in lieu thereof?

(3.)

21st November, 1900.

- (3.) Were the men at Fassifern, only 2 miles distant, granted the holiday?
 (4.) If not, why was this distinction drawn between men similarly employed in the same district, and will he do justice to the men who were left out of the holiday, and grant them a like privilege to those who had the holiday?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners supply the following information,—

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

(4.) The holiday was a local one granted to the men within the district proclaimed, and not extended to men outside the limit of the district in question.

- (6.) Holidays for the Commonwealth Celebrations:—*Mr. Thomas*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What special holidays is it intended to *Gazette* during the first week in January?
 (2.) Is any extension of the ordinary Christmas school vacation projected?
 (3.) In determining the matter of closing the Public Departments during the Commonwealth Celebrations week, will he make such arrangements as will preserve the right of the people to have their public business properly attended to; and will he also see that men employed in all Departments whose pay is dependent upon their doing a day's work are not unwillingly forced to be idle?

Sir William Lyne answered,—These matters are now under consideration, with a view to making such arrangements as will afford the public an opportunity of transacting urgent business with the Government Departments, and allowing the employees of the State to take part in these historic celebrations as much as possible.

- (7.) Traffic in George-street blocked by Lorries:—*Mr. Thomas*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that, day after day, ordinary traffic in George-street is blocked by numerous lorries laden with wool, timber, and the like, and that on Thursday last week no less than six wool-teams formed a procession along the thoroughfare named?
 (2.) Will he cause steps to be taken to prevent such vehicles from using George or Pitt Streets, and thus do away with a source of great danger to the travelling public?

Mr. See answered,—There is an amending Bill now before the House which will meet the difficulty, and I shall take the first opportunity to deal with it.

- (8.) Contract for Steel Rails:—*Mr. Reid* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) With reference to his announcement in the Financial Statement, delivered some time ago, to a projected contract for the manufacture of steel rails in the Colony, does he see any objection to stating, for the information of the House and the country, the precise nature of the offer, the cost per ton, and other leading facts?
 (2.) Did he obtain any report or opinion from the Railway Commissioners on the subject? If so, what was the nature of that report?
 (3.) Did he take into account the current price of American steel rails?
 (4.) Does any scientific authority in the employ of the Government concur in the opinion that our iron ores can only be used with others, and in smaller quantity, in the production of steel rails?
 (5.) Is the offer to make the steel rails made by a registered company? If so, where is the company registered?
 (6.) What is the name of the company; or, if not a company, what are the names of the individuals tendering?
 (7.) What is the price per ton to be?
 (8.) Is it to rise or fall with the market during the years over which it extends, or not?
 (9.) Has the country been committed partially or wholly to the offer? If partially, to what extent?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This is the first I have seen of this extraordinary question. I intend to submit the matter of the proposed contract for the consideration of the House shortly, and will then fully explain the negotiations which have taken place, and lay all papers upon the Table.

2. BOUNDARY-STREET BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Mr. O'Sullivan*, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to vest certain land in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of 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 vest certain land in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of Sydney,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 21st November, 1900.

3. CASE OF RATHBONE v. WALKER (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Meagher*, for *Mr. W. W. Young*, moved, pursuant to Notice, That an Address be presented to the Lieutenant-Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, reports, and documents in connection with the case of *Rathbone v. Walker*, heard at the Metropolitan District Court.

Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st November, 1900.

4. **POSTPONEMENTS**:—Sir William Lyne moved, That Government Orders of the Day Nos. 3 and 4 be postponed, and stand after Order 5.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 38.

Mr. Cann,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Hassall,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. See,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Reymond,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. W. W. Davis,
Mr. O'Connor,

Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Hurley,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Richards,
Mr. Kidd,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. T. H. Griffith,
Mr. Winchcombe,

Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Thomas Brown.

Tellers,

Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Arthur Griffith.

Noes, 9.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. Meagher,
Mr. E. M. Clark.

Tellers,

Mr. Moore,
Mr. Waddell.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Waratah, Mr. Arthur 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 case of the "pointsmen, Campbell, lately seriously injured at his work, and dismissed, without compensation, "by the Railway Commissioners."

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.

6. **WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Sir William Lyne, "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,—

THURSDAY, 22 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Dacey moved, "That the Question be now put."

Question put,—That the Question be now 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. Dacey, Mr. Thomas.

Debate continued.

Mr. Taylor moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word "now" with a view to adding the words "this day three months"

Question proposed,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

Mr. Ashton moved, That the Honorable Member for Sydney—Gipps Division, Mr. Spruson, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 22.

Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Spence,
Mr. Dight,
Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Terry,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Bennett.

Tellers,

Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Thomas Brown.

Noes, 49.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Lees,
Mr. Goodwin,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Spruson,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Holman,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Ferris,

Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. W. W. Davis,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. David Davis,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Barnes.

Tellers,

Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Wilks.

And so it passed in the negative.
Debate continued.

Question

21st November, 1900.

Question put,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.
The House divided.

Ayes, 49.

Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Ashton,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Ross,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. David Davis,
Mr. Lees,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Norton,
Mr. See,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Gormly,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Bennett.
Mr. Spence,	<i>Tellers</i>
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Dight,	Mr. Arthur Griffith.
Mr. Molesworth,	
Mr. Wilks,	

Noes, 20.

Mr. Lee,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Waddell.

Tellers,

Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Cruickshank.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 52.

Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Dight,
Mr. Lees,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Spence,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. McGowen,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. See,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. Camb,	Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Bennett.
Mr. Holman,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. David Davis,	Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Ross,	

Noes, 20.

Mr. Lee,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Taylor,
Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Price,
Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Waddell.

Tellers,

Mr. Rose,
Mr. Cruickshank.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

7. NARRABRI WALGETT AND COLLARENDABRI RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st November, 1900.

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 Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 public roads; and for other purposes.

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

(2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 public roads; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

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

8. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House at its rising do adjourn until 7 o'clock p.m. This Day.
Question put and passed.

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-five minutes after Six o'clock a.m., until *Seven* o'clock p.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 79.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 22 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Chatswood Railway Station:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) Is he aware that there is little or no shelter from rain or sun for alighting or departing passengers at the Chatswood Railway Station?
 (2.) How long will the building of the proposed new station buildings take?
 (3.) Will he arrange that shelter of an efficient, though of a temporary, character is provided meantime, and so prevent serious inconvenience to the many women and children alighting at and departing from this station?

Sir William Lyne answered,

- (1.) I understand there is only little shelter at present.
 (2.) The new station buildings will be complete about the middle of April.
 (3.) I will refer the matter to the Railway Commissioners; I understand they already have it under consideration.

- (2.) Temporary Supply of Provisions to Little Bay Hospital:—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
 (1.) What firm was asked to supply provisions, &c., to the Little Bay Hospital during the past few months, when Mr. Arthur Kidman's supply was stopped?
 (2.) Was that firm one of the tenderers for the service for the current year?
 (3.) How many tenderers were there for the supply in question, giving them in the order of cheapness?
 (4.) Was the tenderer next lowest to Mr. Arthur Kidman offered the temporary supply, or any tenderer?
 (5.) Were the prices of the firm selected for the temporary service lower than those of the tenders referred to, or higher?
 (6.) Has he any objection to produce any one of the monthly vouchers of the firm performing the temporary service?
 (7.) Did the Tender Board recommend application to the firm that got the temporary supply?
 (8.) Who is the Ministerial head of the Department which includes the Little Bay Hospital?
 (9.) If the Tender Board had nothing to do with the selection, what Minister approved of it?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I intend laying the papers in connection with these matters upon the Table.

- (3.) Death of John Wilson, *alias* Cecil Long, in Darlinghurst Gaol:—Mr. Norton asked the Minister of Justice,—
 (1.) Will he furnish particulars in the case of one John Wilson, otherwise Cecil Long, who died in Darlinghurst Gaol on the 16th December, 1898?
 (2.) What was the nature of his crime?
 (3.) What was the sentence?
 (4.) Will he give copy of the minutes which led up to the commutation of the sentence of death recorded?
 (5.) Was the prisoner removed to a lunatic asylum; if not, why not?
 (6.) Was he under medical observation during the time he was in prison and up to the time of his death?
 (7.) Did any suspicion exist as to the cause of death?
 (8.) What verdict did the jury return at the inquest?
 (9.) Was there a *post-mortem* examination?

Mr.

22nd November, 1900.

Mr. Wood answered,—

(1 and 2.) John Wilson was convicted at Darlinghurst Criminal Court on 1st October, 1895, of causing grievous bodily harm with intent to murder.

(2.) Death was recorded, but the sentence was committed to penal servitude for life.

(4.) I am not prepared to lay these papers upon the Table, as it is not the practice to do so unless some good reason is given.

(5.) No. He was certified to as insane by the Inspector-General of Insane, and by the visiting surgeon on the 14th December, 1898, but died two days afterwards, and before authority to remove him was received.

(6.) Yes; during the whole period of his incarceration.

(7.) No.

(8.) That prisoner died of chronic brain disease and cerebral hemorrhage.

(9.) No.

(4.) Contract for Steel Rails:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) With reference to his announcement in the Financial Statement, delivered some time ago, to a projected contract for the manufacture of steel rails in the Colony, does he see any objection to stating for the information of the House and the country the precise nature of the offer, the cost per ton, and other leading facts?

(2.) Did he obtain any report or opinion from the Railway Commissioners on the subject; if so, what was the nature of that report?

(3.) Did he take into account the current price of American steel rails?

(4.) Does any scientific authority in the employ of the Government concur in the opinion that our iron ores can only be used with others, and in smaller quantity, in the production of steel rails?

(5.) Is the offer to make the steel rails made by a registered company; if so, where is the company registered?

(6.) What is the name of the company; or, if not a company, what are the names of the individuals tendering?

(7.) What is the price per ton to be?

(8.) Is it to rise or fall with the market during the years over which it extends, or not?

(9.) Has the country been committed partially or wholly to the offer; if partially, to what extent?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have already said that I intend to submit the matter of the proposed contract for the consideration of the House shortly, and will then fully explain the negotiations which have taken place.

(5.) Vouchers for Plague Expenditure:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) When will he give Mr. Reid, the Member for King Division, an opportunity of seeing the vouchers for plague expenditure referred to in Question in August last, and in memorandum handed to the Colonial Treasurer on the 8th or 9th instant?

(2.) Has he any objection to lay upon the Table the Minute of the Governor-in-Council dispensing with certain requirements of audit in reference to plague expenditure if any such Minute exist?

(3.) When does he propose to ask Parliament to make the necessary appropriation to cover the plague expenditure?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The request is a somewhat unusual one, and, as the documents are very numerous and bulky, the Honorable Member would find it difficult to extract any particular information from them; but, if the special points which it is desired to elucidate are intimated to me, I will gladly have them abstracted for the Honorable Member's information.

(2.) No objection whatever.

(3.) When the Additional Estimates and Supplementary Statement of Payments from Advance to Treasurer are submitted, probably next week.

(6.) Supply of Fruit to the Quarantine Station during Plague Trouble:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Reid, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Who was the contractor for the supply of fruit to the Quarantine Station during the plague trouble?

(2.) Did a fruit merchant named Mr. Pigott supply upon order from the Officer-in-Charge, or Medical Officer, fruit at rates far below the contract rates, and what was the difference?

(3.) Did the Government pay Mr. Pigott or did contractor pay him?

(4.) If the contractor paid Mr. Pigott, what were the contractor's charges in his account against the Board of Health for the fruit supplied by Mr. Pigott?

(5.) Under what circumstances did the Accountant in the Board of Health recall Mr. Pigott's account from the Treasury, and take part in the transfer of the fruit to the contractor's account against the Treasury?

(6.) What were the prices in Mr. Pigott's account for fruit supplied by Mr. Pigott, and what the prices for the same fruit as charged in the contractor's account?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Arthur Kidman.

(2.) (a) Yes. (b) £38 3s. 7d. I would refer the Honorable Member to the reply I gave to a Question by Mr. Arthur Griffith, No. 3, of 19th July, in this connection, when the whole question was discussed.

(3.) The latter.

(4.) Contract rates where such applied; Mr. Pigott's prices for articles not in contract.

(5.) The account was not recalled, but was returned by the Treasury for explanation as to why articles appearing on the contract schedule were not obtained from the contractor. In the presence of the Accountant of the Health Department, by an arrangement between Mr. Pigott and the contractor, of which the Health Department had no previous knowledge, Mr. Pigott's bill was paid by the contractor, who subsequently submitted an account for the whole of the fruit supplied.

(6.) Apples—C. Pigott, £3 1s. 6d.; A. Kidman, £37 8s. 1d. Oranges—C. Pigott, £5 7s. 6d.; A. Kidman, £15 4s. 6d. Other fruits not being in contract, at the supplier's prices.

The above replies refer to the period ended 30th June.

(7.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd November, 1900.

(7.) Certificates of Service issued under Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896:—Mr. Edden asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) Have any first-class certificates of service been issued since the first of January, 1900, under clause 8, "Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896"?

(2.) If so, to whom, and why were they issued?

(3.) Will he take into consideration the necessity of so amending the "Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896," so as to prevent any more certificates of service being issued?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Yes; one.

(2.) To Stephen Powell, of Edward-street, Merewether, who gave satisfactory evidence that he was acting as a manager of a mine at the commencement of the Act.

(3.) Yes.

(8.) City of Balmain:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he, in view of the fact that Balmain, Sydney's premier suburb, with a population of 30,000, which is 7,000 in excess of any other suburb, consider the advisability of proclaiming the same a city as one of the features of the Commonwealth Celebrations?

Sir William Lync answered,—In view of the probable creation of a "Greater Sydney" at no distant date, I think it would be inadvisable to take action in the direction suggested by the Honorable Member.

2. WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL:—Mr. Smith presented a Petition from Thomas H. Throver, President, and J. P. Cochran, Secretary, of the Sydney Labour Council, praying the House to pass into law the Womens Franchise Bill.

Petition received.

3. FISHERIES ACT:—Mr. Norton presented a Petition from residents and fishermen of Woy Woy, Brisbane Water, praying that the waters in and around Woy Woy be kept open for net-fishing, as there are abundance of fish there; and stating that Petitioners were against the passing of a Bill which would close the said waters against net-fishing, and thereby ruin them.

Petition received.

4. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Seventeenth Report from the Printing Committee.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall 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.) Amended Regulation No. 129, and Amended Form No. 43, under the Crown Lands Acts.

(3.) Return to an Order, made on 8th November, 1900,—"Non-residential Conditional Purchases."

(4.) Return showing the Pastoral Leases in the Central Division terminating during the year 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land parish of St. George, county of Cumberland, for a Ventilating Shaft, Main Western Outfall Sewer, at Rockdale.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for the construction of the Marrickville Stormwater Channel.

(3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Tomboye, county of St. Vincent, for a Bridge over the Charleyong River.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

(2.) Census Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 165.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 taking the Census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the aforesaid objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 21st November, 1900.

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

(2.) Scaffolding Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 166.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 inspection and regulation of scaffolding, engines, and gear used in connection with the erection, demolition, alteration, repair, cleaning, or painting of buildings or structures; for the security of persons working in connection with such scaffolding, engines, and gear; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to those objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 22nd November, 1900.

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

22nd November, 1900.

7. **EXCISE REDUCTION BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Perry moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.
 Sir William Lyne 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 2, " and the Title,"—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,—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 2, and the Title,—put and passed.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, and an amended Title.
 Ordered, That the report be adopted To-morrow.

8. **ELECTRIC TRAMWAY (BELMORE PARK TO FORT MACQUARIE) BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Austin Chapman moved, That the Honorable Member for Petersham, Mr. Cohen, be not further heard.
 Question put.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 32.

Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Norton,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Perry,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Hasall,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Ross,
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. See,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Waddell.
Mr. Barnes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Richards,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Gillies.
Mr. Bennett,	

Noes, 25.

Mr. Wilks,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. J. H. Young,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Smith,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. T. H. Griffith,
Mr. Cohen,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Chanter.
Mr. Garland,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Spruson.
Mr. Howarth,	
Mr. Millard,	
Mr. A'leck,	
Mr. Gormly,	
Mr. MacMahon,	
Mr. Dight,	
Mr. McGowen,	
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.
 Debate continued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 23 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.
 The House divided.

Ayes, 42.

Mr. Willis,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Burnes,	Mr. Fegan,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Spruson,
Mr. See,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Holman,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Ross,
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. Smith,	Mr. Arthur Griffith.
Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Edden,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cann,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Richards.
Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Donaldson,	

Noes, 5.

Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Cohen.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Millard.

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 the Bill without amendment.
 On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

9. **PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (Railway from Temora to Wyalong):**—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "That it is expedient that the construction of a line of railway from Temora to " Wyalong, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be " carried out,"—
 And the Question being again proposed,—
 The House resumed the said adjourned Debate.
 Question put and passed.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

22nd November, 1900.

10. NARRABRI WALGETT AND COLLARENDABRI RAILWAY 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 and passed.
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 the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
11. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
12. TUESDAY'S BUSINESS:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House meet for the dispatch of Business at Ten o'clock a.m., on Tuesday next, 27th instant, and that Government Business take precedence of General Business on that day, until Six o'clock p.m., at which hour General Business shall be preceded with.
Question put and passed.
13. TUCKIAN FLOOD ESCAPE SCHEME BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Mr. Hogue moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 36.

Mr. Hurler,
Mr. MacMahon,
Mr. Richards,
Mr. Sec,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Mcagher,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Nelson,

Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. Jessop,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Anderson,

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Watson,
Tellers,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Thomas Brown.

Noes, 7.

Mr. Miller,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Smith,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Edden.

Tellers,

Mr. Holman,
Mr. Gillies.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

14. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-one minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 80.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 23 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Broken Hill Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 167.*

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the acquisition of lands and the establishment, erection, and maintenance of Abattoirs, Markets, and Cattle Sale-yards, by the municipality of Broken Hill, within or in the vicinity of the municipality of Broken Hill,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 22nd November, 1900.*

(2.) Truck Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

*Lieutenant-Governor.**Message No. 168.**

A Bill, intituled "*An Act 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; and to regulate the service of legal process,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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 November, 1900.*

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Railway Fares for School-teachers:—Mr. Richards asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Will he consider the advisability of obtaining the special low rate of railway fare for school-teachers to cover the whole period of vacation, namely, from 17th December to 12th January?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The matter is receiving consideration.

(2.) Holidays to Public School Pupils:—Mr. Richards asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—In view of the disarrangement of the usual course of events, consequent upon Commonwealth Celebrations, and in order that the youth of the Colony may remember the auspicious occasion of the inauguration of Federation, will he consider the proposal of giving an extra fortnight's holiday to all pupils attending Public Schools?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The matter of extra holidays is now receiving attention.

(3.)

23rd November, 1900.

(3.) Charter of the Steamship "Dawn":—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Who was the charterer of the steamship "Dawn" on Monday, the 12th November?
- (2.) What was the amount paid to the Department for the loan of the "Dawn" upon the date named?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the steamship "Dawn" plied for hire between the shore and the Flagship of the Balmain Regatta upon the 12th November?
- (4.) Is he aware that there was plenty of privately-owned steamers capable of conveying passengers to and from the Flagship?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The "Dawn" was lent to the Balmain Regatta Committee, at the instigation of Mr. Henley, who had charge of the passenger boats on that day. A nominal charge for the use of the steamer was made, but no authority for charging the public was implied in that concession.

(4.) Tenders for the North Shore Bridge:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for Mr. Archer, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the tenders for the North Shore Bridge were agreed to be sent in under a motto with the name of the tenderer in a sealed letter, which were not opened until the design had been lodged and the award made?
- (2.) Is it true that one tender has been sent in without complying with that request; if so, what action does he intend taking in fairness to the other tenderers?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—It having been reported to me that out of the nineteen competitors for the North Shore Bridge three submitted designs in their own names, one discloses his name in the tender, and another discloses the name of the company who is to carry out the work, I decided to submit the matter for the opinion of the Attorney-General, who advises as follows:—"There appears to be nothing in the conditions to invalidate a tender which is distinguished by a motto and which discloses the name of the tenderer."

(5.) Wilberforce Labour Settlement:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has he received from a large number of settlers at the Wilberforce Labour Settlement a memorial asking for an inquiry into the action of the Board of Control in disenrolling certain settlers, and also asking for an investigation into the conditions of the title under which they hold their land?
- (2.) If so, is he prepared to grant the petition of the memorialists for an independent inquiry into the matter?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) The memorial was forwarded to the Board of Control for report, and they asked that the memorialists be requested to specify their charges or complaints. In accordance with that request each memorialist was asked to specify his charge or complaint. Only six out of ten have yet replied. The matter will be carefully considered.

(6.) Sherribry Land Ballot:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Will he call upon the Chairman of the Local Land Board to furnish a report in connection with the Sherribry land ballot on 8th November last at Boggabri; also stating and explaining the guiding principles which were followed in reducing the number of applicants from fifty-nine to less than twenty?
- (2.) Why was one block of 500 acres given without a ballot (with no chance of appeal) to one person owning 640 acres, and unmarried, although there were seventeen applicants wanting it?
- (3.) Was a single man (Russell), already the owner of 300 acres of land, allowed to ballot, while married men, with no land, but possessing excellent qualifications, were not given a chance?
- (4.) Was an intending selector (Scott), whose qualification was not considered good enough to allow him to ballot for the Sherribry blocks, allowed by the same Board, the same day, to ballot for the Edgeroi land?
- (5.) Did the Board find adversely in the application of a widow (Mrs. Shaw) who possessed farming experience and owned stock, but no land of her own to maintain them?
- (6.) In how many instances was preference shown to single men over married men with families?

Mr. Hassall answered,—I will call upon the Chairman for a full report on all the Questions asked by the Honorable Member.

(7.) Report by Mr. J. B. Jaquet on Iron Ore Deposits:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that a large number of reports, by Mr. J. B. Jaquet, on the best-known iron ore deposits in the Northern, Southern, and Western Districts have been completed, and duly forwarded by the Geological Survey Branch of the Mines Department to the Under Secretary for Mines?
- (2.) Is it a fact that reports are constantly being received by the Mines Department of fresh discoveries of iron ore; and, if so, is it his intention to delay publication of the report until such time as the field of discovery is exhausted?
- (3.) Has he any objection, and, if so, what objection, to laying upon the Table of this House the reports already completed and received, to be then printed and issued to the public as a progress report?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) Mr. Geological Surveyor Jaquet has been engaged for some time past in locating and examining the iron ore deposits of the Colony. This is necessarily a work of some magnitude, and it will take some few months longer before his report can be completed. With the exception of the last one received from him, all the preliminary reports have already been published.

(2 and 3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd November, 1900.

(2 and 3.) Mr. Jaquet is frequently having fresh deposits brought under his notice, but the complete memoir cannot be published until all these have been examined in detail. Each deposit inspected involves a large amount of investigation, calculation, and chemical tests entailing several months' work. Every effort is being made to get the memoir issued at the earliest possible date, but the work is of such magnitude it cannot be rushed through in an off-hand way. In the meantime, however, any preliminary reports that may be of any value to the public will be issued in advance of the larger publication.

(S.) Settlers at Wilberforce Labour Settlement:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Is it a fact that three settlers named Upton, Sinclair, and Robinson have been disenrolled at the Wilberforce settlement after seven years' residence?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Board has recently made a rule that no settler shall leave the settlement for more than twelve hours at a time?

(3.) Is it the intention of the Government to evict the settlers named; and, if so, what is the nature of their offence?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) The settlers mentioned were, in consequence of their non-residence, disenrolled, after having been enrolled for about seven years.

(2.) I am not aware.

(3.) The Board of Control, in whom the power of disenrolment is vested by the Labour Settlement Act of 1893, has disenrolled the settlers named, although in the case of Robinson his wife has been permitted by the Board to remain on the settlement for a reasonable time. The causes of disenrolment are absence from the settlement without leave and general neglect of the settlers' farms.

3. PAPER:—*Mr. Hassall* laid upon the Table,—Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for Public School Purposes, at Bective, Billinudgel, Box Vale, Branch River, Broilgan Siding, Burringbar, Cow Flat, Edenderry, Gillenbah, Greenwattle, Laungunyah, Maison de Dieu, Mallee Plains, Milbrulong, Newrybar, Pearce's Creek, and Tuckurimba. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. HAY IRRIGATION (AMENDING) BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. Hassall* 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 Hay Irrigation Act and Hay Irrigation (Amendment) Act, 1896. Question put and passed.

5. SCAFFOLDING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. See* 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 for the inspection and regulation of scaffolding, engines, and gear used in connection with the erection, demolition, alteration, repair, cleaning, or painting of buildings or structures; for the security of persons working in connection with such scaffolding, engines, and gear; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to those objects. Question put and passed.

6. CENSUS BILL (*Formal Motion*):—*Mr. See* 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 for taking the census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the aforesaid objects. Question put and passed.

7. NARRABRI WALGETT AND COLLARENDABRI RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Mr. O'Sullivan*, read a third time, and passed.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 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 Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 public roads; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 23rd November, 1900.*

8. CHURCH AND SCHOOL LANDS (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Sir William Lyne*, read a third time, and passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities and interest in respect of the same; and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

23rd November, 1900.

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 for the application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities and interest in respect of the same; and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 23rd November, 1900.*

9. BROWN-STREET EXTENSION BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Neild moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage with certain powers to sell and lease the same; to vest certain other lands in the Borough of Paddington for the purpose of constructing and opening certain public ways; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
Question put and passed.
10. EXCISE REDUCTION BILL :—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read for the adoption of the report from the Committee of the Whole on this Bill,—Sir William Lyne moved, That the report be now adopted.
Question put and passed.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.
(2.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, spirits, and beer.*"
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 Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, spirits, and beer,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 23rd November, 1900.*
11. ELECTRIC TRAMWAY (BELMORE PARK TO FORT MACQUARIE) BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan 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. O'Sullivan, *passed*.
Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of an electric tramway from Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; 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 an electric tramway from Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 23rd November, 1900.*
12. AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT 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. Crick, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time on the next sitting day.
13. ADDITIONAL SITTING DAY (*Sessional Order*) :—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That during the remainder of the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, Monday be a sitting day of this House, that the House meet at Ten o'clock a.m., and that Government Business take precedence on that day.
Debate ensued.
Question put,—and Division called for,—but there not being 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*.

The House adjourned, at five minutes before Six o'clock p.m., until *Monday next*, at Ten o'clock a.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 81.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

MONDAY, 26 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

PAPER:—Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—Report of the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage for the year ended 30th June, 1900, together with Appendices and Plans.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. BROWN-STREET EXTENSION BILL:—Mr. Neild, pursuant to leave granted on the 23rd November, 1900, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage with certain powers to sell and lease the same; to vest certain other lands in the Borough of Paddington for the purpose of constructing and opening certain public ways; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Wednesday next.

3. COAL-LUMPERS BASKETS BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 169.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to fix the size and regulate the weight of baskets used in discharging coal-ships,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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 November, 1900.*

4. FEDERAL ELECTIONS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Point of Order:—Mr. Neild drew attention to the fact that the Bill was incomplete, inasmuch as the Schedule referred to in clause 6 was not given. He submitted that the Bill was out of order.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that the objection taken was rather important in this case, but the Gundagai to Tumut Railway Bill was lately permitted to pass with a blank for a Schedule which was filled in the Legislative Council. He would not take upon himself the responsibility of ruling the Bill out of order, as the privileges of Members were not interfered with at this stage, and the Schedules could be introduced, and discussed, in Committee.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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.

Sir William Lyne moved, "That" the report be now adopted.

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 paragraphs " 2, 3, 8, 19, and 24 of the Schedule,"—instead thereof.

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

Debate ensued.

Question,—

26th November, 1900.

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 paragraphs 2, 3, 8, 19, and 24 of the Schedule,—put and passed.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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,—

TUESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and the Chairman reported the Bill 2° with further amendments. On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

5. JUSTICES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Crick 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. Crick 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. Fegan, the report was adopted.

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

6. WOMENS FRANCHISE BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan 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 clause " 4, and the consideration of a new clause,"—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, 26.

Noes, 2.

Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Fegan,
Sir William Lyne,
Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Cunn,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,

Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. W. W. Davis,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Quinn,

Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Hogue.
Tellers,
Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Storey.

Tellers,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Dacey.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Fegan, *passed.*

Mr. Fegan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to extend the Parliamentary franchise to women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental 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 extend the Parliamentary franchise to women, and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 27th November, 1900, a.m.

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Notice was taken that there was not Quorum present.

Mr. Speaker counted the House, and there being only seventeen Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker,—namely, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Ferris, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Mahony, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Ross, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Storey, Mr. Watkins, and Mr. Watson,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at twenty-six minutes before Two o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 82.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 27 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Resumption of land at Long Bay:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for Mr. Neild, asked the Secretary for Lands,—
Is it the intention of the Government to resume the lands sold by auction on 27th June, 1899, in the village of Brand, Long Bay?
Mr. Hassall answered,—It is not the intention of the Government to resume the lands which have been sold, but the unsold portions will probably be retained.
- (2.) Clothing for Members of the Police Force:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for Mr. Holman, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
(1.) Is it a fact that clothes of uniform thickness are served out to the whole of the Police Force, regardless of climatic conditions?
(2.) Will he take steps to have more rational clothing served out with reference to the warmer districts of the Colony?
Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police:—No. For summer use pith helmets and the lightest description of uniform are provided.
- (3.) Postmaster at Garland:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Postmaster-General,—
(1.) Has he yet arrived at any decision in regard to the removal of the person in charge of the receiving office at Garland, in consequence of serious irregularities that have so frequently taken place at the office, and which were brought before the House by Dr. Ross some short time back?
(2.) Has the officer yet sent in any report on this matter; if so, will he lay a copy of the same on the Table of this House?
Mr. Crick answered,—The Postal Inspector who has this matter in hand has been asked to expedite his report thereon.
- (4.) Appointment of Sir Samuel Way on the Judicial Committee of Privy Council:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for Mr. Smith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) When was Sir Samuel Way appointed to represent Australasia on the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council?
(2.) When did he sit on the Judicial Committee?
(3.) How many Australasian cases altogether has he heard?
(4.) Is the Government satisfied with the attention given by Sir Samuel Way to the discharge of his duties as Australasian representative on the Judicial Committee?
Sir William Lyne answered,—I will communicate with the Government of South Australia, by whom the information which the Honorable Member desires can possibly be furnished.
- (5.) Effect of Gold Currency on Producing Interests:—*Dr. Ross* asked The Colonial Treasurer,—
(1.) Has his attention been called to an interview that appeared in the *Herald* a few days ago with a *Herald's* representative and one Captain Pearse, a local expert and representative of the Wool and Meat Export Association, and who has just returned from an extended tour in the Argentine Republic; if so, has he observed that he made a statement to the effect that the Argentine farmers are selling produce in London (say) for £100, while Australian farmers are selling the same class and quantity of produce for a similar amount?
(2.) Is he aware that the Argentine farmers convert the £100 they receive for produce sold in London into gold, and then into paper dollars in Argentine based on silver, receiving 11½ dollars for each sovereign, while the Australian farmer only receives 20s. for his sovereign, based on gold currency?
(3.)

27th November, 1900.

(3.) Is it not a fact that from this very transaction Captain Pearse found the farmers in the Argentine in a very prosperous condition, much more so than the farmers are in Australia?

(4.) Has his attention been directed to the fact that Mr. Wyndham, Chief Secretary for Ireland, speaking in the House of Commons on the above subject, said he knew one individual, viz., a Mr. Brett, a farmer in Argentine, who could sell grain or wool in London at a pound in gold, and carry back paper worth £3 10s. in Argentine?

(5.) If the statement made by Mr. Wyndham in the House of Commons is correct, and of so profitable and favourable a character to producers in Argentine, will he take steps to have similar advantages extended to farmers in Australia in the disposal of their produce in London?

(6.) Is it not a fact, as clearly pointed out by Mr. Wyndham, that greater inducements are afforded for the growth of wheat and wool in Argentine than are offered to British and Australian farmers and manufacturers; and, if so, will such a state of things be allowed to continue?

(7.) Will he see that some steps are taken in a matter of so important a character to prevent our mines and factories being shut down, and our lands thrown out of cultivation, and to prevent our workmen, artisans, and toilers of the soil being thrown out of work by being brought into competition with other countries on unequal terms?

(8.) Will he consider whether the policy referred to by Mr. Wyndham, that a man who had contracted to pay interest in gold must continue to pay it in gold, although he had to shear twice as many sheep, grow double and treble the quantity of wheat, and work twice as many hours, is not prejudicial to the prosperity of farmers, wool-growers, and artisans in Australia if this system is allowed to continue?

(9.) Will he take into his serious consideration what tariff or system of protection can best be brought into existence and practical operation, in order to prevent disastrous consequences arising to Australia from this unequal competition, as that of the Argentine, &c.?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am glad the Honorable Member has drawn my attention to these important matters. He will, however, probably understand that at present I have little time to spare to devote to them. Later on, perhaps, I may be able to give them some attention.

(6.) Holidays to Station-masters in Metropolitan District:—*Mr. Meagher*, for Mr. W. W. Young, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What holidays are allowed to Station-masters in the Metropolitan District who have to work on Sunday?

(2.) Is this allowance made in all cases?

(3.) If not, why not?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the existing regulation is that Station-masters in the Metropolitan District who work seventy hours per week and upwards are allowed four weeks leave annually. Those who work less are allowed three weeks. A number of old officers who have been in the Metropolitan District a long time have been allowed in addition an occasional day off, and it is not thought desirable to interfere with a concession which has been enjoyed by them for many years.

(7.) Gold Currency System:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will the Government, for the information of the general public, obtain from Mr. Coghlan (Government Statist) a report as to the correctness or otherwise of the statement that the international money in gold in the world in 1873 amounted to £300,000,000, and of silver £1,600,000,000?

(2.) Is not the international money in the world to-day about £1,030,000,000, or £600,000,000 less than in 1873?

(3.) Is it not a fact that, if bimetallism had continued uninterrupted throughout our history until the present day, £2,200,000,000 would now be the world's stock of international money, or £600,000,000 more than in 1873?

(4.) Is it not a fact that Australia is now paying nearly £10,000,000 each year as interest on the National Debt, or at the rate of about £18 per minute?

(5.) Is it not a fact that the bulk of our indebtedness occurred since 1873, when our wool and other products began to fall in value?

(6.) Is it not also a fact that the population and trade of the world has greatly increased during the last twenty-seven years, while the currency of the world has decreased?

(7.) Is it a fact that there is a well-established understanding existing among the money-lenders of the world to make the rich richer and the poor poorer—a state of things which must lead to a serious conflict between labour and capital, ultimately culminating in socialism and anarchy?

(8.) Is the Government aware that the leading bimetallists of England, representing over 1,000 trade unions, the leading manufacturers, pastoralists and agriculturists, have sent money annually to this Colony, and a wealth of instructive literature, imploring Australia to protest against the gold standard, so that our protestations may be added to theirs, seeing, as they point out, Australia is the heaviest indebted country in the world, and that such indebtedness is accentuated by the fact that the bulk of it is owing outside our boundaries, and that this country is more affected by the new twenty-seven year's old system of currency than any other country in the world?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Questions of the Honorable Member raise the old dispute of Bimetallism versus the Gold Standard, and I fear that it would be impossible to give intelligible replies to them except at very great length. I shall refer his Questions to the Government Statistician, but I can hardly expect a reply this Session.

(8.) Presence of Country Bands during Commonwealth Celebrations:—*Mr. Kidd*, for Mr. Ewing, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Can he kindly inform Mr. Ewing whether any steps have been taken with regard to procuring the presence of country bands in the metropolis during the Commonwealth Celebrations?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have decided to be guided by the advice of musical experts on such proposals, and if this be one of their recommendations it will receive my best consideration.

(9.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th November, 1900.

(9.) Invitation to Intercolonial Military to Federal Celebrations:—*Mr. Kidd*, for *Mr. Chanter*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he issue an invitation to the Military of the adjoining Colonies to attend and take part in the Federal Celebrations to be held next January?

Sir William Lyne answered,—This has already been done.

(10.) Invitation to Municipal Authorities to Federal Celebrations:—*Mr. Kidd*, for *Mr. Chanter*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he issue an invitation to the various Mayors and Council Clerks throughout the Colony to attend and take part in the Commonwealth Celebrations in January next?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The question of invitations is not yet decided, but I think the Honorable Member may rest assured that such invitations as those mentioned will not be overlooked.

(11.) Inquiry at Callan Park Asylum:—*Mr. Carroll*, for *Mr. Richards*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that, in the conduct of an inquiry by the Public Service Board recently into matters affecting certain of the staff at Callan Park Institution, counsel was permitted to appear on one side?

(2.) If such occurred, is it not a distinct infringement of clause 53 of the Public Service Act?

(3.) Will he state whether the decision of the Board in the case in question was favourable or otherwise to the side not represented by counsel?

Mr. See answered,—In connection with the inquiry referred to, counsel was not permitted to appear on one side only. As a matter of fact, both sides were represented by counsel, *Mr. Smith* (of *Norton, Smith, & Co.*) appearing for the Matron, *Miss Fairbairn*; and *Mr. Nathan* (of *Westgarth, Nathan, & Co.*) appearing for Nurse *Quilkey*. Section 53 of the Public Service Act provides that neither officers nor Departments shall be entitled to be represented by counsel, attorney, or agent, at inquiries held by the Board. The Board, however, usually allow officers to have counsel to appear on their behalf when application for such is made, as they find that officers who are under suspension are often unable to properly present their cases, and are, therefore, on that account at a disadvantage in defending themselves.

(12.) Evidence before Electoral Commissioners:—*Mr. Brunner* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he state the names of the Members of the Legislative Assembly who gave evidence before the Electoral Commissioners, and made certain representations to the said Commissioners in connection with the design and boundaries of the Federal Electorates?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Messrs. *J. G. Carroll, J. M. Chanter, A. Chapman, G. A. Cruickshank, T. T. Ewing, J. Hayes, J. Kidd, C. A. Lee, R. H. Levien, E. W. Molesworth, J. McFarlane, R. D. Meagher, W. Millard, S. W. Moore, N. Nielsen, R. A. Price, R. Pyers, P. E. Quinn, W. Rigg, T. Ross, Dr. Ross, H. Ross, W. Savers, The Hon. F. B. Suttor, T. Waddell, J. C. Watson, W. N. Willis, and C. G. Wilson*. *Mr. Reid* waited upon the Federal Electorates Commission, but did not suggest the alteration of any boundaries. He did not give any evidence, but addressed them with regard to the necessity for giving numerical equality in each electorate. He afterwards modified his views in this respect with regard to some of the electorates.

(13.) Cobar Copper-mining Company:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) What were the exact conditions upon which the Cobar Copper-mining Company were granted the lease of land upon which they are working; and when was such lease acquired by the company?

(2.) Was the company invested with the right to mine for gold and to retain possession of same?

(3.) What is the value of gold taken from the Cobar Copper-mining Company's lease since the company commenced operations?

(4.) If the company did not acquire the right to mine for gold under the terms and conditions of the lease granted, why is it that the State has not laid claims to the whole of the value of gold so won?

(5.) Are there any other companies in New South Wales occupying a position in regard to the matter of mining for gold similar to that occupied by the Cobar Copper-mining Company; and, if so, will he name such companies?

(6.) Will he cause investigation to be made, with the object of discovering the extent to which the Cobar Copper-mining Company have retained full and complete possession of gold mined from their lease prior to 1895, and make demand, on behalf of the State, for payment for the whole of the gold gotten by them?

(7.) Has not the Full Court determined, on appeal, that the State is entitled to the whole of the gold won from their leasehold property by the Cobar Copper-mining Company?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) The lease was issued subject to the provisions of Mining on Private Lands Act, and was granted on 24th February, 1897.

(2.) Yes; the Mining on Private Lands Act passed by the Honorable Henry Copeland gives the right to the company to take the gold without royalty.

(3.) It is quite impossible to say; but the royalty on all the gold of which the Department is aware and can prove was taken prior to the date of the application to lease under the Mining on Private Lands Act was sued for in the court and recovered.

(4.) The company did acquire the right to mine for gold under the terms of their lease. The claim made was for the royalty on the gold taken prior to the application to lease. In all such cases it has been the practice to claim only the royalty on the gold and not its full value.

(5.) The Cobar Copper-mining Company's mine is the only one in the Colony known to the Department in which the gold is profitably worked in conjunction with the copper.

(6.) Yes.

(7.) Yes.

(14.)

27th November, 1900.

- (14.) Holidays for Members of the Police Force:—*Mr. Nobbs*, for *Mr. Hawthorne*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he confer with the Inspector-General of Police, and see if it can be arranged to allow all members of the Police Force to take their three weeks' holiday at once, or one day in each month and nine days consecutively?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that this is the practice at present.

- (15.) Railway Fares for the Commonwealth Celebrations:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that the railway fares fixed for the Commonwealth Celebrations are still prohibitive in the case of many country people and their families, will he communicate with the Railway Commissioners with the view of lower fares being charged?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have already been in communication with the Railway Commissioners, and, as I stated on Thursday last, the fares for long distances are most reasonable. The following are examples of the cheapest fares hitherto charged on special occasions, and those to be charged in connection with the Commonwealth Celebrations:—

From—	Cheap Fares hitherto charged.		Second Class only. Special Fares for Commonwealth Celebrations.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.
Goulburn	11	2	9	9
Cootamundra	21	1	14	9
Wagga Wagga	25	9	17	1
Albury	32	2	20	3
Hay	37	10	23	1
Bathurst	12	1	10	3
Orange	16	0	12	2
Dubbo	23	2	15	9
Nyngan	31	5	19	11
Cobar	38	3	23	4
Bourke	41	11	25	2
Muswellbrook	14	10	11	7
Tamworth	23	5	15	11
Armidale	29	10	19	1
Glen Innes	35	2	21	9
Tenterfield	39	11	24	2
Narrabri	29	5	18	11
Moree	34	5	21	5

The Commissioners have given the most earnest consideration to the question of fares to be charged in connection with the Celebrations. If a question of revenue only had to be considered, the Commissioners realise that the occasion will be one when the most liberal arrangements should be made to enable country residents to visit Sydney; but, notwithstanding that every vehicle that is fit for use is being got ready for the occasion, it is fully anticipated that the resources of the Department in regard to rolling-stock will be taxed to the uttermost, and the Commissioners are strongly of opinion that the granting of merely nominal fares would have the effect of inducing such a traffic as could not be dealt with. The aim of the Commissioners is, therefore, to grant the greatest concession to long-distance travellers, and, with this view, they have fixed the return fares on an exceptionally low scale.

- (16.) Inquiry, Railway Workshops, Eveleigh:—*Mr. McGowen* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that considerable friction has existed for some time past between the workmen and a foreman at the railway workshops, Eveleigh?
 - (2.) Did this disagreement recently form the subject of special investigation, at which evidence was taken on oath, and on which a report was made?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the inquiry was conducted by a Stipendiary Magistrate; and, if so, by whom?
 - (4.) Is it customary for inquiries of this nature to be conducted by officers outside of the Railway Department; and, if not, why was an exception made in this instance?
 - (5.) Did the subject of this inquiry previously engage the attention of the Railway Commissioners; and, if so, with what result?
 - (6.) What action (if any) has resulted from the latest special inquiry?
 - (7.) Will he lay the papers relating to this special inquiry, and containing the report and evidence thereon, upon the Table of this House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Special investigation was made. It is understood the inquiry was not conducted throughout on oath.
- (3 and 4.) Yes; the inquiry was conducted by *Mr. Smithers*, S.M. It is unusual to have inquiry into Departmental matters conducted by persons outside the Department, but this arrangement was made at the request of the Commissioners in this instance on account of exceptional circumstances.
- (5.) The matter was previously brought under the notice of the Commissioners by several Honorable Members, and inquiry was promised on a statement of the facts being submitted.
- (6.) *Mr. Smithers'* report indicated that the foreman had acted with want of tact and discretion in dealing with a number of men, and he has therefore been disrated.
- (7.) The matter having been dealt with as indicated, there would appear to be no necessity to incur the expense of printing and submitting the voluminous evidence taken.

(17.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th November, 1900.

- (17.) American Newspapers, Free Public Library :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) In regard to answers furnished to Dr. Ross's Questions on 19th October last, *re* filing copies of leading American papers in our Free Public Library, will he impress upon the Trustees of that institution the necessity of obtaining copies of the following American newspapers, so that the public of New South Wales (especially citizens from America) may have an opportunity of observing what is transpiring in the political, social, and commercial world in America?
- (2.) The names of the papers are as follows :—
- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| New York | <i>New York Tribune, Republican ; New York Herald, Democratic ; Harper's Weekly Pictorial, Independent.</i> |
| Boston, Mass. | <i>Boston Herald, Republican ; Boston Transcript, Democrat.</i> |
| Chicago, Ill. | <i>Chicago Tribune, Republican ; Chicago Record, Democrat.</i> |
| St. Louis, Mo. | <i>St. Louis Globe, Democrat and Republican.</i> |
| New Orleans | <i>New Orleans Piccannia, Democrat.</i> |
| Iowa | <i>State Register, Republican.</i> |
| San Francisco | <i>Chronicle, Republican.</i> |
| Washington City ... | <i>The Post, Republican ; The Times, Democrat.</i> |
- In these leading papers Australians will have a record of everything worth noting of American news?
- (3.) In the event of the Trustees of the Free Public Library declining to obtain copies of the above papers, will the Government see that steps are taken to have copies of the same supplied to the Public Library ; if not, will he consult with the United States Consulate on the matter of some considerable importance to American residents in these Colonies?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—I will again bring this matter under the notice of the Trustees of the Public Library, though, as the Honorable Member has already been informed, the reason the newspapers he refers to, and many others of interest and value, have not been subscribed to, is lack of funds.
- (18.) Railway Sleepers between Parramatta and Sydney :—*Mr. Kidd*, for Mr. Ferris, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Are the sleepers, or any of them, between Sydney and Parramatta in a rotten condition ?
- (2.) Are the sleepers so worn by the chairs as to make the chairs insecure ?
- (3.) Are a number of these chairs broken and unfit for use ?
- (4.) Is it a fact that some of the chairs are only spiked down to the sleepers by two spikes each instead of four ?
- (5.) Is it a fact that a number of condemned sleepers have been used on the said line ?
- Sir William Lyne answered,—The Railway Commissioners supply the following information :—
- (1.) No.
- (2.) No.
- (3.) No.
- (4.) Although four holes are provided, it is not necessary to use more than two with our hardwood sleepers.
- (5.) No.
- (19.) Holidays for Members of the Police Force :—*Mr. J. O. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. Holman, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that certain constables in the Metropolitan Police District are allowed to take three weeks' consecutive holiday, in lieu of a day per month, and nine days' annual holiday ?
- (2.) If so, will he extend the privilege generally to members of the Force, and let all constables have the option of taking holidays in either way ?
- Mr. See answered,—As I have already stated, this is the present practice.
- (20.) Transfer of Police in Country Districts :—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Colonial Secretary,—In the case of policemen in the country being removed from one station to another, is any allowance made to cover the cost of removal ?
- Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Inspector-General of Police :—Yes ; unless removed on promotion, or on account of misconduct.
- (21.) Establishment of a School of Mines at Wyalong :—*Mr. McGowen*, for Mr. Holman, asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Whether, in view of the proved permanency and the growing importance of the Wyalong Gold-field, he will take steps to establish a School of Mines there in connection with the Technical College ?
- (2.) Whether he will arrange for a series of lectures on Mineralogy, Metallurgy, Geology, and Technical Mining ?
- (3.) Whether he will consider the advisability of introducing elementary instruction in these subjects into the curriculum of the Public Schools on gold-field centres of population ?
- Mr. Pegan answered,—The Technical College Branch of the Public Service is under the control of my honorable colleague the Minister of Public Instruction, but I shall confer with him on the various matters referred to in the Honorable Member's Question.
- (22.) Examination of the Brain of Joe Governor :—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact, as lately stated in the Press, that the brain of Joe Governor (one of the Breelong murderers), and who was recently shot as an outlaw, was sent to the University of Sydney for inspection and examination after an inquest was held on his body ; if so, by whom, and by whose authority, and on whose application was the head or brain of the criminal so forwarded as alleged ?
- (2.) Will he state what has been the nature or result of the examination and inspection of the brain of this criminal, and what disease (if any) was discovered ; and will he lay a copy of the same upon the Table of this House, in the interest of so-called criminalology and science, and for the information of the general public ?
- Sir

27th November, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The brain of the deceased outlaw, Joe Governor, was forwarded to Professor Wilson, of the Sydney University, in order that the convolutions of the brain of an aboriginal murderer might be studied. This step, I may explain, was taken by Dr. Bowman, Government Medical Officer at Singleton, without the knowledge of the Police and entirely upon his own responsibility.

(2.) I am unaware what has been the result of the examination which presumably was made.

(23.) Holiday to Drivers of Mail-coaches:—Mr. Norton asked the Postmaster-General,—Will he consider the practicability of making such arrangements as will allow country drivers of mail-coaches a holiday on New Year's Day?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—It is not considered practicable or expedient that the Mail Services should be suspended on New Year's Day.

(24.) Sale of Road in the Tocumwal District:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) Has a Mr. G. F. Sugden been allowed to purchase a Government road leading to the Murray River, despite the strong protest of the Tocumwal Farmers' Union and other residents?

(2.) Was the matter only advertised in the Wagga papers, which have no circulation in that district, thus preventing due publicity to a large number of the residents interested?

(3.) What was the nature of the report of the Government officer?

(4.) In view of the large alienation of river frontages, will he consider whether it is advisable to close any public access to water?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

(1.) An application was made by Mr. G. F. Sugden to purchase the road separating portions 121, 26, and 27 from portions 75, 77 and 8, in the parish of Tocumwal, county of Denison, which road leads towards the Murray. An objection to the closing of the road was lodged by the Womme Farmers' Union, but after taking evidence the Local Land Board reported as follows:—"We find that the objection lodged against the said application has no force, and should not be sustained. There are no objections in the public interests to the closing and sale of the said road as applied for." In view of this report the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, approved of the closing of the road and sale of the land to Mr. Sugden.

(2.) The land is in the Corowa district, and the proposed closing of the road was advertised four times in the *Corowa Free Press*.

(3.) That the road was useless for traffic by vehicles, and that there were no signs of traffic along it either by vehicle or by stock.

(4.) I will keep the general question carefully in view.

(25.) Refund of Fines to Parramatta Publicans:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Minister of Justice,—Is it intended to make a refund of fines imposed upon several Parramatta publicans charged recently with selling rum broken by water; and when will such refund be made?

Mr. Wood answered,—If the persons who were fined applied themselves for a remission of the penalty, each case will be carefully considered on its merits.

(26.) Payments to the Police for work in collecting Electoral Rolls:—Mr. Meagher asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that he promised the House that extra remuneration would be paid to the Police for the extra work in collecting the Electoral Rolls?

(2.) Is it a fact that the foot police of the city have been so paid, while the foot police of the country have been denied same?

(3.) Will he see that the whole force engaged in collecting the Rolls will be treated alike, as understood by Parliament?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Yes.

(2 and 3.) No. It has taken a longer time to obtain the claims from the country, but they will be paid as early as practicable.

(27.) Working of the Technical College:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Is he aware that students attending a series of lectures at the Technical College are precluded from offering themselves for examination to enable them to obtain a certificate of competency; and will he cause an inquiry to be made with the view that some steps are taken to rectify the defects now existing in the working of the Technical College?

Mr. Perry answered,—I am not aware. Possibly the Honorable Member refers to a special course of lectures in sanitation to persons seeking appointment as Sanitary Inspectors, in connection with which an examination is to take place next month.

(28.) Purchase of Copies of *The Clarion*:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the Government have agreed to purchase 10,000 or any number of copies of a publication to be specially issued in Melbourne, entitled *The Clarion*, dealing with the question of the Australian Commonwealth?

(2.) What price has been agreed to be paid for the copies to be purchased of the publication in question?

(3.) Who is the publisher of *The Clarion*, and how often is it published?

(4.) What object is expected to be served by the Government in making this purchase?

(5.) Does the Government propose to deal with New South Wales newspapers or other publications in connection with the Commonwealth inaugurations as it has in connection with *The Clarion*?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I refused to purchase copies of such publication.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th November, 1900.

2. OYSTER FISHERIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—The following Petitions,—from certain oyster lessees, praying that the House will so amend the Oyster Fisheries (Amendment) Bill as to provide that fair and reasonable compensation according to value will be given to lessees on the resumption of their leases,—were presented by the Members named:—
 (1.) By Mr. Law.
 (2.) By Mr. Kidd.
 Petitions received.
3. PAPERS:—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table:—
 (1.) Return respecting the production of wheat and the net export or import of breadstuffs in the States forming the Australian Commonwealth during the last twenty years.
 (2.) Return respecting the temporary supply of provisions to Little Bay Hospital.
 (3.) Report of the Federal Electoral Districts Commissioners.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. DISMISSAL OF MR. JAMES S. INCH, CLERK, REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S OFFICE (*Formal Motion*):—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That the papers relating to the dismissal of Mr. James S. Inch, clerk, Registrar-General's Office, from the Public Service, laid upon the Table of this House on the 27th September, 1900, be again referred to the Printing Committee.
 Question put and passed.
5. POSTPONEMENT:—The Order of the Day for the further consideration in Committee of the Whole of the Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill postponed until Tuesday next.
6. TEMORA TO WYALONG RAILWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 170.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Temora to Wyalong; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

*Government House,**Sydney, 24th November, 1900.*

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

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Bingara, Mr. Moore, 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 alleged, or implied, influence sought to be brought upon the Electoral Commissioners by Members of this House, in connection with the design and boundaries of the Federal Electorates."
 And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—
 Mr. Moore moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Point of Order:—Sir William Lyne took exception to this motion as an anticipation of the discussion on the Order of the Day,—“Federal Elections Bill; third reading.”
 Mr. Speaker said that the objection taken was fatal to the motion. If this were permitted, two discussions could take place on the same subject in the same Session.
8. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (EMPLOYEES APPEAL) BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.
 Bill read a second time.
 On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
9. CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF STEEL RAILS:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House approves of the Government entering into a contract for the supply of at least one hundred thousand (100,000) tons of steel rails, to be manufactured in New South Wales, at a price not exceeding the cost in Great Britain or America, with the usual freight and charges added.
 Debate ensued.
Point of Order:—Mr. Carruthers submitted that this motion was improperly before the House, Standing Order No. 133 requiring that questions involving the expenditure of public money should originate in a Committee of the Whole.
 Debate ensued.
 Mr. Speaker said he must uphold the objection taken, and declare the motion out of order.
10. AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, “That” this Bill be now read a third time.
 Mr. Crick 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 all the clauses “except Nos. 1, 2, 3, 11, 18, 19, 20, and 21,”—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

27th November, 1900.

Question then,—That the Bill be recommitted for the reconsideration of all the clauses except Nos. 1, 2, 3, 11, 18, 19, 20, and 21,—put and passed
 On motion of Mr. Crick, 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 progress, and obtained leave to sit again at a later hour of the day.

And it being Six o'clock, General Business proceeded with under the resolution adopted on the 23rd November, 1900, a.m.

11. GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK (COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
 Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 171.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank Act of 1870.

Government House,

Sydney, 26th November, 1900.

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

12. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Parliamentary Elections (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to further amend the Parliamentary 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 November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 27th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,

Clerk of the Parliaments.

- Page 2, clause 2, line 5. *After "shall" insert "within thirty days after the commencement of this Act"*
 Page 2, clause 2, line 7. *After "district" second occurring omit remainder of clause.*
 Page 2, clause 3, line 18. *Omit "roll" insert "lists for the district"*
 Page 2, clause 3, line 18. *Omit "districts" insert "such district if such district is"*
 Page 2, clause 4, line 24. *After "inserted" insert "and any person who wilfully certifies to any particular in any such claim which he knows to be untrue shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months"*
 Page 2, clause 5, line 34. *Omit "within the division"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 21. *Omit "which do not appear on any roll" insert "who are entitled to be enrolled but who are not enrolled"*
 Page 3, clause 7, line 22. *Omit "but which such persons are entitled to have enrolled"*
 Page 3, clause 8, line 33. *After "shall" insert "with the butt"*

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,

Deputy 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.) Public Service (Taxation Officers) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 27th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

- (3.) Boundary-street Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to vest certain land in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of Sydney*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 27th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,

President.

(4.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

27th November, 1900.

(4.) Cooverwull Academy Loan Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Principal and Councillors of Saint Andrew's College to mortgage certain lands and premises situate at Cooverwull, in the county of Cook, and known as the Cooverwull Academy; to provide for the application of moneys borrowed on mortgage; and for other purposes incidental thereto,*"—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 November, 1900.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Wright, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

13. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS ACTS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL (*changed from*) MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Meagher, 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, with an amendment, including the amendment in the Title.

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

14. LEGITIMATION BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Hogue moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

Original Question again proposed.

Debate ensued.

Question put,—and Division called for,—but there not being 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*.

Bill read a second time.

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 Bill.

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

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

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

15. MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS ACTS FURTHER AMENDMENT BILL (*changed from*) MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS AMENDMENT BILL :—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Meagher, 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 regulate the practice of Medicine and Surgery and other matters connected therewith,*" including the amendment in the Title,—but proposes to amend the new clause to follow clause 3 by omitting the word "fifteen" and inserting the word "five" instead thereof, in which amendment the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 27th November, 1900.*

16. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. See 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 eleven Members present, exclusive of Mr. Speaker,—namely, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Bruncker, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Edden, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Jessep, Mr. Moore, Mr. O'Sullivan, and Mr. Watkins,—

Mr. Speaker adjourned the House, at five minutes after Eleven o'clock p.m., until To-morrow at Ten o'clock a.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 83.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Appointment of Tidewaiters :—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Miller, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that three applicants, outside the Civil Service of the Colony, have recently been appointed as tidewaiters in Sydney?

(2.) Is it a fact that preference is given by the Act, and was promised in the advertisement calling for applications, to men already in the Service possessing sufficient qualifications?

(3.) What special qualifications have the applicants appointed?

(4.) Were there no men in the Service with similar qualifications?

(5.) Does he consider that it is dealing fairly with men in lower positions in the Service to deny them chances of promotion by appointing outsiders?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Two persons from outside the Public Service have recently been appointed as tidewaiters—not three.

(2.) Yes; and one person already in the Service was selected for appointment from amongst the applicants.

(3.) The notice inviting applications stated that smart, active, seafaring men of good address and varied experience would have preference. One of the applicants selected is chief officer of a steamship, and the other has had fourteen years' experience of Customs' work.

(4.) The Committee who reported on the applications, for the information of the Public Service Board, consisted of Mr. J. Baxter, Chief Inspector, Customs Department; Captain Neitenstein, Comptroller-General of Prisons; Captain Edie, Superintendent of the Department of Navigation; and Mr. F. A. Coghlan, Registrar, Public Service Board. These gentlemen reported that they considered only one of the applicants already in the Service was suitable for the position. The appointment of this person was recommended.

(5.) As before stated, the claims and qualifications of the applicants for the position already in the Service were fully considered before the appointments were recommended.

(2.) Clothing for Members of the Police Force :—*Mr. Bennett*, for Mr. Richards, asked the Colonial Secretary,—By way of extending humanitarian consideration to the Police Force of this Colony, will he bring under the attention of the Inspector-General of Police the suggestion universally commended of clothing the Police Force during hot months of the year in uniform of a lighter and more Australian character; and further consider whether such proposal might not be entered upon as an innovation heralded with Commonwealth distinction?

Mr. See answered,—The Inspector-General of Police informs me that he has given personal consideration to this matter, and has satisfied himself that the summer clothing for police is of a suitable character, being pith helmets, a light and loose serge jumper, with white duck trousers.

(3.) Retaining Wall at Darling Island :—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) When does he expect the northern retaining wall at Darling Island to be completed?

(2.) Is the work being carried on now; if not, what is the cause of the stoppage or delay?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—

(1.) In six months, if there be no cessation of work.

(2.) Yes; work is now in hand, but has been delayed for a long time owing to all the dredges and cranes being engaged in connection with plague matters, &c.

(4.)

28th November, 1900.

- (4.) Darling Island Improvements:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Smith*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that the Darling Island improvements are about completed?
 - (2.) Are any preparations being made to erect additional accommodation sheds upon the reclaimed ground?
 - (3.) Is it intended to erect grain-elevators and cold storage chambers upon the site?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) The sea-wall round Darling Island is completed on eastern face only; that along the western frontage is just started.
- (2.) Yes; one shed 300 feet by 80 feet is complete, and tenders are being invited for a second shed of similar size, but to be enclosed.
- (3.) It is not intended to erect elevators, as grain is not yet handled in bulk in the Colonies, nor are the ships usually trading here adapted for carrying the grain in bulk.

- (5.) Sunday Trading:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Have any instructions been given to the police to stay proceedings against any persons keeping their shops open on Sundays?
- (2.) Is it a fact that some prosecutions have been postponed for three weeks for a breach of the Act by keeping shops open on Sundays?
- (3.) Are shops to be allowed to be kept open on Sundays in view that an attempt is to be made to deal with the matter by legislative enactment?
- (4.) Will he give *Mr. Affleck* an opportunity of getting his Sunday Closing Bill introduced?
- (5.) If it has been decided to allow matters *re* Sunday closing to drift back to its old position, will he, in justice to those who have been fined, see that the fines are repaid to the persons fined, as it would be unfair to fine some and allow others to go free?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I gave no special instructions, but the whole question of Sunday trading is now being carefully considered, with a view to legislative action being taken before the end of this Session, if considered necessary.

- (6.) Payment of School-teachers' Salaries:—*Mr. Gormly* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

- (1.) Will he make arrangement for the payment of teachers' salaries on or before the schools break up for the Christmas vacation, so that teachers who wish to leave home may avail themselves of the full term of holidays?
- (2.) Is he aware that such a practice exists in Victoria?

Mr. Perry answered,—I am endeavouring to make arrangements. If the Honorable Member will repeat the Question later on, I will be able to give him a definite reply.

- (7.) Payment to Members of the Partially-paid Forces:—*Mr. Hawthorne*, for *Mr. Meagher*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the members of the Partially-paid Forces have not received any payments to the quarter ending 30th September?
- (2.) If not, what is the reason?

Mr. See answered—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—

- (1.) Not altogether; a few regiments have yet to be paid. In certain instances, regiments were late in submitting pay lists.
- (2.) Heavy work with reference to invalids has partially delayed checking returns with a reduced staff.

- (8.) Decrease in Birth-rate:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) In view of the alarming disclosures made in a recent valuable publication issued by the Government Statist (*Mr. Coghlan*) in reference to child-birth and the decreasing birth-rate in the Colony of late years, will he take into his serious consideration the advisability of appointing a Royal Commission, consisting of one reliable and experienced medical gentleman, one barrister, one stipendiary magistrate, and two thorough competent laymen, so that so serious a matter may at their hands receive the fullest and most searching investigation, in the interest of the general public?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that much of the falling-off in child-birth and the birth-rate in the Colony of late years (recently referred to by the Government Statist) is attributable to the establishment of a host of private hospitals in our midst for the treatment of alleged diseases belonging to females?
- (3.) Why are private hospitals allowed to exist in our midst without being registered, and the number and nature of the cases therein treated not sent in to the Government in the shape of an annual report, as occurs in public hospitals?
- (4.) Why is it that there is not a better system of control adopted by the Government over the sale of special drugs and instruments kept in stock by a class of chemists and druggists?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1 and 2.) The question to which attention is drawn is one of great importance, and will have attention. The question whether a Royal Commission would furnish the best way to investigate it in the first place will be considered.
- (3.) The Charities Commission, which recently reported, recommended that private hospitals should be registered and brought under inspection. As soon as the law is altered in the necessary direction, this recommendation will be carried out.
- (4.) Persons who apply drugs and instruments to improper uses are already amenable to the criminal law.

- (9.) Post Office Savings Bank:—*Mr. Pyers* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Post Office Savings Bank is open for the transaction of business on public holidays, thus violating the Bank Holidays Act?
- (2.) Will he give instructions that the practice be discontinued, so that officers of this Department shall be placed on the same footing as those in other Government Departments at the forthcoming Federal Celebrations?

Sir

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th November, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) The Government Savings Bank at the Head Office is open from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. on holidays, for paying only, and this is not considered to be a violation of the Bank Holidays Act.

(2.) The holiday arrangements, so far as this particular Department is concerned, will be considered in regard to the Federal Celebrations. I am informed that the few officials employed are allowed holidays on other days in consideration of their services on public holidays.

(10.) Employment of Men on the Tuppal Cutting and Murray Embankment Works:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Has he received a letter from certain employers of labour in the Tocumwal District, asking that no local men be put on the Tuppal cutting and Murray embankment works, now being carried out by the Government, until after the harvest?

(2.) If so, will he consider the effect of this proceeding on the local labour market, and decline to make any such distinction?

(3.) Will he give a favourable ear to the request of the Tocumwal Farmers' Union by directing that local men be employed on these works?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Some such letter was received, but the works were, and are, full-handed, and there is, therefore, no occasion to take the steps suggested.

(11.) Medical Appointment to the Trial Bay Prison:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What is the course adopted in making medical appointments in the Government Service?

(2.) Is it a fact that the Board of Health recently made a medical appointment or appointments to the Trial Bay Prison through the intervention of a fee-collecting medical agency in Sydney?

(3.) If so, is it the intention of the Government to perpetuate this system of selection in preference to inviting applications from qualified candidates through the Public Press?

(4.) Is L.S.A., Lond. (Licentiate Society of Apothecaries, London) a surgical qualification?

(5.) If so, would that qualification alone entitle the holder to fill the appointment of surgeon in the Government service?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) All appointments to the Public Service are made by the Public Service Board in accordance with the Act.

(2 and 3.) The matter referred to does not come within the scope of the functions of the Board of Health; but no medical appointment has been made "through the intervention of a fee-collecting medical agency in Sydney."

(4.) Yes.

(5.) There is no such appointment as "surgeon in the Government service."

(12.) Regrading and Increments in the Public Service:—Mr. Affleck, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he urge on the Public Service Board the necessity of publishing the results of regrading, and also paying any increments due to officers, before the end of the present year?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The work of regrading the Service is a very heavy one, and it will not be possible to complete it by the end of the present year. As a matter of fact, some of the Departments have not yet furnished the necessary returns to the Board. With regard to the increments due to officers, as soon as the Appropriation Act has been passed, and the necessary funds are available, the matter will be dealt with, with the least possible delay.

(13.) Issue of Medals to British and Indian Troops:—Mr. Hawthorne, for Mr. Neild, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Having regard to the fact that medals were granted by the Imperial authorities to Colonial troops taking part in the Jubilee Celebrations in London, will he consider favourably the issue of medals to the British and Indian troops taking part in the Commonwealth Celebrations?

Mr. See answered,—The granting of medals seems to be a matter for the Imperial Government and not for the Colonial Government.

(14.) Long Cove Bridge:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it his intention to have a swing constructed in the Long Cove Bridge which will enable fair-sized vessels to go into Long Cove Bay, which they are not able to do at present?

(2.) If so, when is he likely to proceed with the work?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—When I see industries enough established on the shores of Long Cove to justify the swing.

(15.) Tramway from Balmain to Leichhardt and Petersham:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When does he intend starting with his promised extension of the tram from Balmain to Leichhardt and Petersham railway station?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I can do nothing in this matter until I know what money will be voted for the construction of tramways.

(16.) Closing of Sydney Harbour against Net-fishing:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did the fishermen during the plague scare invite the closing of Sydney Harbour; and was it, as a result, so closed?

(2.) Has it again been closed; and, if so, for how long a period?

(3.) In view of the large demand for fresh fish that must result from the influx of visitors to the Commonwealth Celebrations during the next few months, will he revoke part of the proclamation closing the Harbour, to enable fishermen to meet that demand?

Mr. See answered,—The Fisheries Commission manage the fisheries of the Colony. I have not yet received the information from them.

28th November, 1900.

(17.) Commemorative Medals for School Children:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Were designs invited for Commemorative Commonwealth Medals for school children ; and, if so, when ?

(2.) In view of the short time available to produce the large number of medals required, what steps does he propose to take in the matter ?

Mr. Perry answered,—No ; not by Department of Public Instruction. All matters of this kind are referred to the Commonwealth Celebration Committee.

(18.) Wood-blocking of the Parramatta Road:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is he aware that he promised, some months ago, a deputation which waited on him from Leichhardt, Annandale, Petersham, and other western suburbs, that he would put a sum of money on the next Estimates ?

(2.) As that promise has not been carried out in the Estimates-in-Chief which have already been passed, is it his intention to place a sum of money on the Additional Estimates sufficient to wood-block the Parramatta-road from Johnstone's Creek to Palace-street ?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—I cannot see my way to do this, but will endeavour to provide the money next Session.

(19.) Station-masters on the Western Railway:—Mr. Thomas Brown, for Mr. Spence, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that station-masters out on the Western railway lines are refused the climate allowance conceded to other Government officials ?

(2.) Will he direct the Railway Commissioners to remedy this injustice ?

Sir William Lyne answered,—It is understood the Honorable Member refers to an extra allowance to public servants living in remote districts. I have referred this matter to the Railway Commissioners, who point out that the Railway employees are more favourably situated than public servants generally. The railway brings them in closer touch with trading centres, and they are allowed privileges which do not apply to Civil Servants.

(20.) Food and Liquor Adulterations:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of answers furnished to Question by Dr. Ross last week, regarding the serious injury to public health arising from the increasing prevalence of food and liquor adulterations now in consumption by the general public, samples of which have lately been subjected to analysis by the Government Analyst, in which a large number of the samples that were analysed contained a large percentage of adulteration, will he, under the circumstances, furnish a list of the names of the persons having in their possession samples of adulterated food, &c., that were analysed (milk especially), for the better protection of the public ?

Sir William Lyne answered.—I will consider the question of the advisability of publishing the names of traders found in possession of adulterated foods, &c.

2. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall 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 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. See laid upon the Table,—Return respecting the George-street, Parramatta, Benevolent Asylum.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. O'Sullivan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for a Shelter-shed in connection with the Post and Telegraph Office at Dulwich Hill.

(2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Field of Mars, county of Cumberland, for a residence for the Deputy-Governor of the Gaol at Parramatta.

(3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Alexandria, county of Cumberland, for the extension of the wharf on the eastern side of Woolloomooloo Bay.

(4.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Forster, county of Gloucester, for a Post and Telegraph Office at Forster.

(5.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act, 1900, of land, parish of Boborah, county of Ewenmar, for a Court-house at Gilgandra.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Wood laid upon the Table,—Papers in the case of the Crown v. Mr. John Dight, J.P., Tamworth.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

3. GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (EMPLOYEES APPEAL) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Sir William Lyne, read a third time, and passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make better provision for the hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th November, 1900.

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 hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 28th November, 1900.*

4. COAL MINES REGULATION (FURTHER AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Motion*) :—Mr. Fegan moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act of 1896.

Question put and passed.

5. SUNDAY TRADING REGULATION BILL :—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker :—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 172.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 law relating to Sunday trading.

*Government House,
Sydney, 26th November, 1900.*

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

6. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Newtown—Erskine Division, Mr. Molesworth, 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 regard to their negotiations for a contract for the supply of Steel Rails."

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

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

Point of Order :—Mr. Crick submitted that the Notice of Motion given by Mr. O'Sullivan to-day should prevent the discussion of this motion, otherwise this debate would anticipate the consideration of that Notice.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that it was his duty, under the usages and Standing Orders of the House, to prevent a dual discussion. The Notice given this morning was read aloud, as required by the rules, and then became a part of the business of the House, and he could not allow the discussion of that to be anticipated on a motion for the adjournment of the House. This motion was therefore out of order.

7. FEDERAL ELECTIONS BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Lee 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 Schedule,"—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, 57.

Mr. Rose,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Chanter,
Mr. See,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Carroll,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Dight,	Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Wright,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Willis,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Fegan,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Bennett,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Richards,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. O'Conor,
Mr. David Davis,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Phillips,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Reymond,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Meagher.
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Barnes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Archer,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Sleath,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Waddell,	
Mr. Edden,	Mr. Rigg,	

Noes, 18.

Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Lees,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Miller.

Tellers,

Mr. Ross,
Mr. Hawthorne.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Original Question,—That the Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. See, *passed.*

Mr.

28th November, 1900.

Mr. See then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental 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 provide for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 28th November, 1900.*

8. GOLD-DREDGING LEASES MODIFICATION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Fegan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 173.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 enable the Secretary for Mines to modify, remit, refund, and fix the rent of certain leases and promises of leases, and vary the conditions applicable to the same, and authorise the amalgamation of such leases, and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 27th November, 1900.*

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

9. SURVEYORS REGISTRATION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. Hassall, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 174.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 registration and licensing of surveyors; to authorise surveyors so licensed to enter any land; to regulate the practice of surveyors; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects.

*Government House,
Sydney, 27th November, 1900.*

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

10. COAL MINES REGULATION (FURTHER AMENDMENT) BILL:—Mr. Fegan, pursuant to leave granted this day, presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the Coal Mines Regulation Act of 1896,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time To-morrow.

11. AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT 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 at a later hour of the day.

12. ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES FOR 1900-1901:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 175.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Additional Estimates of the Expenditure of the Government of New South Wales for the financial year ending 30th June, 1901.

*Government House,
Sydney, 27th November, 1900.*

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimates, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th November, 1900.

13. SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS FROM THE VOTE ADVANCE TO TREASURER FOR THE YEAR 1899-1900:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 176.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the accompanying Supplementary Statement of Payments from the Vote Advance to Treasurer, 1899-1900, on account of extraordinary Services of the year 1899-1900, submitted for Parliamentary Appropriation in adjustment of the Advance Vote.

Government House,

Sydney, 27th November, 1900.

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Statement of Payments, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

14. LOAN ESTIMATE FOR 1900-1901:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 177.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 1900-1901, proposed to be provided for by Loan.

Government House,

Sydney, 27th November, 1900.

Ordered to be printed, together with the accompanying Estimate, and referred to the Committee of Supply.

15. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Medical Practitioners Acts Further Amendment Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated the 27th November, 1900, in reference to the Medical Practitioners Acts Further Amendment Bill,—agrees to the Assembly's amendment upon the Council's amendments in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (2.) Old-age Pensions Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "An Act to provide for Old-age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of or consequent on the aforesaid object,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 28th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 28th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 4, clause 9, lines 29 and 30. Omit "and dishonouring him in the public estimation"

Page 4, clause 9, lines 33 and 34. Omit "for any offence dishonouring him in the public estimation"

Page 11. After clause 31 insert the following new clause:—

Any person who, in the opinion of the Board, should not receive the pension payment in cash, but who is entitled to a pension under the provisions of this Act, may at the discretion of the Board be boarded out, and the amount of the pension to which he is entitled may be withdrawn from the Consolidated Revenue, and paid by the Board to the person selected to provide for the pensioner's support. Pensioner may be boarded out

Every person boarded out under the provisions of this section must be inspected periodically by an official appointed by the Government.

Page 13, clause 38, lines 9 and 10. Omit "and dishonouring him in the public estimation"

Page 13, clause 38. At end of clause add "Provided further that it shall not be lawful for any licensed publican to knowingly supply to any person receiving a pension under this Act any fermented or spirituous liquor, and any person convicted of an offence under this section shall be liable to a penalty of not exceeding ten pounds."

Page 14, clause 48. Omit subsection (2) insert "and such regulations upon publication in the Gazette shall have the full force of law, and shall be laid before Parliament within fourteen days after making thereof if Parliament be then in session, and, if not, within fourteen days after the commencement of the then next ensuing session of Parliament."

Page 14, clause 50, line 45. Omit "five" insert "ten."

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy-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.

28th November, 1900.

16. **WORKING OF THE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY**:—Mr. J. C. L. 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 16th August, 1900, together with Appendix.
Ordered to be printed.
17. **PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, 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 further amend the Parliamentary Electoral Law.*"
Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 28th November, 1900.
18. **LIBRARY ACCOMMODATION**:—Mr. Haynes, on behalf of the Chairman, brought up a Report from the Joint Library Committee on Library Accommodation.
Ordered to be printed.
19. **CENSUS BILL**:—
(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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 taking the census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on 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 make provision for taking the census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the aforesaid objects.
On motion of Mr. See, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to make provision for taking the census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the aforesaid objects,*"—which was read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and read a second time at a later hour of the day.
20. **SUPPLY**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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, 29 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

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:—

ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE—1900-1.

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 £1,328, as supplement to Schedule B to Schedule No. 1 of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, 18 and 19 Vic., cap. 54, for the year 1900-1.

No. II.—EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE.

(7.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £975, for Executive Council, for the year 1900-1.

(8.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,832, for Legislative Council, for the year 1900-1.

(9.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10,498, for Legislative Assembly, for the year 1900-1.

(10.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,420, for Legislative Council and Assembly, for the year 1900-1.

(11.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th November, 1900.

- (11.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,998, for Parliamentary Library, for the year 1900-1.
 (12.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,167, for Parliamentary Reporting Staff, for the year 1900-1.
 (13.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,350, for Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, for the year 1900-1.

No. III.—CHIEF SECRETARY.

- (14.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,525, for Colonial Secretary, for the year 1900-1.
 (15.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £11,694, for Auditor-General, for the year 1900-1.
 (16.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £302, for Vice-President of the Executive Council and Representative of the Government in the Legislative Council, for the year 1900-1.
 (17.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £13,428, for Aborigines Protection Board, for the year 1900-1.
 (18.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £378,128, for Police, for the year 1900-1.
 (19.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £114,610, for Lunacy, for the year 1900-1.
 (20.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,418, for Master in Lunacy, for the year 1900-1.
 (21.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £205, for Medical Board, for the year 1900-1.
 (22.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £40,194, for The Medical Adviser to the Government, for the year 1900-1.
 (23.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,304, for The Government Statistician, for the year 1900-1.
 (24.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,833, for Agent-General for the Colony, for the year 1900-1.
 (25.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £106,038, for Charitable Institutions, for the year 1900-1.
 (26.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,075, for Fisheries Commission, for the year 1900-1.
 (27.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,106, for Fire Brigades, for the year 1900-1.
 (28.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,806, for Botanic Gardens, for the year 1900-1.
 (29.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £925, for Nursery Garden, Campbelltown, for the year 1900-1.
 (30.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,310, for Government Domains, for the year 1900-1.
 (31.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,311, for Garden Palace Grounds, for the year 1900-1.
 (32.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,276, for Centennial Park, for the year 1900-1.
 (33.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,060, for Electoral Office, for the year 1900-1.
 (34.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,028, for Military Secretary, for the year 1900-1.
 (35.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £93,859, for Permanent and Volunteer Military Forces, for the year 1900-1.
 (36.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,103, for Naval Forces, for the year 1900-1.
 (37.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £78,875, for Charitable Allowances, for the year 1900-1.
 (38.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £64,979, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1900-1.

No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

- (39.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £25,943, for Treasury, for the year 1900-1.
 (40.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,594, for Stamp Duties, for the year 1900-1.
 (41.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £31,650, for Land and Income Tax, for the year 1900-1.
 (42.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £28,866, for Customs, for the year 1900-1.
 (43.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £90, for Gold Receivers, for the year 1900-1.
 (44.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £550, for Gold and Escort, for the year 1900-1.
 (45.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £97,122, for Government Printer, for the year 1900-1.
 (46.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £73,430, for Stores and Stationery, for the year 1900-1.

(47.)

28th November, 1900.

- (47.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £9,933, for Mercantile Explosives, for the year 1900-1.
- (48.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £37,350, for Board of Health, for the year 1900-1.
- (49.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,236, for Shipping Masters, for the year 1900-1.
- (50.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £62,563, for Navigation, for the year 1900-1.
- (51.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £625, for Lifeboats, for the year 1900-1.
- (52.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £17,004, for Public Wharfs and Resumed Properties, for the year 1900-1.
- (53.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £277,621, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1900-1.
- (54.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100,000, for Advance to Treasurer, for the year 1900-1.

No. IV.—RAILWAYS.

- (55.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,200,052, for Railways and Tramways—Existing Lines, Working Expenses, for the year 1900-1.

No. V.—THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

- (56.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £48,498, for The Attorney-General, for the year 1900-1.
- (57.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,300, for Public Service Board for the year 1900-1.
- (58.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £25,800, for Miscellaneous Services (Public Service Board), for the year 1900-1.

No. VI.—SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

- (59.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £160,543, for Department of Lands for the year 1900-1.
- (60.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £36,350, for Department of Lands—Contingencies, for the year 1900-1.
- (61.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,300, for Land Appeal Court, for the year 1900-1.
- (62.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £350, for Church and School Lands, for the year 1900-1.
- (63.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,300, for Advances to Settlers Board for the year 1900-1.
- (64.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £31,725, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1900-1.
- (65.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £68,480, for Survey of Lands, for the year 1900-1.
- (66.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,370, for Trigonometrical Survey of the Colony, for the year 1900-1.
- (67.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £50, for Special Services—Labour Settlements, for the year 1900-1.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

- (68.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £94,877, for Establishment, for the year 1900-1.
- (69.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,624, to recoup Civil Service Superannuation Fund, on account of abatements and gratuities to Works Officers retired in 1895 and 1896, for the year 1900-1.
- (70.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £880,500 for Public Works and Services, for the year 1900-1.
- (71.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £84,502, for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, for the year 1900-1.
- (72.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £9,852, for Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, for the year 1900-1.
- (73.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £12,850, for Labour Bureau for the year 1900-1.

No. VIII.—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

- (74.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,904, for Department of Justice, for the year 1900-1.
- (75.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,553, for Master in Equity, for the year 1900-1.
- (76.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,245, for Prothonotary and Divorce Court, for the year 1900-1.
- (77.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £30,037, for Sheriff, for the year 1900-1.
- (78.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,173, for Bankruptcy Court, for the year 1900-1.
- (79.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,025, for Probate and Intestate Estates Office, for the year 1900-1.
- (80.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,693, for District Courts, for the year 1900-1.
- (81.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th November, 1900.

- (81.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £7,880, for Coroners, for the year 1900-1.
 (82.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £84,060, for Petty Sessions, for the year 1900-1.
 (83.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100,013, for Prisons, for the year 1900-1.
 (84.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £31,084, for Registrar-General and Examiner of Patents, for the year 1900-1.
 (85.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £45, for Registrar of Copyright, for the year 1900-1.
 (86.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,771, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1900-1.

No. IX.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, LABOUR, AND INDUSTRY.

- (87.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £717,691, for Public Instruction, for the year 1900-1.
 (88.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £17,038, for Industrial Schools, for the year 1900-1.
 (89.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £4,619, for Observatory, for the year 1900-1.
 (90.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,411, for Museum, for the year 1900-1.
 (91.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,814, for Public Library of New South Wales, for the year 1900-1.
 (92.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £2,613, for National Art Gallery, for the year 1900-1.
 (93.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,282, for Labour and Industry Branch, for the year 1900-1.
 (94.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £17,250, for Grants in aid of Public Institutions, for the year 1900-1.
 (95.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £985, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1900-1.

No. X.—SECRETARY FOR MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

- (96.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £74,082, for Department of Mines, for the year 1900-1.
 (97.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £23,699, for Prevention of Scab in Sheep, for the year 1900-1.
 (98.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £15,460, for Imported and Introduced Stock, for the year 1900-1.
 (99.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £890, for Registration of Brands, for the year 1900-1.
 (100.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £585, for Management of Pounds and Commons, for the year 1900-1.
 (101.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £31,507, for Agriculture, for the year 1900-1.
 (102.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,500, for School of Mines and Assay Works, for the year 1900-1.
 (103.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £3,356, for Board of Exports, for the year 1900-1.
 (104.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £33,969, for Miscellaneous Services, for the year 1900-1.

No. XI.—THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

- (105.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £743,199, for Postal and Electric Telegraph Department, for the year 1900-1.

STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS FROM THE VOTE "ADVANCE TO TREASURER 1899-1900" ON ACCOUNT OF SERVICES OF THE YEAR 1899-1900 SUBMITTED FOR PARLIAMENTARY APPROPRIATION IN ADJUSTMENT OF THE ADVANCE VOTE.

- (106.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £62,341 11s. 6d. in adjustment of the Vote "Advance to Treasurer, 1899-1900."

STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS FROM THE "EXPENDITURE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT" DURING THE PERIOD 12TH TO 30TH JUNE, 1899, FOR URGENT CLAIMS ON ACCOUNT OF SERVICES OF THE YEAR 1898-9 SUBMITTED FOR PARLIAMENTARY APPROPRIATION.

- (107.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £62,388 16s. 11d. for 1898-9 Services.

ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES—1900-1.

No. II.—EXECUTIVE AND LEGISLATIVE.

- (108.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £150, to defray additional charge under the head "Legislative Council and Assembly."
 (109.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100, to defray additional charge under the head "Parliamentary Reporting Staff."

No. III.

28th November, 1900.

No. III.—COLONIAL SECRETARY.

- (110.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £73, to defray additional charge under the head "Vice-President Executive Council, &c."
- (111.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £785, to defray additional charge under the head "Auditor-General."
- (112.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,000 to defray additional charge under the head "Police."
- (113.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £24,075, to defray additional charge under the head "Government Statistician."
- (114.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £208, to defray additional charge under the head "Agent General."
- (115.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £50, to defray additional charge under the head "Charitable Institutions."
- (116.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £125, to defray additional charge under the head "Botanic Gardens."
- (117.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £10, to defray additional charge under the head "Electoral Office."
- (118.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £100, to defray additional charge under the head "Charitable Allowances."
- (119.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £6,998, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous Services."

No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

- (120.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £800, to defray additional charge under the head "Land and Income Tax Department."
- (121.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £80, to defray additional charge under the head "Board of Health."
- (122.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £300, to defray additional charge under the head "Navigation."
- (123.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £30,199, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous."

V.—ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

- (124.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £5,110, to defray additional charge under the head "Attorney-General."

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

- (125.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,672, to defray additional charge under the head "Establishment."

No. VIII.—DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

- (126.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £50, to defray additional charge under the head "Petty Sessions."
- (127.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £480, to defray additional charge under the head "Registrar-General."
- (128.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £29, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous."

No. IX.—PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

- (129.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £500, to defray additional charge under the head "Miscellaneous."

No. X.—MINES AND AGRICULTURE.

- (130.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £25, to defray additional charge under the head "Mines and Agriculture."

No. XI.—POST OFFICE.

- (131.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £1,402, to defray additional charge under the head "Post Office."

SUPPLEMENTARY STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS FROM THE VOTE ADVANCE TO TREASURER, 1899-1900, ON ACCOUNT OF EXTRAORDINARY SERVICES OF THE YEAR 1899-1900.

- (132.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, a sum not exceeding £212,443 0s. 10d., in supplementary adjustment of the Vote "Advance to Treasurer, 1899-1900."

ESTIMATE OF EXPENDITURE ON ACCOUNT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND OTHER SERVICES, TO BE PROVIDED FOR BY LOAN.

I. Permanent and Reproductive Works.

No. III.—COLONIAL SECRETARY.

- (133.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £33,000 for Hospitals: being £6,000 for Sydney Hospital—towards Additions, &c.; £6,000 for Prince Alfred Hospital—towards Additions, &c.; £10,000 for North Shore Hospital—towards New Building; and £11,000 for Country and Suburban Hospitals—towards erection of New Buildings to meet the demand for increased accommodation.

(134.)

VOICES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th November, 1900.

(134.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £18,000, for Fire Brigades: being £15,000 for Purchase of Land for Extension of Metropolitan Head Station, and £3,000 for Sites for, and Erection of, Suburban Fire Stations.

No. IV.—TREASURER AND SECRETARY FOR FINANCE AND TRADE.

(135.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £100,000, for Darling Harbour Resumed Areas, to provide for Erection, Additions, and Improvements to Wharfs, Buildings, Streets, and Lanes.

(136.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £320,000 for Railways: being £150,000 for Rolling Stock to meet Additional Traffic and for New Lines; £100,000 for Additions to Railway Lines, Stations, Buildings, Workshops, and for other purposes; and £70,000 for Reduction of Grades, North Coast Line, between Morisset and Adamstown.

(137.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £431,200, for Tramways: being £253,000 for additions to Power-house, Steam and Electrical Machinery, and the provision of Sub-electrical Stations, &c.; £53,200 for Overhead Wiring, Feeders, Rail-bonding, &c.; £100,000 for Additional Cars and Car-sheds; £5,000 towards amount required to put the Tarravingee Tramway in working order, and necessary improvements; and £20,000 towards Duplication of Existing Lines—Sydney-Balmain and other Lines.

No. VI.—SECRETARY FOR LANDS.

(138.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £25,000, towards clearing or otherwise Improving Crown Lands.

No. VII.—SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS.

(139.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £64,000 for Roads and Bridges: being £4,000 for Punts, viz., New Ferry Punt for South Arm, Bellinger River; New Steam Ferry Relief Punt; Ulnarra Punt; Punts generally; £60,000 for Bridges, viz., Bridge over Wollondilly River at Hill's; Bridge over Murrumbidgee River at Uriarra Ferry; Bridge over Beardy River at Yarrowford, Main Northern Road; Bridge over Murrumbidgee River at Mittagang, Road Cooma to Murrumbucca; Bridge over Manar Creek, Road Braidwood to Tarago; Bridge over Nepean River at Harvey's Crossing—further sum; Bridge over M'Donald River at St. Albans; Bridge over Wyong Creek at Wyong, Road Wyong to Tuggerah, &c.; Bridge over Hastings River at Cameron's Falls, Road Wauchope to Beechwood; Bridge over Glennie's Creek at Middle Falbrook, Road Glennie's to Camberwell and Goorangoola Road; Bridge over Fish River at Delayney's Falls, including Road Approach (Road Tarana to Jenolan); Bridge at Luskintyre, Hunter River; Bridge over Macdonald River, Road Walcha to Nyangla; Bridge at Hay, Murrumbidgee River, improvements; Gol Gol Bridge; Bridge over Murrumbidgee River at Darlington; Bridge at entrance to Fennel Bay, including approaches, Road Teralba to Toronto; Bridge Lachlan River at Darby's Falls; Bridge Lachlan River at Goolagong; Bridge over Quirindi Creek at Hamilton's, Road Quirindi to Wallabadah; Bridge over Macquarie River at Scabbing Flat, near Wellington; Iron or Steel Bridges generally.

(140.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £293,950, for Harbours and Rivers:—being £10,000 for Wharfs and Jetties, viz.:—Queen's Wharf, Newcastle—reconstruction; Wharf, Brewarrina, Darling River; Wharf, Tathra; Jetties and Sheds for Ferry Boats, Fort Macquarie—East side; Wharf Manly—reconstruction; Wharfs, Sutherland Dock, Cockatoo Island; Wharfs and Jetties generally; £35,000 for Sea Walls, Reclamation, Dredging, and other Works, viz.:—Landing Silt from Sand Pumps and other Dredges, Forming Ground, and Special Dredging and Appliances; Cook's River and Shea's Creek; Road along Rushcutter Bay Reclamation; North Harbour, Newcastle—Reclamation; Long Cove Reclamation; Works generally; £8,000 for Dredge and Ferry Docks, viz.:—Richmond River; Ferry Dock and Roadway, Daves' Point; Works generally; £15,000 for Dredges, Tugs, Punts, and Barges, viz.:—Iron Hopper Barge for Dredge "Hunter"; Punts for Harbour Improvement Works; Screw Tug Steamer for Dredge Service; Two Ash Punts for Naval Station; Works generally; £40,000 for Port Kembla Harbour Improvements—further sum; £7,000 for Improvements, Hastings River—further sum; £5,000 for Improvements, Tweed River—further sum; £3,000 for Improvements, Lavender Creek, Murwillumbah, Tweed River; £15,000 for Improvements, Clarence River; £10,000 for Improvements, Richmond River (including Snagging, Removal Reefs at Woodburn, Training-walls and Dredging, Coraki and Wardell, Protection of River Banks, Buckendoon); £7,000 for Improvements, Manning River; £7,000 for Improvements, Macleay River; £7,000 for Improvements, Bellinger River; £4,000 for Improvements, Camden Haven; £10,000 for Improvements, Darling and Murrumbidgee Rivers (snagging and clearing); £4,000 for Improvements, Parramatta River; £2,000 for Improvements, Moruya River; £5,000 for Improvements, Cape Hawke (Entrance); £1,000 for Improvements, Lake Macquarie—further sum; £7,500 for Improvements at Newcastle—Ocean Beach Reserve; extra Mooring Accommodation; Removal Wrecks at Entrance; £2,000 for Improvements, Crookhaven River (Entrance); £13,450 for Improvements, Circular Quay—East side; at Orient Company's Wharf; Wood-blocking; Electric Lighting; £1,000 for Wollongong Harbour Works; £20,000 for Darling Harbour Wharf Extension and Land Resumption—further sum; £10,000 for Fitzroy Dock—Extension, Appliances, and other Improvements; £5,000 for Extension of Workshops, and providing extra Machinery and Tools—Newcastle; £5,000 for Construction of Works to prevent Erosion of Shore at Byron Bay; £25,000 for Country Towns Water Supply—further sum; £10,000 for Purchase of Steamer to replace "Thetis"—further sum.

(141.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £108,675, for Government Architect: being £10,000 for Police Buildings—Leadville, Alstonville, Kangaroo Valley, Burruga, Nerriga, Woolabra, Walcha, Junee, Hornsby, Bega, Narrandera, Wagga, Nerrigundah, Kensington, Wolumla, Lockhart (and Court-room),

28th November, 1900.

room), Bombala, Batoman's Bay, Bowning, Police Buildings generally: £8,000 for Court-houses—Braidwood, Darlinghurst, Port Macquarie, Cootamundra, Broken Hill, Supreme Court, Inverell, Murrurundi, Moss Vale (including site), Court-houses generally; £5,000 for Gaols Generally—Additions and Electric Lighting; £19,700 for Post and Telegraph Offices—Erection and Additions—Milparinka, Newcastle (further sum), Orange, Ulrimo, Bulladelah, Inverell, Wellington, Post and Telegraph Offices generally; £6,425 for General Post Office—Additions, Lifts and Fittings—further sum; £15,000 for Benevolent Asylums—Additions and Electric Lighting—Newington, Liverpool, Rookwood, Asylums generally; £10,000 for Institutions for Insane—Additions and Electric Lighting Gladesville, Rydalmere, Parramatta, Kenmore, Newcastle and Northern Districts Reception House, Institutions generally; £15,000 for National Art Gallery—Additions—further sum; £2,000 for Treasury Buildings—Additions—further sum; £3,000 for Custom House Buildings—Additions—further sum; £1,000 for Royal Mint, Sydney—Additions—further sum; £4,000 for Crown Law Offices, Macquarie-street—Additions; £1,500 for Government House—Renewal of Building; £1,000 for Botanic Gardens—Building and Improvements—further sum; £550 for "Sobraon," Nautical School Ship—Electric Light and other Works—further sum; £3,500 for Extra Lighting Plant and Buildings, Central Electric Light Station, Sydney; £1,200 for Sydney Hospital—Reconstruction of Floors and Ceilings; £1,800 for Kenmore Hospital—to pay Arbitration Award.

(142.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £49,400, for Sewerage Construction Branch: being £10,000 for Stormwater Channels and Drainage, viz., Stormwater Channel from Rozelle Bay to Evans-street, Balmain; Stormwater Drainage, Picton—further sum; Long Cove Creek Stormwater Channel; Newcastle Stormwater Channels—further sum—Pitching and Fascineing; Tighe's Creek Stormwater Channel, Newcastle; New Lambton Stormwater Channel; Botany Stormwater Channel—further sum; Rookwood Stormwater Channel; £400 for Drainage and Water Supply, Jenolan Caves, Government Buildings—further sum; £7,000 for Waverley, Randwick, and Kensington Sewerage—further sum; £7,000 for North Sydney and Mosman Sewerage Extension—further sum; £1,000 for Manly Sewerage—further sum; £3,000 for Drainage, Parkes and Forbes, for sanitary purposes; £15,000 towards Construction of Sewerage Schemes for Newcastle and Suburbs; £6,000 for Glebe Sewerage Works—value of Works taken over and to be taken over from the Glebe Municipal Council, including interest.

(143.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £423,760, for Railway and Tramway Construction: being £70,000 for Dubbo to Coonamble Railway—towards Construction of; £40,000 for Culcairn to Germanton Railway—towards Construction of; £50,000 for Narrabri to Walgett Railway—towards Construction of; £16,000 for Cobar Mines Railway—towards Construction of; £27,950 for Railway from Moree to Inverell—further sum; £14,635 for Railway from Byrock to Brewarrina—further sum; £4,760 for Railway from Koorawatha to Grenfell—further sum; £10,000 for Trial Surveys; £265 for Regrading of Railway Line in Rookwood Cemetery, including Platforms, on condition that Railway Commissioners contribute one-half of cost; £1,400 for Narrabri to Moree Railway—further sum; £8,650 for Clyde to Carlingford-Rosehill Railway—further sum; £1,000 for Nevertire to Warren—further sum; and for Tramways—£60,000 for General Tramway Extension; £119,100 for Tramway from Belmore Park to Fort Macquarie, *via* Castlereagh and Pitt Streets.

(144.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £110,000 for Water Conservation and Artesian Boring, Public Watering Places, and Services incidental thereto.

(145.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £30,000 for Telephone Tunnels.

(146.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £158,000 for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage: being £18,000 for Water Supply—strengthening Upper Canal and other minor permanent works; £110,000 for Sewerage—Reticulation Sewers, Metropolitan Area, including Low-level Sewers, and provision for new City Sewers; £5,000 for Water Supply and Sewerage—to redeem Debentures, issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney for Construction of Waterworks, taken over by the Government, which mature on 1st July, 1901; and £25,000 to redeem Debentures, issued by the Municipal Council of Sydney for Construction of Sewerage Works, taken over by the Government, which mature on 1st July, 1901.

(147.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £5,000 for Hunter River District Water Supply and Sewerage Board, Water and Sewerage Works.

NO. IX.—DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

(148.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £60,000 for Department of Public Instruction: being £50,000 for Public School Buildings and Sites; £10,000 for University Library—towards Building.

NO. X.—POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

(149.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £98,500 for Postmaster-General: being £12,000 for Erection of Post and Telegraph Offices at Minor Towns; £4,500 for Purchase of Sites for Post and Telegraph Offices generally; £25,000 for Construction and Extension of Telegraph and Telephone Lines generally; £7,000 for Erection of Pneumatic Tubes, General Post Office and Sydney Merchants' Exchange; £50,000 towards establishment of Metallic Circuit System.

II. Repayment of Loans.

(150.) Resolved, that there be granted to Her Majesty, for the year 1900-1, to be raised by Loan, a sum not exceeding £374,900, to meet 5 per cent. Debentures falling due in 1901—in July, 1901,—Railways and other purposes—Act 35 Vic. No. 5.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolutions were read a second time, and agreed to.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th November, 1900.

21. **WAYS AND MEANS:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 report be *now* received.

The Chairman then reported the resolutions, which were read a first time, as follows:—

(6.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Service of the financial year 1900–1901, the sum of £7,508,094 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

(7.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Supplementary Service of the financial year 1899–1900, the sum of £274,784 12s. 4d. be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

(8.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for Services of the financial year 1898–9, “Expenditure Suspense Account,” the sum of £62,388 16s. 11d. be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

(9.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty during the present Session, a sum not exceeding £2,703,385 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 Sir William Lyne, the resolutions was read a second time, and agreed to.

22. **APPROPRIATION BILL:**—

- (1.) Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lyne, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolutions of Ways and Means (Nos. 6, 7, and 8), 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, 1900, to the 30th day of June, 1901, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the “Vote” Advance to Treasurer, 1899–1900, for supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1899, to the 30th day of June, 1900, inclusive of both dates; and to cover payments charged to “Expenditure Suspense Account” for Services of the year 1898–9; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects.

- (2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill 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, 1900, to the 30th day of June, 1901, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the Vote ‘Advance to Treasurer, 1899–1900,’ for supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1899, to the 30th day of June, 1900, inclusive of both dates; and to cover payments charged to ‘Expenditure Suspense Account’ for Services of the year 1898–9; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects,*”—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 Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

23. **LOAN BILL:**—

- (1.) Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lyne, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 9), to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony; and for other purposes.

- (2.) Sir William Lyne 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 now read a second time.

- (3.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

24. **TREASURY BILLS DEFICIENCY BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

25. **PAPER:**—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Recommendation by the Public Service Board respecting the Commercial Agent and Inquiry Clerk, Agent-General’s Department.

Ordered to be printed.

28th November, 1900.

26. CENSUS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. See, 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. See, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
27. TEMORA TO WYALONG RAILWAY BILL:—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 Temora to Wyalong; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, as far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.
Question put and passed.
28. AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT 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 2^o with further amendments.
On motion of Mr. Crick, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
29. POSTPONEMENTS:—
(1.) The remaining Government Business, until To-morrow.
(2.) Legitimation Bill (*Council Bill*); third reading;—until To-morrow.
30. PADDINGTON STREETS EXTENSION BILL (*changed from*) BROWN STREET EXTENSION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Neild moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Neild, 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. Neild, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
31. COORWULL ACADEMY LOAN BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wright 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. Wright, 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. Wright, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
32. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House at its rising do adjourn until Four o'clock p.m. This Day.
Question put and passed.
33. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
- The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty minutes after Six o'clock a.m., until *Four o'clock* p.m. This Day.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 84.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 29 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES REDISTRIBUTION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. See, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 178.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 redistribution of New South Wales into electoral districts; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to that object.

*Government House,
Sydney, 28th November, 1900.*

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

2. CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF STEEL RAILS:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 179.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a contract for the supply of at least one hundred thousand tons of Steel Rails to be manufactured in New South Wales, at a price not exceeding the cost in Great Britain and America, with the usual freight and charges added.

*Government House,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.*

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of the Whole on this subject.

3. BANKS HALF-HOLIDAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 180.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 enable banks and branch banks to be closed on certain afternoons; to provide that such afternoons shall not be banking or business hours for the purpose of any business at such banks and branches; and to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, 1887.

*Government House,
Sydney, 27th November, 1900.*

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

29th November, 1900.

4. QUESTIONS:—

- (1.) Letter-carriers and Sorters, Postal Department:—Mr. Smith asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that letter-carriers who are receiving salaries from £110 to £144 per annum, and who are competent and eligible for promotion or transference to the Letter-sorting Branch, have to forfeit the amount of salary in excess of £100 upon their transference from the Carrier to the Sorters' Branch of the Postal Department?
 - (2.) Is it his intention to alter such anomalous Regulation or Regulations?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that the letter-carriers and sorters of the Victorian Postal Department's maximum salaries are £4 4s. and £25 respectively higher than the New South Wales Postal Department's rates?
 - (4.) Is he prepared to adopt the Victorian practice of transferring the senior letter-carriers to the Sorting Branch without making any reduction in the carriers' salaries?
 - (5.) Is it a fact that there are 220 letter-carriers in receipt of salaries under £100 per annum?
 - (6.) When does he intend to pay the arrears of annual increments due to the servants of his Department?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1.) No; only in cases where no higher salary than £100 per annum is available, or where other officers have stronger claims to the higher salary.
- (2.) See reply to No. 1.
- (3.) The maximum salaries of letter-carriers and sorters in New South Wales are £144 and £170 respectively. I understand that in Victoria the maxima have been fixed at £108 and £180, although officers appointed prior to 22nd October, 1894, are allowed to retain the former maxima, £148 4s. and £195 respectively.
- (4.) This practice is already carried out, as far as possible, consistently with the provisions of section 42 of the Public Service Act.
- (5.) Yes; including juniors who enter the Service between 14 and 16 years of age, at 10s. per week, and rise by annual increments of £13 to £78 a year, and who will, under a new scheme just introduced, receive further increments on a smaller scale until their salaries reach £120 a year.
- (6.) When the Public Service Board notify their approval of the payment, provided the necessary funds are voted.

- (2.) Cure of Alcoholism:—Mr. Smith asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does he intend to appoint a Board of medical and other experts to sit as a Royal Commission, to institute a thorough inquiry with a view to ascertaining the most efficacious specific for the cure of the appalling disease of indulgence in alcoholism?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Not at present.

- (3.) Postal and Telegraph Officials in Country Districts:—Mr. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. Richards, asked the Postmaster-General,—
- (1.) In view of the near approach of Federal control of the postal and telegraphs service, will he consult with the officers of Appointments Branch and ascertain the length of service of postal and telegraph officials in offices in the severely hot climates of the Colony?
 - (2.) Will he seek to introduce a system by which officers who desire to be transferred from such positions may do so after three years continuous service in one office, and to make it compulsory for other officers to succeed them?
 - (3.) Will he endeavour to have the offices in question specially graded at higher rates of salary than at present, with a view to extending greater inducement to officers to accept such positions?

Mr. Crick answered,—

- (1 and 2.) The question of introducing such a system as that indicated by the Honorable Member is one which has already received very full consideration, as will be seen by reference to the last report of the Public Service Board (pages 7 and 8), in which it is stated that "the Board, after carefully considering the whole subject, have reluctantly come to the conclusion that any proposal to give officers an absolute right to removal after being stationed a certain number of years in one place would be impracticable."
- (3.) The object desired seems to be fairly met by the system of district allowances already in operation. I should like to add, for the information of the Honorable Member, that in the report I propose to forward for the information of the Commonwealth Postmaster-General I propose to strongly advise him to adopt an absolute rule, giving the Department power to remove officers who have been in hot districts for a certain number of years, and to make other officers go to those districts.

- (4.) Inmates of Rookwood, Parramatta, and Liverpool Asylums:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) The number of inmates that are at present confined in Rookwood Poor-house, Parramatta, and at Liverpool?
- (2.) The number of warders that are on attendance duty at night in each of these institutions?
- (3.) Is he aware that, for want of a sufficient number of night warders, the inmates in these institutions are put to a large amount of unnecessary suffering and hardship, and in many cases unable in their dying state to obtain even a drink of water?
- (4.) Will he see that some steps are taken to have these inconveniences and hardships rectified?

Mr. See answered,—The following information has been furnished by the Acting-Director of Government Asylums:—

- (1.) Rookwood Asylum, 1,020; George-street Asylum, 914; Liverpool Asylum, 742.
- (2.) There are two night attendants and twelve inmate night watchmen on duty all night at Rookwood Asylum; one night attendant and twelve inmate night watchmen on duty all night at George-street Asylum; and one night attendant and seven inmate night watchmen on duty all night at the Liverpool Asylum. A tell-tale clock registers the attendants' rounds in each ward.
- (3 and 4.) Adequate provision has been made for attending to the requirements of the sick poor sheltered in these institutions.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th November, 1900.

(5.) Public and Private Hospitals in the Metropolitan District:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) The number of public hospitals that are established and subsidised by the Government in Sydney and suburbs?

(2.) The same information with regard to private hospitals; and if they are registered or subject to any system of public inspection or control by the Government; if so, by whom?

(3.) The number of inmates treated in private hospitals compared with invalids treated in our public institutions?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) Eleven.

(2.) There is no information as to the number of private hospitals, and they are not registered or inspected.

(3.) There is no information on this point.

(6.) Subway at Redfern Station:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Ferris, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he bring under the notice of the Commissioners for Railways the desirability of continuing the present underground subway at Redfern Station to the centre of George-street, nearly opposite the Cyclorama, as a means of public safety and convenience to foot-passengers?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have consulted the Railway Commissioners in regard to the proposal, but, in their opinion, the great expense that would be incurred would not be justified by the advantage that such a subway would confer. The railway traffic generally is taken by the railway trams, and the pedestrian traffic makes direct for George-street. Comparatively few would make the detour which the proposal of the Honorable Member would involve, and very many persons would object to pass through such a lengthy tunnel. A further objection to the proposal at the present time exists in connection with the proposed alteration of the Redfern terminus.

(7.) Closing of Sydney Harbour against Net-fishing:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Did the fishermen during the plague scare invite the closing of Sydney Harbour; and was it, as a result, so closed?

(2.) Has it been again closed; and, if so, for how long a period?

(3.) In view of the large demand for fresh fish that must result from the influx of visitors to the Commonwealth Celebrations during the next few months, will he revoke part of the proclamation closing the Harbour, to enable fishermen to meet that demand?

Mr. See answered,—

(1.) The Commissioners of Fisheries resolved on the 21st March, 1900, to close the unclosed portions of Port Jackson for a period of six months, solely on account of the plague scare, and five days after this action was taken a deputation of fishermen waited on the Commissioners, and asked that these waters might be closed, and that other waters remote from Sydney might be thrown open to netting.

(2.) Yes, for two years from 15th October, 1900.

(3.) The Commissioners do not feel justified in recommending that any portion of Port Jackson waters be thrown open to netting, as reports were received from the inspectors, prior to the closure, that the supply of fish had become very scarce.

(8.) Hours of Labour of Employees in Cordial Factories:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Minister for Public Instruction,—

(1.) Is it a fact that yard hands and carters employed in cordial factories do not come under the provisions of the Early Closing Act?

(2.) Is it a fact that these men work continuously from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., and, in some cases, until 10 p.m., without any public or other holiday?

(3.) Will he take steps to immediately bring these men under the provisions of the Early Closing Act, or by some other means of legislation reduce their excessive and continuous labours?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) It is a fact.

(2.) The hours vary, but in the summer season are undoubtedly long. In some cases portion of the public holiday is allowed; in other cases it is not allowed.

(3.) I have ready a measure dealing generally with the hours of employment in the various trades and callings.

(9.) Clerk at the Botanic Gardens:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, for Mr. Wilks, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) What was the salary paid to the late clerk at the Botanic Gardens?

(2.) Is it a fact that though applied for on account of the amount of work, an increase of salary from £140 per annum was refused, the answer given by the Public Service Board being that he would have to abide by the increment Regulations?

(3.) Can he say how, in the face of the previous decision in connection with an increase to the late clerk, the Public Service Board can now, by ignoring the Regulations, give the present clerk an increase of £25 per annum, thus obviating the necessity for examination; and can he reconcile the Board's action with that taken in connection with the previous clerk, as a junior clerk at £50 per annum has now been appointed to assist the present clerk; and the major portion of the work, such as payment of salaries, wages, &c., has been taken over by another Department, thus leaving the present occupant of the position with 35 per cent. less work to do than the late clerk who was refused an increase except under Regulations?

(4.) Will he state if the clerk at the Botanic Gardens is a sister of a late member of the Public Service Board, and can he explain how, as the Act places the grading in the hands of the Permanent Heads, who are now engaged regarding the whole service, the Board increases the salary of the clerk from the 1st January next, and thus tie the hands of the Permanent Heads?

Mr. See answered,—I have here a very long answer to a very long question, and perhaps my better course will be to lay it on the Table in the form of a return. (10.)

29th November, 1900.

(10.) Closing of Shops on Christmas Eve:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the fact that Monday, 24th December, will be Christmas Eve, and that, according to the law as it at present stands, every business, with the exception of public-houses and light refreshment shops, will be compelled to close at 6 o'clock on that night; and, further, as this particular day is regarded, and is, in fact, the busiest day in the whole year for all businesses, will he seriously consider what steps can be taken to avoid what will be a most serious loss to the trading community, and the equally serious inconvenience to the public at large on this particular night?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Provision is made in the proviso to section 1 (1) of the "Early Closing Act, 1899," to meet this contingency. The requirements as to the early closing of shops do not apply, in so far as they fix the closing time before 10 o'clock, to the day immediately preceding Christmas or New Year's Day. All shops, therefore, may remain open till 10 p.m. on the evening of Monday, the 24th December.

(11.) Scrub Leases—Land Exchanges:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

(1.) The number of scrub leases that have been issued by the Government in the Colony during the last twelve months, and the names of the person or persons who acted as agents in such cases?

(2.) The number of land exchange cases that have been approved of by the Government during the last twelve months, and the name of the person or persons who acted as agents in such cases?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The information will have to be collected, and when collected will be forwarded to the Honorable Member in the shape of a return.

(12.) Holidays in the General Division of the Post Office:—Mr. Gillies, for Mr. Austin Chapman, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the General Division of the Government Printing Office enjoying the three weeks' annual leave which was granted to the Clerical Division some months ago, will he arrange so that the General Division of the Post Office will receive this extra week without further delay, notwithstanding that the clerks that are employed in the Mail Branch have been enjoying this privilege for some time past?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The question of granting three weeks' annual leave to the whole of the General Division of the Public Service is now under consideration, and communications are being addressed to the various Departments with a view of ascertaining whether the cost of the concession, as at first estimated, viz., £4,969 18s. 6d. per annum, cannot be considerably reduced.

(13.) Holidays in the General Division of the Public Service:—Mr. Rose asked the Minister of Justice,—

(1.) When will the officers of the General Division branch of the Public Service be informed as to the result of their petition for one week's extra leave of absence?

(2.) Is it a fact that the General Division of the Government Printing Branch have the extra week extended to them?

(3.) Are members of the Clerical Division to receive an extra week's holiday for the Commonwealth Celebrations?

(4.) If so, will the General Division likewise have an extra week's holiday?

Mr. Perry answered,—My honorable colleague, the Attorney-General, has furnished me with the following replies:—

(1.) The question of providing funds for the granting of an extra week's leave to the members of the General Division is now before the Government, and a decision has not yet been come to.

(2.) Yes.

(3 and 4.) This matter has not yet been decided.

(14.) Supply of Provisions for the Commonwealth Celebrations:—Mr. Byrne asked the Colonial Secretary,—Whether, in view of the large number of Imperial and other troops who will be present during the Commonwealth Celebrations, he will give instructions that tenders be called for the supply of meat, bread, and general rations, in order that equal opportunities be afforded to all tradesmen of tendering for the supplies?

Mr. See answered,—Tenders are always invited.

(15.) Sunday Trading:—Mr. Hawthorne, for Mr. Affleck, asked the Colonial Treasurer.—

(1.) Were all fruit and refreshment shops closed on Sunday last, 25th instant; if not, did the police take a note of those open for the purpose of prosecution?

(2.) Has any order been issued that no prosecutions are to be instituted for the present against those breaking the law; if so, why has such an order been issued?

(3.) Has the Government any intention of introducing a Sunday Closing Bill this Session; and if so, do they expect it to become law during this Session?

Sir William Lyne answered,—Notice of Motion of a Bill to amend the law relating to Sunday Closing has already been given, and I hope that in the course of the next few days a Bill will be passed which, while permitting small refreshment shops to remain open on Sunday at certain places of public resort, under a system of proper restriction, will prevent that transaction of business on the Lord's Day which has led to the present justifiable demand for State interference. No instructions have been given.

(16.) Report by Mr. Jaquet on Iron Ore Deposits:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In *re* the matter of manufacturing steel rails, in the production of which it is to be stipulated that 25 per cent. of the ore shall be local, will he have special attention in this regard bestowed upon the iron deposits of the Rylstone electorate, referred to in his report by Mr. Jaquet, of the Mines Department?

(2.) Will he, in this connection, ascertain from his colleague, the Secretary for Mines, when Mr. Jaquet's report upon the iron deposits of the Colony will be made public property?

Sir

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th November, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—

- (1.) If the company constructed the works they will, no doubt, use the ore most suitable for their requirements, but I will direct their attention to the iron deposits referred to.
 (2.) My honorable colleague informs me that Mr. Jaquet's report will be an extensive one, and cannot be ready for some time.

(17.) Reward to Victor Randall:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Was it mainly through the instrumentality of a boy named Victor Randall, who chased two purse-snatchers through the streets, and by whom he was assaulted, that those thieves were convicted at the Water Police Court?
 (2.) Was a promise made to the lad by the police (Senior-Sergeant Blackburn and Constable English) that he would be suitably rewarded?
 (3.) Was the lad sent for by the Department of Justice; and when he attended there, was he given the munificent sum of 8s.
 (4.) Is that the Department's idea of a suitable reward?

Mr. Perry answered,—The Inspector-General of Police has furnished me with the following replies:—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) No. The 8s. was given for fares to and from the Court, but, as the boy was not in any employment, the Senior-sergeant could not make any further recommendation. The Superintendent, however, states that had he been acquainted with the facts at the time he would not have hesitated to recommend a special gratuity, which will be considered.
 (3 and 4.) The scale of allowances to witnesses at Police Courts provides only for the re-imbursment of loss incurred by witnesses, not for payment of rewards.

(18.) Consignment of Stock from Camden to Sydney:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) On the 6th November, did Mr. Patrick Carlon, Camden, engage and pay for a full railway truck for the conveyance of a consignment of pigs from that place to Sydney?
 (2.) Did the servants of the Railway Department afterwards put into the same truck a number of pigs, the property of Mr. John Devitt, Camden, who paid for half a truck?
 (3.) Has Mr. Carlon been refused a rebate by the Department?
 (4.) Does he approve of the action of the Department in charging a consignee for a full truck and then reletting a portion to another person?
 (5.) Have similar cases to the above occurred before?
 (6.) As a consignee engages a full truck for special reasons, such as avoiding the chance of his stock being infected by other consignments, will he see that in future the hirer of a truck shall get what he contracts for?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I will be glad to refer the matter to the Railway Commissioners for inquiry.

(19.) Report of the Committee on Federal Finance:—*Mr. Thomas Brown* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Report of the Committee on Federal Finance appointed in April, 1898, has never been laid upon the Table of the House, and therefore is not readily accessible to Members and the general Public?
 (2.) In view of the importance of this report, both from an historical standpoint, and for the information contained, will he cause same to be laid upon the Table of the House?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I was not previously aware that the report of the Federal Finance Committee had not been laid upon the Table of the House. I will presently lay a copy upon the Table.

(20.) Chinese Residents in the Colony:—*Mr. Cruickshank* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Will he inform the House of the number of Chinese in the Colony at last census?
 (2.) The number of Chinese in the Colony at the present time?
 (3.) Will he cause inquiry to be made to see that certificates are held by the increased numbers?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The information will be prepared, and laid upon the Table of the House in the form of a return as soon as possible.

(21.) Gratuities to Members of the Military Force:—*Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, for Mr. E. M. Clark, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Has he redeemed his promise relative to the payment of gratuities to members of the Military Force who bore the brunt of the work in connection with the despatch of troops to South Africa?
 (2.) If not, what is the cause of the delay?
 (3.) Will he take steps to have this money paid without further delay?

Mr. See answered,—This matter is now before the Colonial Treasurer.

(22.) Employees at the Power House, Ultimo:—*Mr. Gillies*, for Mr. Norton, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the carpenters, bricklayers, labourers, &c., employed in construction work at the power-house, Ultimo, are not allowed for holidays?
 (2.) If so, what is the reason a distinction is made between these men and the other employees of the Government?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I understand that the work referred to is being carried out by the Railway Commissioners, and men have been temporarily employed in connection with it. The Commissioners take the same position as if the work was let to a contractor. The men on the permanent staff are allowed holidays.

29th November, 1900.

(23.) Disfranchisement of Telegraph Line Repairers:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that many men employed in the Telegraph Department as linemen and repairers, in consequence of their continual removal from place to place and having no settled homes, are prevented from obtaining electoral rights?

(2.) Will he, where such is found to be the case, take steps to prevent these men being disfranchised?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) No.

(2.) If the persons referred to are qualified to be enrolled for any electoral district, their names should appear on the lists recently collected by the police. If their names do not appear, they should make claims at the time notified to have their names inserted, and electors' rights will be delivered to them by the police.

(24.) Manufacture of Steel Rails:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that he, on 31st July, minuted the papers containing the proposal of Messrs. Jamieson and Keats thus: "Advise that this proposal will be agreed to"?

(2.) Is it not a fact that he, at a banquet given by the Chamber of Manufacturers, stated that the promoters of the steel rails scheme intended to erect their works at Port Kembla?

(3.) Is it not a fact that he, on a subsequent occasion, stated that it was proposed to erect the "smelters" (blast furnaces) in Tasmania?

(4.) Is he not aware that it would not be necessary to expend £750,000 on works for the *bona-fide* purpose of establishing the industry?

(5.) Can he say why Messrs. Jamieson and Keats were advised, on September 24, that if their deposit of £10,000 was not posted forthwith "other arrangements will probably be entered into"?

(6.) What were the "other arrangements," and with whom was it contemplated they might be "entered into"?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I shall give the fullest explanation upon all the points mentioned so soon as the matter of the steel rails contract is before the Committee.

5. LIQUOR TRAFFIC:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By *Mr. Howarth*—From certain residents of Hornsby.

(2.) By *Mr. Crick*—From certain residents of Spring Hill and surrounding neighbourhood.

(3.) By *Mr. Wilson*—From certain residents of Hillgrove.

(4.) By *Mr. Wilson*—From certain residents of Hillgrove.

Petitions received.

6. SUNDAY OBSERVANCE ACT:—*Mr. Fegan* presented the following Petitions, praying for the observance of the Sabbath, and that more stringent legislation may be passed to cope with the existing evils of Sunday trading:—

(1.) From certain residents of Newcastle and district.

(2.) From certain members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Newcastle and Carrington.

(3.) From certain members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Newcastle.

(4.) From certain members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Merewether.

(5.) From certain members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of Adamstown.

Petitions received.

7. PAPERS:—

Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notice of intention to declare that conditional purchase No. 95-27, of the Land District of Boorowa, 40 acres, applied for by *Thomas Sligar* on 5th December, 1895, and confirmed by the Local Land Board on 13th August, 1896, shall cease to be voidable.

(2.) Statement showing reasons for granting three months' sick-leave of absence, on full pay, to *Mr. F. J. W. Boulton*, Clerk in the Deeds Branch, Department of Lands.

(3.) Return to an Order, made on 28th August, 1900,—"*Euroka-Keepit Land Exchange*."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Perry laid upon the Table,—Return to an Address, adopted on 21st November, 1900,—"*Case of Rawthorne v. Walker*."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Tenterfield.

(2.) Report of the Trustees of the National Park for the year ended 30th June, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

(3.) Return respecting Clerks at the Botanic Gardens.

Ordered to be printed.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Public Service List for the year 1900.

(2.) Report of the Committee on Federal Finance appointed by the Government of New South Wales on 28th April, 1898, together with Addendum by a Member of the Committee.

(3.) List of Prosecutions undertaken by the Sanitary Inspector to the Board of Health, under Part VIII of the Public Health Act, during the twelve months ended 17th November, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Proclamation under the Imported Stock Act of 1871, declaring Government House Grounds a Quarantine Station.

(2.) Proclamation under the Imported Stock Act of 1871, in reference to importation of sheep from America.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

(8.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th November, 1900.

8. CASE OF QUARTERMASTER SERGEANT TROY :—Mr. J. C. L. 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 6th September, 1900.
Ordered to be printed.
9. GOLD-DREDGING LEASES MODIFICATION BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Fegan 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 enable the Secretary for Mines to modify, remit, refund, and fix the rent of certain leases, and promises of leases, and vary the conditions applicable to the same, and authorise the amalgamation of such leases; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.
Question put and passed.
10. CENSUS BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. See, read a third time, and passed.
Mr. See then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make provision for taking the Census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the aforesaid 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 make provision for taking the Census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the aforesaid objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.*
11. PADDINGTON STREETS EXTENSION BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Neild, read a third time and passed.
Mr. Neild then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, with certain powers to sell and lease the same; to vest certain other lands in the Borough of Paddington for the purpose of constructing and opening certain public ways; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, with certain powers to sell and lease the same; to vest certain other lands in the Borough of Paddington for the purpose of constructing and opening certain public ways; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.*
12. COOERWULL ACADEMY LOAN BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Wright, read a third time, and passed.
Mr. Wright then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the Principal and Councillors of Saint Andrew's College to mortgage certain lands and premises situate at Coerwull, in the county of Cook, and known as the Coerwull Academy; to provide for the application of moneys borrowed on mortgage; and for other purposes incidental thereto.*"
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 enable the Principal and Councillors of Saint Andrew's College to mortgage certain lands and premises situate at Coerwull, in the county of Cook, and known as the Coerwull Academy; to provide for the application of moneys borrowed on mortgage; and for other purposes incidental thereto.*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.*

COOERWULL ACADEMY LOAN BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 29th November, 1900.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Page 4, Schedule, line 7. Fill blank with the word "Cook."

Examined,—

J. H. CANN,
Chairman of Committees.

29th November, 1900.

13. COMPLAINTS MADE BY WORKMEN AT EVELEIGH WORKS (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. McGowen moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers, evidence, and reports relating to complaints made by the workmen at the Eveleigh works, and investigated by Mr. Smithers, S.M.
Question put and passed.

14. CITY RAILWAY EXTENSION (DEVONSHIRE-STREET) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—
FREDK. M. DARLEY, *Message No. 181.*
Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and there construct a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to these objects.

Government House,

Sydney, 28th November, 1900.

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

15. GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ESTABLISHMENT CONTRIBUTION BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 182.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th Section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 certain annual payments to be made towards the maintenance of the establishment of the Governor-General.

Government House,

Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

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

16. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Church and School Lands (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the application of the money derived or to be derived from certain securities and interest in respect of the same; and to amend the Church and School Lands Act, 1897,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

- (2.) Excise Reduction Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, spirits, and beer,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

EXCISE REDUCTION BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 29th November, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 3, line 4. *After "tobacco" insert "cigars, cigarettes"*
Examined,—

W. J. TRICKETT,
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.

- (3.) Narrabri Walgett and Collarendabri 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 Narrabri to Walgett, with branch to Collarendabri; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, 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 public roads; and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(4.)

29th November, 1900.

(4.) Inscribed Stock (Registrar) Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER.

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Treasurer to satisfy judgments, decrees, and orders in proceedings in the United Kingdom in respect of the Stock of the Colony*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

17. ADJOURNMENT :—Mr. Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Northumberland, Mr. Norton 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 state of the consumptive patients in the Liverpool Asylum.” And the motion for the adjournment of the House being supported by five other Honorable Members,—

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

Point of Order :—Sir William Lyne submitted that the subject of this Notice could be more properly discussed on the third reading of the Appropriation Bill, now an Order of the Day, and further that the subject had already been discussed during the progress of the Estimates through Committee of Supply.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker said that, according to the present practice of the House, he thought the Honorable Member could not discuss any item in the General Estimates in Debate on the Appropriation Bill. He had not sufficient information to enable him to decide as to whether the subject had been debated in Committee of Supply. Under all the circumstances he considered that there were not sufficient grounds for ruling the motion out of order.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

18. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS :—Mr. Dick, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Bowral to Robertson.
(2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Carlingford to Dural.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
19. PRINTING COMMITTEE :—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Eighteenth Report from the Printing Committee.
20. SURVEYORS REGISTRATION BILL :—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. Hassall, 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 for the registration and licensing of surveyors; to authorise surveyors so licensed to enter any land; and to regulate the practice of surveyors; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects.
Question put and passed.
21. CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF STEEL RAILS :—Sir William Lyne, for Mr. O'Sullivan, 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 the Government entering into a contract for the supply of, at least, one hundred thousand (100,000) tons of steel rails, to be manufactured in New South Wales, at a price not exceeding the cost in Great Britain or America, with the usual freight and charges added.
Question put and passed.
22. GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK (COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS) BILL :—Sir William Lyne 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 for the conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank Act of 1870.
Question put and passed.
23. SUNDAY TRADING REGULATION BILL :—Sir William Lyne 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 law relating to Sunday trading.
Question put and passed.
24. APPROPRIATION BILL :—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Debate ensued.

Disorder :—The Honorable Member for Sydney—Phillip Division, Mr. O'Connor, having frequently disregarded Mr. Speaker's ruling that his remarks were irrelevant, was, by direction of Mr. Speaker, removed from the Chamber by the Sergeant-at-Arms. After a short interval Mr. O'Connor was, by direction of Mr. Speaker readmitted, and unreservedly apologised to Mr. Speaker and the House for his conduct.

Debate continued.

Question,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.

Bill

29th November, 1900.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne 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 1st day of July, 1900, to the 30th day of June, 1901, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the Vote 'Advance to Treasurer, 1899-1900,' for supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1899, to the 30th day of June, 1900, inclusive of both dates; and to cover payments charged to 'Expenditure Suspense Account' for Services of the year 1898-9; 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, 1900, to the 30th day of June, 1901, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the Vote 'Advance to Treasurer, 1899-1900,' for supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1899, to the 30th day of June, 1900, inclusive of both dates; and to cover payments charged to 'Expenditure Suspense Account' for Services of the year 1898-9; 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, 29th November, 1900.

25. LOAN BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne 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 Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne 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, 29th November, 1900.

26. PROPOSED GOVERNMENT ALIGNMENT OF FLOOD-STREET, LEICHHARDT:—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 6th September, 1900; together with Appendix.

Ordered to be printed.

27. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

- (1.) Presbyterian Church of Australia Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable certain arrangements entered into between the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania, for constituting one Presbyterian Church of Australia, to be carried into effect, and to make provision with regard to the property held by or on behalf of or in connection with the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania respectively, or by any congregation or body connected therewith, or by any person for or on behalf of any of the said Churches, or any congregation of the said Churches; and for other purposes in connection with such arrangements,*"—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, 29th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Garland, read a first time.

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

- (2.) Coocrull Academy Loan Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the amendment made by the Legislative Assembly in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Principal and Councillors of St. Andrew's College to mortgage certain lands and premises situate at Coocrull, in the county of Cook, and known as the Coocrull Academy; to provide for the application of moneys borrowed on mortgage; and for other purposes incidental thereto.*"

Legislative Council Chamber,

Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,

Deputy-President.

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th November, 1900.

(3.) Electric Tramway (Belmore Park to Fort Macquarie) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of an electric tramway from Belmore Park through Castlereagh, Bligh, and Loftus Streets to Fort Macquarie, returning through Pitt-street, and certain works in connection therewith; and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

(4.) Census Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to make provision for taking the Census of New South Wales in the year 1901, and for obtaining certain statistics, and certain particulars relating to live stock and crops, and the occupation of land, and certain businesses and occupations for the said and subsequent years; and for purposes incidental to or consequent on the aforesaid objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

(5.) Appropriation Bill:—

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, 1900, to the 30th day of June, 1901, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the Vote 'Advance to Treasurer, 1899-1900,' for supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1899, to the 30th day of June, 1900, inclusive of both dates; and to cover payments charged to 'Expenditure Suspense Account' for Services of the year 1898-9; and for purposes connected with and incidental to the above objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

28. TREASURY BILLS DEFICIENCY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, passed.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the issue of Treasury Bills to cover the Deficiency Debt up to the 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those 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 authorise the issue of Treasury Bills to cover the Deficiency Debt up to the 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 29th November, 1900.

29. RESUMPTION OF LANDS UNDER DARLING HARBOUR WHARVES RESUMPTION ACT:—Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House approves of the "resumption of" certain lands within the area of the lands described in Schedule 1 of the "Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Act, 1900," according to the provisions of section 3 of the said Act, that is to say,—All that area commencing at the intersection of the western side of George-street with the northern side of Charlotte-place; thence bounded on the east by the western side of George-street, generally northerly to its intersection with the south-eastern side of Lower Fort street; thence on the north-west by that side of Lower Fort street south-westerly to its intersection with the eastern side of Fort-street; thence by that side of Fort-street south-westerly to the northern side of Argyle-street; thence on the south by that side of Argyle-street easterly to its intersection with the eastern side of Princes-street; thence again on the north-west by that side of Princes-street, generally southerly to the northern side of Charlotte-place; and thence again on the south by that side of Charlotte-place easterly to the point of commencement,—exclusive of all buildings erected for religious or scholastic purposes and regularly used for such purposes, together with the land connected therewith. Also, all that area commencing at the intersection of the eastern side of George-street with the northern side of Argyle-street; and bounded thence on the west by the said side of George-street northerly, to its intersection with the south-eastern side of Bethel-street; thence on the north-west and north by the said side of Bethel-street north-easterly and easterly to the western side of the northern extension of Pitt-street; thence on the east by that side southerly to the northern side of Argyle-street; and thence on the south by that side of Argyle-street westerly, to the point of commencement.

Debate ensued.

And

29th November, 1900.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 30 NOVEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. See moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out all the words after the words "resumption of" and inserting "all that area described in Schedule one of the Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Act, with the exception of that area occupied by St. Patrick's Church, Convent Schools, Presbytery, Hall, teachers' residences, outbuildings, and land connected therewith, fronting Grosvenor-street (late Charlotte Place), Gloucester-street, and Harrington-street; also that area occupied for religious and educational purposes, on the eastern side of Kent-street, and about 41 feet south of Argyle-street; and also that property bounded by Trinity Avenue, Lower Fort-street, and Argyle-street, and occupied by Holy Trinity Church and School,"—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 omitted be so inserted,—put and passed.

Question then,—That this House approves of the resumption of all that area described in Schedule one of the Darling Harbour Wharves Resumption Act, with the exception of that area occupied by St. Patrick's Church, Convent, Schools, Presbytery, Hall, teachers' residences, out-buildings, and land connected therewith, fronting Grosvenor-street (late Charlotte Place), Gloucester-street, and Harrington-street; also that area occupied for religious and educational purposes on the eastern side of Kent-street, and about 41 feet south of Argyle-street; and also that property bounded by Trinity Avenue, Lower Fort-street and Argyle-street, and occupied by Holy Trinity Church and School,—put and passed.

30. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

(1) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. See, 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 Friendly Societies Act, 1899.

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 Friendly Societies Act, 1899.

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

(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled "A Bill to amend the Friendly Societies Act, 1899,"—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. See, 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. See, the report was adopted.

Ordered, That the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

31. AGRICULTURAL SETTLEMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Crick moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time.

Mr. Crick then moved, That the Bill do now pass.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 35.

Mr. Cann,	Mr. Prers,	Mr. Richards,
Mr. Law,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Smith,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Carroll.
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Fegan,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Cruickshank,	Mr. Rigg,	
Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Phillips,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Spruson.
Mr. See,	Mr. O'Conor,	
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Donaldson,	

Noes, 7.

Mr. Bruner,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. Dacey.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Dight.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Whereupon Mr. Crick moved, That the Title of the Bill be "An Act to authorise the acquisition of private lands for purposes of settlement, and to provide for dealing with and disposing of such lands." 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 acquisition of private lands for purposes of settlement, and to provide for dealing with and disposing of such lands,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th November, 1900, a.m.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

29th November, 1900.

32. JUSTICES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Wood moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Wood, *passed*.

Mr. Wood then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the law relating to procedure before Justices and to appeals from Justices.*"

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 law relating to procedure before Justices and to appeals from Justices,*"—with the amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendment the Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th November, 1900, a.m.

JUSTICES ACTS AMENDMENT BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 30th November, 1900, a.m.

F. W. WEBB,

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Pages 2 and 3. Omit clause 5.

Examined,—

J. H. CANN,

Chairman of Committees.

33. TEMORA TO WYALONG RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That Mr. Deputy-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 sanction the construction of a line of railway from Temora to Wyalong; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, as far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

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. Cruickshank, Mr. Miller, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Cook, Mr. Bruncker.

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

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

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

Mr. Dick 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 Temora to Wyalong; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, as far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

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

(2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of railway from Temora to Wyalong; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, as far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.

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

34. TUCKIAN FLOOD ESCAPE SCHEME BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read for the resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "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. O'Sullivan, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Watson, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill with an amendment.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.

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

35. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Tarago to Braidwood*):—Mr. O'Sullivan proceeding to move, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of Railway from Tarago to Braidwood.

Mr. Cook moved, That the Honorable Member for Queanbeyan, Mr. O'Sullivan, be not further heard.

Question put and negatived.

Original Question put and passed.

29th November, 1900.

36. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Grafton to Casino*):—
Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the construction of a line of railway from Grafton to Casino, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.
Debate ensued.
- Question put and passed.
37. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Hunter River Flood Prevention*):—
Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing works for the mitigation of effects of floods in the Hunter River.
Question put and passed.
38. POSTPONEMENTS:—
- (1.) The remaining Government Business, until To-morrow.
 - (2.) The Orders of the Day of General Business, Nos. 1 and 4 to 19, until To-morrow.
39. NEWCASTLE EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE LEASING BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—
Mr. Dick moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Dick, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Mcagher reported the Bill without amendment.
On motion of Mr. Dick, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.

The House adjourned, at twenty minutes before Four o'clock a.m., until Ten o'clock a.m. This Day.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker

New South Wales.

No. 85.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

FRIDAY, 30 NOVEMBER, 1900.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Payment of School-teachers' Salaries :—Mr. Gormly asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Will he make arrangement for the payment of teachers' salaries on or before the schools break up for the Christmas vacation, so that teachers who wish to leave home may avail themselves of the full term of holidays?

(2.) Is he aware that such a practice exists in Victoria?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) I am making arrangements.

(2.) I am not aware.

(2.) Cadets at the Commonwealth Celebrations :—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Lees, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) What arrangements (if any) have been made for the cadets of the country who will take part in the Commonwealth Inauguration?

(2.) If no arrangements have been made, will he see that something is done for their comfort on that occasion?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) It has not yet been definitely decided whether the cadets will take part in the procession.

(2.) If they do, suitable arrangements will be made.

(3.) Diamond-drill Boring Plants :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. Nelson, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

(1.) How many diamond-drill plants complete is the Department in possession of?

(2.) Are any of the plants being worked; if so, how many, and where?

(3.) How many plants are ready for work in the diamond-drill stores?

(4.) What date was the last bore finished?

(5.) What is the estimated value of all the plant owned by the Department?

(6.) Is it a fact this Department is a dead loss to the Government?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

(1.) Twelve.

(2.) Yes, two—one at Otford, and the other is now at Gundagai.

(3.) Ten.

(4.) The 20th ultimo.

(5.) About £13,000, but it may be explained that this is the accumulation of years.

(6.) No; every drill sent out more than pays its expenses, and the Government must keep on hand such appliances for the development of the mineral industry.

(4.) Railway from Mildura to Wentworth :—Mr. Kidd, for Mr. Chanter, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Did he receive a letter from Mr. J. M. Chanter requesting him to permit the Victorian authorities to continue the railway from Mildura across the border into the town of Wentworth?

(2.) If this cannot be done, will he sanction the construction of the very short line into Wentworth?

Mr. Fegan answered,—Yes. I hope to be able to send the Honorable Member a reply within a week.

(5.)

30th November, 1900.

(5.) Ballot in connection with Applications for Land :—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Cruickshank*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that, in dealing with applications for ballot for the land, the Boards, in their desire to give preference to married men, have refused to allow young men engaged to be married, but waiting to get a home before marrying, to go to ballot?
- (2.) Will he give directions to the Boards with regard to single men applying for land?

Mr. Hassall answered,—

- (1.) I understand that Land Boards consider that men who are actually married deserve preference to men who intend to marry; and, in doing so, perhaps take some account of the fact that there is no guarantee that the intentions of the latter will be carried into effect.
- (2.) I do not think I am empowered to do this under the law, but am making inquiry into the matter.

(6.) Inverell Lands Office :—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Cruickshank*, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is he aware that at the Inverell Lands Office there is great difficulty in getting any parish maps, so that intending settlers can get information with regard to land matters?
- (2.) Will he see that the Land Agent is supplied with maps up to date of all the parishes in the Inverell Land District?

Mr. Hassall answered,—The difficulty was that the Land Agent did not have a duplicate set of maps; but in the early part of this year these were prepared in the district office, and it was understood the existing inconvenience had been remedied. I will, however, make further inquiry into the matter.

(7.) Leases at Bobadah held by the Overflow Silver-mining Company :—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. Thomas Brown*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What area of land is held at Bobadah by the Overflow Silver-mining Company (Limited), under gold and mineral leases tenure?
- (2.) How long have such gold and mineral leases been in existence?
- (3.) For what period of the total term of those leases has suspension of labour conditions been granted?
- (4.) Are such leases now held under suspension of labour conditions; and, if so, for what reasons and for what periods?
- (5.) In dealing with future applications for suspension of labour conditions in this district, will he take into consideration the detrimental effects of such prevalent and lengthy suspensions upon the mining development and general progress of this district?

Mr. Fegan answered,—

- (1.) 261 acres under mineral lease, and 20 acres under gold lease.
- (2.) The mineral leases since 10th February, 1896, and the gold leases since 28th November, 1896.
- (3.) On the mineral leases, twenty-four months' total, and three months partial suspension, and on the gold leases, 21 months' total and six months' partial suspension have been granted.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) Yes.

(8.) Contract for Supply of Gravel at Bomaderry :—*Mr. Willis*, for *Mr. Norton*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Were several men—named Robinson, McGuinness, Curdy, Orton, Tait, and others—given a contract through the Labour Bureau for the supply, at 2s. 6d. per yard, of 1,000 yards of gravel at Bomaderry?
- (2.) If so, were they, after spending two days in the preliminary work of stripping the rock (for which there was no pay), told to knock off when they had only broken 119 yards?
- (3.) Did not the contract provide that these men should receive a week's notice of the termination of the contract, whereas, as a matter of fact, they only received twenty-four hours' notice?
- (4.) Of the £1 18s. 6d. each man received, did not £1 0s. 3d. go in railway fares?
- (5.) Why was the contract so abruptly rescinded?
- (6.) Did not the supervising engineer express himself as perfectly satisfied with the men's work?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—All this is new to me, but if the Honorable Member will assure me that the statements are correct, I will see that the men receive a fair rate of pay.

2. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Sir William Lyne*, read a third time, and *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Friendly Societies Act, 1899.*"

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 Friendly Societies Act, 1899,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 30th November, 1900.

3. NEWCASTLE EPISCOPAL RESIDENCE LEASING BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of *Mr. Dick*, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Dick then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable the trustees of Church property for the diocese of Newcastle to lease certain lands granted by the Crown as a site for an episcopal residence for the Bishop of Newcastle, and, to provide for the application of the income thereof.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1900.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the trustees of Church property for the diocese of Newcastle to lease certain lands granted by the Crown as a site for an episcopal residence for the Bishop of Newcastle, and to provide for the application of the income thereof*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1900.

4. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to amended Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of the following Bills through all their stages in one day:—

- (1.) Parliamentary Electorates Redistribution Bill.
- (2.) Governor-General's Establishment Contribution Bill.
- (3.) Banks Half-holiday Bill.
- (4.) Government Savings Bank (Commonwealth Arrangements) Bill.
- (5.) Sunday Trading Regulation Bill.
- (6.) Companies Death Duties (Amendment) Bill.
- (7.) "Temora to Wyalong Railway Bill."
- (8.) Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts Amendment Bill.
- (9.) Culcairn to Germanton Railway Bill.
- (10.) "Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme Bill."
- (11.) Defence Lands Resumption Bill.
- (12.) Public Works (Amendment) Bill.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Molesworth moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "Temora to Wyalong Railway Bill."

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.

Mr. J. H. Young moved, That the Question be further amended by leaving out the words "Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme Bill."

Question,—That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and negatived.

Question, as amended, proposed.

Debate ensued.

Question, as amended, put,—That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of the following Bills through all their stages in one day:—

- (1.) Parliamentary Electorates Redistribution Bill.
- (2.) Governor-General's Establishment Contribution Bill.
- (3.) Banks Half-holiday Bill.
- (4.) Government Savings Bank (Commonwealth Arrangements) Bill.
- (5.) Sunday Trading Regulation Bill.
- (6.) Companies Death Duties (Amendment) Bill.
- (7.) Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts Amendment Bill.
- (8.) Culcairn to Germanton Railway Bill.
- (9.) Defence Lands Resumption Bill.
- (10.) Public Works (Amendment) Bill.

The House divided.

Ayes, 55.		Noes, 11.	
Mr. Wood,	Mr. W. W. Young,	Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. J. H. Young,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Bruncker,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Lee,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Archer,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Norton,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Torry.
Mr. Cann,	Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Ewing,	Tellers,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,	Mr. Lees,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Ferguson,	Mr. Edden,	Mr. Millard.
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Cruickshank,	
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. O'Connor,	
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Howarth,	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Holman,	Mr. Spence,	Tellers,	
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Richards,	Mr. Quinn,	
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Cohen,	
Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Sleath,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

5. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

(1.) Boundary-street Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 183.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to vest certain land in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, and to vest certain other land in the Municipal Council of Sydney for the purpose of constructing and opening thereon a public way, with certain powers to sell and lease the said lands; and to include the said lands within the city of Sydney*,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 30th November, 1900.

(2.)

30th November, 1900.

(2.) Public Service (Taxation Officers) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 184.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the appointment as permanent officers of the Public Service of persons temporarily employed in the office of the Commissioners of Taxation, and to amend the Public Service Act of 1895,*"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 30th November, 1900.

6. BANKS HALF-HOLIDAY BILL:—

(1.) Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to enable banks and branch banks to be closed on certain afternoons; to provide that such afternoons shall not be banking or business hours for the purpose of any business at such banks and branches; and to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, 1887.

Question put and passed.

Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 enable banks and branch banks to be closed on certain afternoons; to provide that such afternoons shall not be banking or business hours for the purpose of any business at such banks and branches; and to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, 1887.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable banks and branch banks to be closed on certain afternoons; to provide that such afternoons shall not be banking or business hours for the purpose of any business at such banks and branches; and to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, 1887,*"—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 Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

7. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES REDISTRIBUTION BILL:—

(1.) Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the redistribution of New South Wales into electoral districts; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to that object.

Question put and passed.

Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 provide for the redistribution of New South Wales into electoral districts; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to that object.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the redistribution of New South Wales into Electoral Districts; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to that object,*"—which was read a first time.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Interruption:—And it being Five o'clock p.m., Mr. Speaker, pursuant to the Sessional Order adopted on the 3rd October, 1900, put the Question,—“That this House do now adjourn.”
Question put and negatived.

Debate continued.

Mr. Austin Chapman moved, That this Debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Motion for the adjournment of the Debate, by leave, withdrawn.

Question again proposed,—That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

Debate continued.

Question put,—That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 48.		Noes, 22.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Brunker,
Dr. Ross,	Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Raymond,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Storey,
Mr. Archer,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Neild,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Cann,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Norton,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Terry,	Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Macdonald,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Mesgher,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. J. H. Young.
Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Carroll.	
Mr. Carruthers,	<i>Tellers,</i>	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Hurley,		Mr. Holman,
Mr. Spence,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Wilks.
Mr. Thomas Clarke,	Mr. McLean.	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(3.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

8. GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK (COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 provide for the conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank Act of 1870.

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 provide for the conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank Act of 1870.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank Act of 1870*,"—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 Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

9. CULCAIRN TO GERMANTON RAILWAY 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. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.

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

10. TEMORA TO WYALONG RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

SATURDAY, 1 DECEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put,—That this Bill be now read a second time.

The

30th November, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Norton,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Anderson,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. W. W. Davis,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Nielsen,	Mr. Cann,
Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Richards,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Smith,	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Willis,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Arthur Griffith,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. Millard,	Mr. Taylor.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. David Davis,	
Mr. Price,	

Noes, 20.

Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Brunner,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. W. W. Young,
Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick.

*Tellers,*Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Waddell.

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 the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the report was adopted.

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

11. **CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF STEEL RAILS:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of the Government entering into a contract for the supply of, at least, one hundred thousand (100,000) tons of steel rails, to be manufactured in New South Wales, at a price not exceeding the cost in Great Britain or America, with the usual freight and charges added.

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 that the Government should enter into a contract for the supply of, at least, one hundred thousand (100,000) tons of steel rails, to be manufactured in New South Wales, at a price not exceeding the cost in Great Britain or America, with the usual freight and charges added. Provided that any such contract shall include a provision for minimum rates of payment for work equivalent to those now prevailing in the Public Works Department of New South Wales.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

12. **DISMISSAL OF MRS. ABRAHAM, SHAPTESBURY GIRLS' ASYLUM:**—Mr. Holman, 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 3rd July, 1900, together with Appendix.
Ordered to be printed.

13. **RACING ASSOCIATION BILL:**—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, on behalf of the Chairman, brought up a 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 18th September, 1900, together with Appendix.
Ordered to be printed.

14. **PAPER:**—Mr. Hassall laid upon the Table,—Return to an Order made on 20th June, 1900,—“Central Pastoral Lease Holdings.”
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

15. **MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:**—Mr. Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Federal Elections Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled “*An Act to provide for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto,*”—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 November, 1900.*

JOHN LACKBY,
President.

FEDERAL

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1900.

FEDERAL ELECTIONS BILL.

*Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 30th November, 1900.*JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 5, line 33.	Omit "or for any less number"
Page 2, clause 5, line 34.	After "more" insert "or fewer"
Page 3, Schedule, line 18.	Omit "Sydney East" insert "East Sydney"
Page 3, Schedule, line 37.	Omit "Sydney-Lang Division" insert "West Sydney"
Page 4, Schedule, line 27.	Omit "Sydney South" insert "South Sydney"
Page 5, Schedule, line 1.	Omit "Cronulla" insert "Lang"
Page 5, Schedule, line 32.	Omit "Cammera" insert "Dalley"
Page 6, Schedule, line 9.	Omit "Dalley" insert "North Sydney"
Page 17, Schedule, line 40.	Omit "Euroka" insert "Cowper"

Examined.—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy 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.) Paddington Streets Extension Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled, "*An Act to vest certain lands in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, with certain power to sell or lease the same; to vest certain other land in the Borough of Paddington, for the purpose of constructing and opening certain public ways; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1900.JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(3.) Aberdare Collieries Railway Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to enable Joseph Wood, of Newcastle, in the Colony of New South Wales, to construct a Railway from the Aberdare Collieries to the Stanford Railway, authorised to be constructed under the provisions of the Stanford Coal Mine Railway Act of 1900,*"—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, 30th November, 1900.JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Bill, on motion of Mr. Fegan, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed and read a second time on the next sitting day.

(4.) 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, 30th November, 1900.JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(5.) Justices Acts Amendment Bill:—

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 the law relating to procedure before Justices and to appeals from Justices.*"

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1900.W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy President.

(6.) Treasury Bills Deficiency Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled, "*An Act to authorise the issue of Treasury Bills to cover the Deficiency Debt up to the 30th June, 1900, and other such debts; to provide for the redemption of such Bills; to make further provision for the redemption of Treasury Bills issued under previous Deficiency Acts; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th November, 1900.W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy President.

16. OLD-AGE PENSIONS BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

Ordered

30th November, 1900.

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 provide for Old-age Pensions, and for purposes in furtherance of or consequent on the aforesaid object.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, A.M.

17. **EXCISE REDUCTION BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 Mr. Watson, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendment. On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 authorise the Governor to reduce the excise duties on tobacco, cigars, cigarettes, spirits, and beer.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, A.M.

18. **BANKS HALF-HOLIDAY BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on the motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed.*

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to enable banks and branch banks to be closed on certain afternoons; to provide that such afternoons shall not be banking or business hours for the purpose of any business at such bank and branches; and to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, 1887.*"

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 banks and branch banks to be closed on certain afternoons; to provide that such afternoons shall not be banking or business hours for the purpose of any business at such banks and branches; and to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, 1887,*" presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, A.M.

19. **PARLIAMENTARY ELECTORATES REDISTRIBUTION BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Neild 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 3," 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,—That this Bill be now read a third time,—put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed.*

Sir William Lyne then moved, that the Title of the Bill be, "*An Act to provide for the redistribution of New South Wales into electoral districts; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to that object.*"

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 for the redistribution of New South Wales into electoral districts; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to that object,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, A.M.

20. **GOVERNMENT SAVINGS BANK (COMMONWEALTH ARRANGEMENTS) BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed.*

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to provide for the conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank 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 for the conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank Act of 1870,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, a.m.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1900.

21. **CULCAIRN TO GERMANTON RAILWAY BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; 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 Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 1st December, 1900, a.m.*
22. **TEMORA TO WYALONG RAILWAY BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne 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 Sir William Lyne, *passed*.
Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Temora to Wyalong; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on 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 Temora to Wyalong; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 1st December, 1900, a.m.*
23. **FEDERAL ELECTIONS BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William Lyne, 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. Deputy-Speaker took the Chair; and Mr. Waddell, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.
On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 provide for the election in New South Wales of Members of the Parliament of the Commonwealth; to provide that a Member of such Parliament shall be incapable of being summoned or elected or of sitting as a Member of the Legislative Council or Legislative Assembly in the Nineteenth or any subsequent Parliament of New South Wales; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto.*"
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 1st December, 1900, p.m.*
24. **EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Perry, Mr. Deputy-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. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Waddell, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had agreed to, disagreed to, and amended, the Council's amendments.
On motion of Mr. Perry, the report was adopted.
25. **GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S ESTABLISHMENT CONTRIBUTION BILL:**—
(1.) Sir William Lyne moved, pursuant to amended Notice, That this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise certain annual payments to be made towards the maintenance of the establishment of the Governor-General.
Question put and passed.
Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Waddell, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of Mr. Waddell, Temporary Chairman, That the report be now received.

The

30th November, 1900.

The Temporary 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 certain annual payments to be made towards the maintenance of the establishment of the Governor-General.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise certain annual payments to be made towards the maintenance of the establishment of the Governor-General*,"—which was read a first time.

Sir William Lyne 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 Sir William Lyne, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Waddell, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

- (4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise certain annual payments to be made towards the maintenance of the establishment of the Governor-General*."

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 certain annual payments to be made towards the maintenance of the establishment of the Governor-General*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, p.m.

26. MESSAGES FROM THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—

- (1.) Bogan Gate to Bulbodney Railway Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 185.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Bogan Gate to Bulbodney; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900.

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

- (2.) Grafton to Casino Railway Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 186.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Grafton to Casino; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

Government House.

Sydney, 1st December, 1900.

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

27. SUNDAY TRADING REGULATION BILL:—

- (1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Sir William 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 Sunday trading.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Watson, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

The Temporary 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 Sunday trading.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

- (2.) Sir William Lyne then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to amend the law relating to Sunday trading*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on the next sitting day.

28. PAPER:—Mr. Crick laid upon the Table,—Rates on Messages transmitted within a radius of 13 miles of Grafton, under the Electric Telegraph Act.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1900.

29. EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Mr. Perry, 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 7th November, 1900, requesting its concurrence in certain amendments made by the Council in the Early Closing (Amendment) Bill,—

Disagrees to so much of the amendment on page 2, clause 3, lines 27 and 28, as omits the words "and shop assistant,"—because such amendment will do away with the vote to shop assistants, and places the decision as to the half holiday in the hands of the shopkeepers who employ no labour, and many employers of labour have agreed to employees having votes.

Disagrees to the last amendment in clause 3 as consequential upon the above disagreement.

Agrees to the omission of the word "any" in clause 3, line 27; to the insertion of words after the word "assistant"; to the amendment in clause 4, and to the first amendment in clause 5.

Disagrees to so much of the amendment in clause 5, lines 9 and 10, as omits the words "within the metropolitan area,"—because the omission of such words would have the effect of closing all newsagents' and booksellers' shops in the country districts at eight o'clock, where frequently the newspapers do not arrive till after this hour or just before it; and to prevent the delivery of newspapers after eight p.m. would occasion considerable loss to newsagents and great inconvenience to residents in such districts.

Disagrees to the amendment in clause 4, which inserts the words "the same manner as provided in the preceding section for existing country shopping districts,"—because the proposal for eight o'clock closing to shops conducted by a proprietor, without the assistance of any employee or employees, will strike at the fundamental principle of the Early Closing Act; will cause frequent resort to the law courts to determine who is and who is not an employee, and may exclude all persons but the shopkeeper or shopkeepers, or it may include the members of his family, in the former case enabling every shop to remain open until 8 p.m., and encouraging the formation of merely formal partnerships and co-operations designed to avoid the spirit of the Act—in the latter case inflicting a hardship on the man who, having no children to assist him, has to employ labour. It would encourage the bringing into business of children at too early an age, and the utilisation of their services after school hours. And, further, it would create a strong feeling of resentment on the part of those shopkeepers who, by reason of the fact that they give employment to others, will be subject to a disability, and it would be hostile to the spirit of the Factories and Shops Act, by indirectly encouraging the employment of child labour.

Agrees to the insertion of a new clause to follow clause 5, but proposes to amend such new clause by inserting after the word "shop" in the first line the words "situate within the Newcastle Shopping District and" in which amendment the Legislative Assembly requests the concurrence of the Legislative Council.

Agrees to the remaining amendments in the Bill.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, p.m.

30. DEFAMATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Sleath moved, That the Honorable Member for Rylstone, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, be not further heard.

Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Deputy-Speaker stated his opinion that the *Noes* had it. Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Deputy-Speaker having, in accordance with Standing Order No. 213, directed the Members to 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. Nielsen and Mr. Sleath.

Debate continued.

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

Debate ensued.

Mr. Anderson moved, "That the Question be now put."

Question put,—That the Question be now put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Perry,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Nielsen,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. Bennett;
Mr. Lee,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Willis,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Garland,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Arthur Griffith,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Neild,
Mr. See,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Norton,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Hurley,	
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Ewing,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. Austin Chapman.

Noes, 7.

Mr. Lees,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Gormly.
<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.

And it appearing by the Tellers' Lists that the number in favour of the motion, being a majority, consisted of "at least forty Members,"—

Question put,—That this Debate be now adjourned.

The

30th November, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 41.		Noes, 8.	
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Holman,	Mr. Nielson,	Mr. Lees,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Wright,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Meagher,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Bennett,	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Garland,	Mr. Dugald Thomson,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Neild.
Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Arthur Griffith,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick.	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Lee,	Mr. MacMahon,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Millard,	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Willis.	
Mr. Norton,	Mr. F. Clarke,		
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Hurley,		
Mr. Cohen,	Mr. Ewing,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Sir William Lyne moved, That the Debate be adjourned until "Monday next."

Mr. Neild moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the words "Monday next," and inserting the words "this day week,"—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 passed.

Ordered, that the Debate be adjourned until Monday next.

31. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Wyalong to Hillston*):—
Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Wyalong to Hillston.
Question put and passed.

32. POSTPONEMENTS:—

(1.) The remaining Government Business;—until Monday next.

(2.) Legitimation Bill (*Council Bill*); third reading;—until Monday next.

33. PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Garland 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. Garland, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Watson, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Garland, 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. Garland, *passed*.

Mr. Garland then moved, that the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to enable certain arrangements entered into between the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania, for constituting one Presbyterian Church of Australia, to be carried into effect, and to make provision with regard to the property held by or on behalf of or in connection with the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania, respectively, or by any congregation or body connected therewith, or by any person for or on behalf of any of the said Churches or any congregation of the said Churches; and for other purposes in connection with such arrangements.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable certain arrangements entered into between the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania, for constituting one Presbyterian Church of Australia, to be carried into effect, and to make provision with regard to the property held by or on behalf of or in connection with the Presbyterian Churches of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania, respectively, or by any congregation or body connected therewith, or by any person for or on behalf of any of the said Churches or any congregation of the said Churches; and for other purposes in connection with such arrangements,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 1st December, 1900, p.m.

34. POSTPONEMENTS:—The remaining Orders of the Day and Notice of Motion No. 2 of General Business postponed until Monday next.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th November, 1900.

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35. ESTATE OF THE LATE S. M. SWIFT, OF PETERSHAM:—Mr. Hughes moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report of the Select Committee on "Estate of the late S. M. Swift, of Petersham," brought up on 20th December, 1899, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
36. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House, at its rising this day, do adjourn until Monday next at Four o'clock p.m.
Question put and passed.
37. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
- The House adjourned accordingly, at two minutes before Ten o'clock p.m., until Monday next at Four o'clock p.m.

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 86.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

MONDAY, 3 DECEMBER, 1900.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

ABSENCE OF MR. SPEAKER:—The Clerk informed the House that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent, and read a telegram from him stating that he was too ill to attend, that the doctor prohibited his doing so, and requesting the indulgence of the House.

Whereupon the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, pursuant to the 22nd Standing Order of the House.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Holidays in Asylums for the Insane:—Mr. Law asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that all employees in the Government Asylums for the Insane were promised three weeks' holidays in the year by the Public Service Board?

(2.) If so, is it their intention to carry their promise into effect?

(3.) If not, why not?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The question of holidays to employees in the Government Asylums, with the exception of the doctors, matrons, and others appointed by the Governor-in-Council, is not a matter for the Public Service Board to deal with, the only duty, power, or authority they have in regard to such employees being in relation to their classification, salary, and allowance.

(2.) Examination of the Brain of Joe Governor:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) In reply to Questions by Dr. Ross on the 27th November, and the answers furnished to the same, *re* the examination of the brain of "Joe Governor" (one of the Breelong murderers) by Professor Wilson, of the University of Sydney, on the plea that the convolutions of the brain of an aboriginal might be studied, will he see that steps are taken to obtain a report from Professor Wilson of the result of his examination of the brain, to be laid upon the Table of this House, not only in the interest of science and scientific research, but also for the information of the general public?

(2.) Will he invite Professor Wilson to furnish a report as to the difference (if any) between the brain of a murderer and non-murderer, and in what way the convolutions of the brain differ in the aboriginal from an ordinary individual or European?

(3.) Is the brain of an aboriginal different to that of a European subject; if so, in what respect?

(4.) Does the Government intend to take any action against Dr. Bowman, the Government Medical Officer at Singleton, for undertaking, upon his own responsibility, to send the brain of Joe Governor to the University of Sydney, and without the knowledge of the police or legal authority; and will the Government call upon him for an explanation?

(5.) Will he consider whether conduct like this by Government Medical Officers in the interior should be allowed to continue, and will he take steps in such cases to severely censure or dismiss the officers guilty of the offence?

Sir William Lyne,—I am quite unable to answer the Questions relating to the comparative anatomy of the human brain, and I do not think that any report which Professor Wilson might at a later date be able to promise on it could have any interest for the general public. At the same time I am informed that the subject is one of scientific interest and importance, and proper for the study of competent persons whenever suitable opportunities occur.

(3.)

3rd December, 1900.

(3.) Compensation to Mr. W. A. Carrey, of Woodstock:—*Mr. Austin Chapman*, for Mr. Waddell, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has a demand been made on the Railway Commissioners by W. A. Carrey, of Woodstock, for compensation for damage done by fire caused by sparks from a railway engine?

(2.) If so, what reply was given Mr. Carrey?

(3.) Are not the Commissioners responsible in such cases for damage done where it is proven the fire is caused by sparks from the railway engine?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed a claim was made.

(2.) The claim was declined.

(3.) The Railway Officers are doubtful if the fire was started as suggested. The Railway Commissioners are required to take responsible precautions to prevent fires, and if it could be proved they failed to do so they would be responsible.

(4.) Subsidies to the Orient and P. & O. Steamship Companies:—*Mr. Edden*, for Mr. Smith, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that the Orient Steamship Company and the P. & O. Steamship Company, both of which are heavily subsidised by this and other Australian Governments, are entering into competition with the Australian steamship companies for the freight and passenger trade of the Australian coast?

(2.) Is he prepared to make such representations to the above companies as will induce them to discontinue the unfair competition they are now engaged in?

(3.) Is he prepared to withdraw the subsidy paid by New South Wales Government to the above-named companies if they persist in competing for the coastal trade with the Australian firms?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I understand there is a tacit agreement between the Australian steamship owners and the deep-sea shipping companies, by which all competition for the intercolonial freight trade is eliminated. The matter is one, however, which I think can only be effectively and comprehensively dealt with by the Federal Government.

(5.) Increases to Officers of the Postal Department:—*Mr. Law* asked the Postmaster-General,—Has sufficient money been placed on the Additional Estimates to provide for all officers of the Postal Department who are recommended for increases for the financial year 1898 and 1899, but who did not receive them on account of there being insufficient funds available?

Mr. Crick answered,—No funds have been placed on the Additional Estimates for this purpose, but I understand that it is proposed to pay from the sum of £14,000, voted on the Estimates-in-Chief, increments in respect of the year 1899-1900 (which is probably the year which the Honorable Member means), to those officers who are entitled to such by the regulations, but have not already received them, provided their official records are satisfactory, and they are recommended for the increment by the head of the Department.

(6.) Employment of Counsel by the Railway Commissioners:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does he think it necessary for the Railway Commissioners to go to the expense of retaining the strong Bar which was engaged last week in a railway case, when the point at issue was merely the assessment of damages?

(2.) As there are other actions of a similar character pending against the Commissioners for personal damages, is it considered necessary to engage highly-fee'd Q.C.'s to watch the proceedings?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) I am informed by the Railway Commissioners that the counsel engaged in the case referred to were necessarily retained. As a rule the Commissioners give general retainers to two counsel; during part of the present year circumstances have necessitated a general retainer to three.

(2.) Queen's counsel are never retained to watch proceedings; in pending cases the necessary briefs are or will be delivered.

(7.) Test Examination for School-teachers:—*Mr. Norton* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) How many teachers are now awaiting the test for their skill-marks for first-class grade?

(2.) Upon what principle is the order or priority of examination for this award decided after teachers have passed the literary test?

(3.) What inspector or inspectors are competent to award the skill-mark for the 1A grade?

(4.) What are the names of the teachers tested during the present year and the amounts they individually subscribed to the Patriotic Fund inaugurated by the Chief Inspector?

(5.) Similar information respecting those who should have been, but were not, tested this year?

(6.) Is the Chief Inspector the Chief Executive officer of the Department?

(7.) Is all patronage in the way of appointments and promotions entirely in his hands?

Mr. Perry answered,—

(1.) Twenty-six, but fifteen of these have only recently passed the literary examination.

(2.) In accordance with date of examination as far as possible. The Chief Inspector visits country districts at frequent intervals, as the nature of his work at the Head Office affords opportunity. All teachers in the neighbourhood visited, who have passed the literary examination for Class 1, are then tested, except those whose school-work has been shown by the annual examination of their schools to have been unsatisfactory.

(3.) Every inspector in conjunction with the Chief Inspector. The skill-mark for 1A can only be obtained by a teacher whose local inspector has reported of him annually for at least five consecutive years that his school-work has been of a uniformly satisfactory character, and who has subsequently obtained the requisite skill-mark from the Chief Inspector after his personal inspection of the teacher's school.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd December, 1900.

(4.) Names of teachers who were tested in skill during the present year for Class 1 :—

Teacher.	School.	Teacher.	School.
Atkins, William L. ...	Granville.	Lydon, James ...	Dubbo.
Bridle, John R. ...	Smith-street.	Lyell, George E. ...	Shellharbour.
Cambourn, Thomas E. ...	Windeyer.	McGlynn, Rebecca M. ...	Mudgee.
Cameron, William T. ...	Newtown.	McKay, James ...	Mudgee.
Clemens, Henry ...	Carrington.	McMahon, Edmund A. ...	Mudgee.
Coles, Gertrude ...	Wallsend.	McMullen, Frank ...	Sutton Forest.
Cuncen, Thomas ...	Croydon.	McPhillamy, Sarah ...	Forest Lodge.
Denning, Benjamin ...	Pymont.	Maguire, George F. ...	Coonamble.
Dunkley, Sydney B. C. ...	Cargo.	Mahony, Michael ...	Stockton.
Dwyer, Michael ...	West Murrickville.	Middenway, John S. ...	Bexley.
Griffin, John ...	Grafton.	Reay, Albert E. ...	Canley Vale.
Hopman, John ...	Newcastle South.	Robins, Alfred ...	Parramatta.
Irwin, Robert A. ...	Nowra.	Saunders, Arthur ...	Bathurst.
James, William E. ...	Woollahra.	Smith, Wright ...	Katoomba.
Kennedy, Phillip ...	Neutral Bay.	Spodgrass, Charles ...	Liverpool.
Kilgour, Alexander J. ...	Plunkett-street	Thompson, Alexander ...	N.S.S. "Sobraon."
Liggins, William J. ...	Parkes.	Wallace, Peter J. ...	Waterloo.
Long, Samuel A. ...	Parramatta South.		

This Department has no official knowledge respecting the Patriotic Fund.

(5.) List of teachers who passed the literary examination for Class 1 prior to June, 1900, but whose skill in teaching has not yet been tested :—

Teacher.	School.	Teacher.	School.
Berry, David H. ...	Moruya.	Sheehy, Theophilus ...	Boggabri.
Burke, Martin J. ...	Emmaville.	Walsh, Jeremiah J. ...	Barnedman.
Clarke, Warwick M. ...	Moree.	Wardrop, Gabriel ...	Mount Drysdale.
Grassick, Charles C. ...	Inverell.	Webster, Edward ...	Major's Creek.
Riley, Ernest A. ...	Wentworthville.	Youll, John T. ...	Tamworth West.
Rourke, Ernest J. ...	Canowindra.		

(6.) The Chief Inspector is head of the Inspection Branch, and is responsible for seeing that the Public Instruction Act and Regulations are faithfully observed by all inspectors and teachers.

(7.) No. All appointments and promotions are made in accordance with the regulations of the Public Service Board.

(8.) Employment of Counsel by the Railway Commissioners:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has his attention been drawn to the case of *Peelgrave v. The Railway Commissioners*, tried in the Supreme Court, in which, although the case was only one for assessment of damages, no less than two Q.C.'s., Messrs. Salomons and O'Connor, and one leading counsel, Mr. C. B. Stephen, appeared?

(2.) What necessity was there to brief all these counsel in these cases?

(3.) What fees will be paid to them?

(4.) Is any supervision exercised over the Solicitor for Railways in his expenditure for legal expenses, and has he *carte blanche* to employ as many counsel as he chooses, and pay them what fees he likes?

(5.) Is he not aware that, except under very exceptional circumstances, the Prothonotary refuses to allow fees to more than two counsel in a case?

(6.) Can counsel charge what fees they like?

(7.) Is he aware that there are nine cases against the Railway Commissioners listed for trial this season; and, if so, can he inform the House in how many of them these three counsel are engaged?

(8.) What fees have been paid to Messrs. Salomons, O'Connor, Q.C., and C. B. Stephen during the last three years by the Solicitor for Railways?

(9.) Is he not also aware that in appeals under the Land and Income Tax that three counsel are engaged?

(10.) What necessity is there for this waste of the taxpayers' money?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Not previously to the Honorable Member's Question.

The following replies have been furnished by the Railway Commissioners :—

(2.) It is considered necessary to give general retainers to two counsel. At the beginning of the present year Mr. O'Connor, Q.C., and Mr. C. B. Stephen received general retainers. On the return of Sir Julian Salomons to the Colony during this year, and having in view the restriction placed upon the choice of counsel, it was considered advisable that his services should be secured by a general retainer.

(3.) Sir Julian Salomons, Q.C., 21 guineas; Mr. R. E. O'Connor, Q.C., 20 guineas; Mr. C. B. Stephen, 12 guineas.

(4.) The Commissioners supervise all legal expenditure. They approve of all retainers to counsel, and also the amounts of fees paid.

(5.) The Prothonotary's practice referred to relates only to party and party costs.

(6.) No.

(7.) Briefs have been delivered in three cases, and in each of these to three counsel.

(8.) Sir Julian Salomons, Q.C., £188 9s.; Mr. R. E. O'Connor, Q.C., £466 19s.; Mr. C. B. Stephen, £447 12s.

3rd December, 1900.

The following replies have been furnished by the Taxation Commissioners:—

(9.) In appeals under the Land and Income Tax Acts one counsel only is usually engaged in matters coming before the Court of Review, and two counsel before the Full Court. In one or two important cases recently three counsel have been briefed on behalf of the Crown.

(10.) The engagement of counsel is effected by the Crown Law Department, who judge of the necessity or otherwise of securing one, two, or more counsel.

3. CASE OF A. C. BARRETT, LATE CAPTAIN OF "E" COMPANY, 6TH VOLUNTEER INFANTRY REGIMENT:—
Mr. Rose presented a Petition from Arthur Connor Barrett, of Goulburn, stating that he was the holder of a commission as Captain of "E" Company, 6th Volunteer Infantry Regiment, on the 4th December, 1897, and on that date Lieutenant Newman, commanding "G" Company, 2nd Infantry Regiment, at a joint parade of the two abovenamed companies, made a demand that Petitioner should recognise him as Petitioner's superior officer, and later, on the same date, Lieutenant Newman, without cause or provocation, ordered Petitioner out of an orderly-room in the presence of a number of officers and civilians; that an Inquiry at a Military Court was opened at Goulburn, on 28th January, 1898; that the Inquiry was held with closed doors, and many witnesses were thus prevented from giving evidence, as the nature and scope of the Inquiry was not known; that Lieutenant Newman, on oath, stated at the Inquiry that he had not claimed superiority of command over Petitioner, nor did he address Petitioner on 4th December, 1897; that Lieutenants R. R. Thompson and C. J. Haldorf both stated on oath that Lieutenant Newman had claimed superiority of rank over Petitioner in connection with the parade on 4th December, 1897; that several non-commissioned officers and men of "E" Company stated on oath at the Inquiry that they saw Lieutenant Newman address Petitioner on the occasion referred to, and that Privates Horton and Ball deposed they heard Lieutenant Newman say to Petitioner, "Do you recognise me as your superior officer?" that, as a result of the Inquiry, Petitioner's commission was cancelled, and Lieutenant Newman was reprimanded for having needlessly interfered with a company, on the supposition that he had a right to do so; and that having been degraded on accusations which were false, and having exhausted every honourable means within his power to get the Inquiry reopened, Petitioner prays that a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the facts in connection with the cancellation of his commission.
Petition received.

4. PAPERS:—

Mr. Fegan laid upon the Table,—List of Certificates of Service granted under the Coal Mines Regulation Act, 1896, to 3rd December, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. See laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 21st September, 1898,—“Monthly Returns of Accidents.”

(2.) Further Papers respecting Horses for Army Remounts.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Correspondence in connection with the proposed Steel Rails Contract.

(2.) Return respecting consignments of pigs by Mr. Patrick Carlow and Mr. John Devitt from Camden to Sydney.

(3.) Statement of the average Liabilities and Assets of Banks within the Colony for the quarter ended 30th September, 1900.

(4.) Statement of the average Liabilities and Assets of Public Companies within the Colony for the quarter ended 30th September, 1900.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. LIVERPOOL MUNICIPAL LOAN BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. See moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to authorise the Council of the Municipal District of Liverpool to borrow certain moneys for the repayment of loans.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled “A Bill to authorise the Council of the Municipal District of Liverpool to borrow certain moneys for the repayment of loans,”—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and (*by consent*) read a second time at a later hour of the day.

6. ASSENT TO BILLS:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Sir William Lyne, and read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—

(1.) Appropriation Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 187.

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, 1900, to the 30th day of June, 1901, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the Vote ‘Advance to Treasurer, 1899–1900,’ for supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1899, to the 30th day of June, 1900, inclusive of both dates; and to cover payments charged to ‘Expenditure Suspense Account’ for Services of the year 1898–9; 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 Lieutenant-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, 1st December, 1900.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd December, 1900.

(2.) Loan Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 188.

Lieutenant-Governor.

A Bill, intituled "An Act to authorise the raising of a Loan for the Public Service of the Colony, and for other purposes,"—as finally passed by the Legislative Council and Assembly, having been presented to the Lieutenant-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, 3rd December, 1900.*

7. MESSAGES FROM THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR:—The following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor were delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—

(1.) Grafton to Casino Railway Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 189.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Grafton to Casino; to provide for the transfer to the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales of certain revenues derived from certain lands benefited by the line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

*Government House,**Sydney, 3rd December, 1900.*

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

(2.) Parramatta Sewerage Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 190.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 sewerage works for the town of Parramatta; to provide for the taking over by the Council of the Borough of Parramatta of the said works; to provide for the proclamation of sewerage districts; to apply the provisions of the Country Towns Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Acts amending the same, to such works; to exempt such works from the operation of the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Act of 1880, and any Acts amending the same; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to those objects.

*Government House,**Sydney, 3rd December, 1900.*

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

8. TUCKIAN FLOOD ESCAPE SCHEME BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. See,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Ross,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Hughes,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Phillips,	Mr. Henry Clarke.
Dr. Ross,	Mr. W. W. Davis,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Edden,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Byrne,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Nielsen,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Affleck.

Tellers,

Mr. Edden,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, passed.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "An Act to sanction the construction of certain works in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood waters from the Richmond River; to provide for the payment of certain amounts in respect of the said works; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those 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 to "An Act to sanction the construction of certain works in connection with the Tuckian Flood Escape Scheme, with the object of providing for the better discharge of flood waters from the Richmond River; to provide for the payment of certain amounts in respect of the said works; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,**Sydney, 3rd December, 1900*

3rd December, 1900.

9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. O'Sullivan (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intituled "A Bill to sanction the extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and the construction there of a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects," through all its stages in one day.
Question put and passed.
10. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Central Railway Station and Administrative Offices, Devonshire-street*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient to extend the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and there construct a commodious station and administrative offices, as recommended by the Public Works Committee.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
11. CITY RAILWAY EXTENSION (DEVONSHIRE-STREET) BILL:—
(1.) Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this House do now resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to sanction the extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and the construction there of a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to these objects.
Question put and passed.
Whereupon, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly.
Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.
Ordered, on motion of Mr. Chanter, that the report be now received.
Mr. Chanter 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 extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and the construction there of a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to these objects.
On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, the resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.
- (2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and the construction there of a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects*,"—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. O'Sullivan, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.
Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter reported the Bill without amendment.
Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That the report be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put, and voices given,—Mr. Deputy-Speaker stated his opinion that the *Ayes* had it.
Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Deputy-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 challenged his decision.
The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Ashton, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Ewing, Mr. Garland, and Mr. Winecombe.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.
- (4.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, *passed*.
Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and the construction there of a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those 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 sanction the extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and the construction there of a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.
*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 3rd December, 1900.*
12. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of the following Bills through all their stages in one day:—
(1.) Bogan Gate to Bulbodney Railway Bill.
(2.) Grafton to Casino Railway Bill.
Debate ensued.
Question put.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd December, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.			Noes, 12.
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Thomas,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. W. W. Davis,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Norton,
Mr. See,	Mr. Phillips,	Mr. FitzGerald,	Mr. Winchcombe,
Mr. Sleath,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. E. M. Clark,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Lees.
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Law,	Mr. Donaldson.	<i>Tellers,</i>
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Smith,		Mr. Meagher,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Carroll,		Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. David Davis,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

13. GRAFTON TO CASINO RAILWAY BILL:—

- (1.) Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That this House do now 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 Grafton to Casino; to provide for the transfer to the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales of certain revenues derived from certain lands benefited by the line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes. Whereupon, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Deputy-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,—

TUESDAY, 4 DECEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Chanter, That the report be now received.

Mr. Chanter 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 Grafton to Casino; to provide for the transfer to the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales of certain revenues derived from certain lands benefited by the line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

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

- (2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Grafton to Casino; to provide for the transfer to the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales of certain revenues derived from certain lands benefited by the line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes*,"—which was read a first time.

Mr. O'Sullivan moved, That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 38.			Noes, 7.
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Miller,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Quinn,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Ashton,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Dick,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. See,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. McGowen,	Mr. E. M. Clark.
Mr. Holman,	Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Carroll,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Phillips,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Spruson,
Mr. David Davis,	Mr. Crick,	Mr. O'Sullivan.	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Thomas,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Thomas Brown,	Mr. Watson,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Lees,	Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Smith,	
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. W. W. Davis.	
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Hurley,		
Mr. Nobbs,	Mr. Donaldson,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(3.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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. O'Sullivan, passed.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Grafton to Casino; to provide for the transfer to the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales of certain revenues derived from certain lands benefited by the line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes*."

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

3rd December, 1900.

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 Grafton to Casino ; to provide for the transfer to the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales of certain revenues derived from certain lands benefited by the line ; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads ; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900, a.m.*

14. COMPANIES DEATH DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Sir William Lyne moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Bill read a second time.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair ; and Mr. Watson, Temporary-Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

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

(2.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Sir William Lyne, *passed*.

Sir William Lyne then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to amend the Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899.*"

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 Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900, a.m.*

15. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Bogan Gate to Bulbodney*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it is expedient that the construction of a line of Railway from Bogan Gate to Bulbodney, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Question put and passed.

16. BOGAN GATE TO BULBODNEY RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to *amended* Notice, That this House do now 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 Bogan Gate to Bulbodney ; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line ; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads ; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line ; and for other purposes.

Question put and passed.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole accordingly,

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair ; and Mr. Lees, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Lees, That the report be now received.

Mr. Lees 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 Bogan Gate to Bulbodney ; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line ; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads ; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line ; and for other purposes.

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

(2.) Mr. O'Sullivan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Bogan Gate to Bulbodney ; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line ; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads ; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line ; and for other purposes,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

3rd December, 1900.

(3.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Lees reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, 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. O'Sullivan, *passed*.

Mr. O'Sullivan then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to sanction the construction of a line of Railway from Bogan Gate to Bulbodney; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; 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 Bogan Gate to Bulbodney; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 4th December, 1900, a.m.

17. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Manilla to Barraba*):—

Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of Railway from Manilla to Barraba.

Question put and passed.

18. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Breakwater at Byron Bay*):—Mr.

O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a breakwater at Byron Bay.

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 three Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.:—Mr. Hogue, Mr. Thomas Brown, and Mr. Hawthorne.

19. LIVERPOOL MUNICIPAL LOAN BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. See 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. See, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman reported the Bill without amendment.

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

Mr. See then moved, That the Bill be now read a third time.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

Mr. See then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the Council of the Municipal District of Liverpool to borrow certain moneys for the repayment of loans.*"

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 Council of the Municipal District of Liverpool to borrow certain moneys for the repayment of loans,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 4th December, 1900, a.m.

20. GOLD-DREDGING LEASES MODIFICATION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Fegan, Mr. Deputy-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 enable the Secretary for Mines to modify, remit, refund, and fix the rent of certain leases, and promises of leases, and vary the conditions applicable to the same, and authorise the amalgamation of such leases; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

Mr.

3rd December, 1900.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

Mr. Chanter then reported the resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved.—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to enable the Secretary for Mines to modify, remit, refund, and fix the rent of certain leases, and promises of leases, and vary the conditions applicable to the same, and authorise the amalgamation of such leases; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. Fegan then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to enable the Secretary for Mines to modify, remit, refund, and fix the rent of certain leases, and promises of leases, and vary the conditions applicable to the same, and authorise the amalgamation of such leases; and for purposes consequent on or incidental to those objects*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and (*by consent*) now read a second time.

- (3.) Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Chanter, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment,—

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

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

21. POSTPONEMENTS:—

(1.) The remaining Government Business, until To-morrow.

(2.) The Orders of the Day of General Business, until To-morrow.

22. CLAIM OF MESSRS. MADDISON AND EWING, CONTRACTORS:—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report of the Select Committee on "Claim of Messrs. Maddison and Ewing, Contractors," brought up on 27th September, 1900, a.m., be now adopted.
Question put and passed.

23. CLAIM OF MR. THEOPHILUS STEPHENS—CROWN LAW DEPARTMENT:—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report of the Select Committee on the "Claim of Mr. Theophilus Stephens—Crown Law Department," brought up on the 30th November, 1899, be now adopted.
Question put and passed.

24. CASE OF THOMAS BUCKLEY—PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT:—Mr. E. M. Clark moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report of the Select Committee on the "Case of Thomas Buckley," dismissed from the Public Works Department, brought up on the 20th December, 1899, be now adopted.
Debate ensued.
Question put.
The House divided.

Ayes, 18.

Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Ross,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Byrne,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Pycars,
Mr. Holman,	Mr. W. W. Davis,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Nelson,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. McGowen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Donaldson,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Carroll.

Noes, 12.

Mr. Hurley,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Nobbs,	
Mr. Jessop,	Mr. Smith,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Thomas Brown.
Mr. Fegan,	
Mr. Ewing,	
Mr. Wood,	
Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Phillips,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

25. ACCIDENT TO ALBERT BURBANK ON RAILWAY PREMISES, TAMWORTH:—Mr. Gillies moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Accident to Albert Burbank on Railway Premises, Tamworth," brought up on 25th October, 1900, be now adopted.
Question put and passed.

26. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House at its rising do adjourn until 4 o'clock p.m. This Day.
Question put and passed.

27. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twenty-five minutes before five o'clock a.m., until *Four* o'clock p.m. This Day.

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

J. H. CANN,
Deputy-Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 87.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FIFTH SESSION OF THE EIGHTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 4 DECEMBER, 1900.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

ABSENCE OF MR. SPEAKER:—The Clerk informed the House that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent, and read a telegram from Dr. Lambert, of Berrima, stating that Mr. McCourt would not be able to leave his room for some days.

Whereupon the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, pursuant to the 22nd Standing Order of the House.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Military Expenditure at the Commonwealth Celebrations:—*Mr. Gillies*, for *Mr. Hughes*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What sum of money is to be placed at the disposal of the Military Authorities in connection with the Commonwealth Celebration festivities?

(2.) What are the details of this proposed expenditure?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have not the information to give the Honorable Member. I received certain information last night which I knew was not correct, and I received information to-night which I know is not correct.

(2.) Police Uniform:—*Mr. Nielsen*, for *Mr. Holman*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that the present full-dress police uniform is a close-fitting, stop-made, thick cloth tunic, with a broad yellow belt round the waist?

(2.) Have any complaints been made that in the summer it is unbearable to the men who are forced to use it?

(3.) Will he have this garb done away with as a mark of special consideration to the police on account of the accomplishment of Federation?

(4.) In view of the long hours the police will have to work, and the extra duty that will devolve upon them in connection with the Commonwealth Celebrations, will he grant them extra pay or extra leave as compensation for working overtime?

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

(1.) The full-dress tunic is well made of light material, and is a smart uniform. It was in common use for many years, but it is now only worn on special full-dress occasions.

(2.) No. It is seldom worn.

(3.) This would not be desirable.

(4.) Special consideration will be shown to police who have to perform extra duty.

(3.) Police Superannuation Fund:—*Mr. Nobbs* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it the intention of the Government to bring in a Bill to regulate the Police Superannuation Fund before the Session closes?

(2.) What is the cause of the delay in bringing in such a Bill, as promised by the Government for some time?

(3.) Has the Civil Service Board yet furnished their report on this matter?

Mr. See answered,—It is impossible. The Government have the matter in hand, and I hope to bring the Bill in next Session.

(4.) Night Officers at Country Railway Stations:—*Mr. E. M. Clark*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Is he aware of the fact that night officers at all outside stations work seven nights per week of twelve hours each; and will he urge the Railway Commissioners to take steps which will result in better conditions being introduced in connection with the conduct of their duties by these officers?

Sir

4th December, 1900.

Sir William Lyne answered,—I have consulted the Railway Commissioners in this matter, who state that it is not a fact that at all outside stations the staff hands work twelve hours per night for seven nights a week. This is done in exceptional cases, and the Commissioners regret that, in view of all the circumstances, and with due regard to the public interests, they cannot disturb the existing arrangements. They point out that the conditions prevailing in this Colony are equal to, and in most cases more favourable to, the employees than those ruling on other railways. Night officers who work seventy hours per week, without a continuous break of twenty-four hours, are allowed an additional week's leave per annum.

- (5.) Appointment of Wharfingers to the Sydney Harbour Trust:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In making the appointments for the positions of wharfingers to the Harbour Trust, will he see that the selection is made from those applicants who have been before the Advisory Board?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The whole of the applications received at the Treasury will be considered.

- (6.) Appointment of Military Officers:—Mr. Nielsen asked the Colonial Secretary,—In view of the fact that the permanent units of Cavalry and Infantry have not been provided for on the Estimates, will he see that the officers thereof are permanently appointed before the Military Department is taken over by the Commonwealth, so that they will secure a proper status among the Federal Military Forces?

Mr. See answered,—I am informed by the Major-General that the officers referred to already have a recognised status in the Partially-paid Forces.

- (7.) Contract for the Supply of Steel Rails:—Mr. Norton asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
(1.) Will he lay upon the Table of the House the Conditions of Contract and the Specifications, if such have yet been framed, intended to apply to the proposed contract for the manufacture and supply of 100,000 tons of steel rails?
(2.) If not, will he afford the public an opportunity of inspecting the same, either at the Works Department Offices or by the purchase of copies at the Government Printing Office?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—The contract is not yet prepared, and, therefore, cannot be laid upon the Table or inspected at present.

- (8.) Steam-ferry Punt for Taree:—Mr. J. H. Young asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will he invite tenders for the supply of a steam-ferry punt for Taree, in accordance with his promise to Mr. Young?

Mr. O'Sullivan answered,—Immediately upon the interview I had with the Honorable Member and Mr. Price, M.L.A., tenders were invited in Sydney, Melbourne, and Brisbane, with a view to ascertaining if suitable engines could be obtained, and the time which would be occupied in constructing them thereby saved. Some offers to supply engines were received on the 3rd instant, and they are now being inspected. If, as seems probable, one of those offered suits, tenders will at once be called for the hull of the punt. It should be understood that the fact of tenders not being yet called for the hull does not delay matters, for it will take a short time to build; the chief difficulty is to obtain suitable engines promptly, and everything possible is being done to overcome that difficulty.

- (9.) Manufacture of Steel Rails by the Australian Iron Company:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Referring to a recent statement that the Australian Iron Company had offered to accept a contract for the local manufacture and supply of 90,000 tons, or any other quantity, of steel rails, is it a fact that the company stated its intention to make such rails from iron ores found in New South Wales?

(2.) Is he aware that an experienced local ironmaster, Mr. W. Sandford, considered Mr. J. B. Jacquet's preliminary report on the Carcoar iron deposits sufficiently satisfactory to justify him in visiting England to make arrangements for the erection of a blast furnace to smelt the ores from Carcoar?

(3.) Did Mr. Sandford ask the Government for any contract or subsidy prior to leaving for England; and, if so, did he make mention of any necessity for using iron ores imported from Tasmania?

(4.) Can he quote any recognised authority to support the statement that New South Wales ores are only suitable for "blending" purposes?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) Yes, some time since; but for a considerable time I heard nothing further about it.

(2.) I am not aware.

(3.) I believe his representatives did since he left for London.

(4.) I have not had time to get this information.

- (10.) Clerks, Advances to Settlers Board:—Mr. Meagher asked the Colonial Treasurer,—As the temporary clerks in receipt of a daily wage in the Land and Income Tax and Mines Departments are paid for Christmas Day, will the clerks of the Advances to Settlers Board be similarly treated?

Sir William Lyne answered,—I am informed that the officers in the Land and Income Tax Department are allowed pay for Christmas Day in view of the long hours they are required to be on duty. The question whether temporary officers in all departments are to be allowed pay for Christmas Day is at present under the consideration of the Government.

4th December, 1900.

(11.) Typewriting, Shorthand, and Elocution in Public Schools:—Mr. Hawthorne asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—

(1.) Will he take early steps to have typewriting and shorthand taught in the leading Public Schools of this Colony?

(2.) Will he also see if, on the payment of a small fee, it be possible to have elocution taught in leading Public Schools?

Mr. Perry answered,—I do not think it advisable to, at present, add to the already very large number of subjects taught in our Public Schools. I do not mean to introduce into any schools a subject which I cannot introduce into all schools.

(12.) Iron-ore from Carlo's Gap, Mudgee Line:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that in the year 1884 or thereabout a test was made from iron-ore from Carlo's Gap, Mudgee line, at Clayton's foundry, then existing in Cleveland-street, Redfern, the result being the production of some 125 lb. of good medium pig-iron from about 2 cwt. of ore?

(2.) Is he further aware that a portion of this iron was sent to the Exhibition held in London in 1884, and that Melliday, who took an active interest in the matter, received a bronze medal for the exhibit, which was described by the Awards Commissioners as a good sample of pig?

(3.) Is he also aware that at the instance of the Honorable John Sutherland, then Minister for Works, in 1883, a sample of locally-manufactured wrought iron was sent to the Bolton Steel and Iron Works, England, and was described by experts there to be of excellent quality?

(3.) Will he have the samples of ore from Carlo's Gap, Mudgee line, forwarded to the Mines Department, tested by experts to see if they bear out the results indicated in the foregoing Questions?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1, 2, and 3.) I am not aware.

(4.) I will have these samples of iron ore from Carlo's Gap sent to the Mines Department to be tested by experts.

(13.) Reduction of Members of the Legislative Assembly:—Mr. Hogue asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Has he in contemplation, in view of the Commonwealth Constitution having been passed, the alteration of the Electoral Law of this State, so as to reduce the representation of the electors in this House?

(2.) If so, will he indicate before the close of the present Session his intentions in that regard, and give some outline of his intentions as to the number by which he considers the representatives of the people in this House should be reduced?

Sir William Lyne answered,—The Government propose to defer dealing with this matter until it becomes known what number of members of the local Parliament are elected to seats in the Federal Parliament.

(14.) Site for Manufacture of Steel Rails at Clyde:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he of opinion that the suggested site near the Clyde railway bridge for the proposed steel works is one which would conduce to economy in manufacture?

(2.) Can he state what the cost of carriage would be of the various raw material required for the manufacture of steel rails per finished ton of metal at the suggested site at Clyde?

(3.) Is it not a fact that any excessive cost in carriage must be paid by the public of New South Wales as part of the purchased price for the rails?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) An English iron expert has expressed an opinion in favour of the Clyde site on the grounds stated by the Honorable Member.

(2.) The principal raw materials would, it is assumed, be the ore and limestone. The rate generally applicable for the carriage by railway for these articles is 4d. per ton per mile in truck loads.

(3.) I think not, as the purchase price is fixed by contract, and is in no way governed by the freight from the works to Sydney.

(15.) Cost of Report on Sites for Federal Capital:—Mr. Norton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Will he state the cost entailed in preparing and printing the numerous maps accompanying the report of the Commissioner on the sites for the Seat of the Federal Government?

(2.) Will he also state the cost incurred in printing the evidence given in the same connection?

Sir William Lyne answered,—

(1.) About £400. A large proportion of the work was, however, carried out by salaried officers, so that it is impossible to say exactly.

(2.) The cost of printing 1,000 copies of the Report and Evidence at the Government Printing Office was £179 12s. 10d.

3. LIQUOR ACT:—The following Petitions,—praying for the amendment of the Liquor Act, so as to provide, firstly, for a reduction of the hours of sale in public-houses and places held by wine licensees, and, secondly, to ensure more effective Sunday closing,—were presented by the Members named:—

(1.) By Mr. Alexander Campbell—From certain residents in and around the town of Kiama.

(2.) By Mr. Alexander Campbell—From certain residents in and around the town of Gerringong.

(3.) By Mr. F. Clarke—From certain residents of Port Macquarie.

(4.) By Mr. F. Clarke—From certain residents of the Hastings River.

(5.) By Mr. F. Clarke—From certain residents of Ennis and Rawdon Island and Wauchopo.

Petitions received.

4th December, 1900.

4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Dick, 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 Library within the University Grounds. Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. PAPER:—Sir William Lyne laid upon the Table,—Report of the Chief Medical Officer on the outbreak of Plague at Sydney, 1900.
Ordered to be printed.

6. CARLINGFORD TO DURAL TRAMWAY BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Message No. 191.

Lieutenant-Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 Tramway from Carlingford to Dural; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; and for other purposes.

Government House,

Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

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

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Deputy-Speaker stated that he had received from the Honorable Member for Canterbury, Mr. Taylor, 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 desirability of passing into law at the earliest moment an Act having for its object the legalising of about forty municipalities at present having no legal standing.”

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

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

Point of Order:—Mr. Cook requested Mr. Deputy-Speaker's ruling on the objection that this matter had been, and could be, discussed under the Municipalities (Amendment) Bill, now an Order of the Day.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker ruled that the motion was not irregular. The clause in the Municipalities Bill, to which reference had been made, dealt with new, not old Municipalities, and this motion was therefore in order.

Debate ensued.

Question put and negatived.

8. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Gormly, as Chairman, brought up the Nineteenth Report from the Printing Committee.

9. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. See (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intituled “A Bill to amend the law with respect to proclamations incorporating municipalities, and to amend the “Municipalities Act, 1897,” through all its stages in one day.
Question put and passed.

10. MUNICIPALITIES (INCORPORATION VALIDATING) BILL:—

(1.) Mr. See moved, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law with respect to proclamations incorporating municipalities; and to amend the Municipalities Act, 1897.

Question put and passed.

Mr. See then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to amend the law with respect to proclamations incorporating municipalities; and to amend the Municipalities Act, 1897,*”—which was read a first time.

Mr. See moved, That the Bill be printed, and “now” read a second time.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Brunker moved, That the Question be amended by leaving out the word “now” and adding at the end the word “To-morrow.”

Question proposed,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question.

Debate continued.

Point of Order:—Mr. Dick drew Mr. Deputy-Speaker's attention to certain clauses of the Bill which he submitted were beyond the order of leave.

Mr. Speaker ruled that the Bill was in order.

Debate continued.

Mr. Dick moved, That the Honorable Member for Hartley, Mr. Cook, be not further heard.

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

Whereupon Division called for, and Mr. Deputy-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 eight Members in the minority who had challenged his decision.

The following are the names of the Members in the minority, viz.,—Mr. Dick, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Ferris, Mr. Macdonald, Mr. Taylor, Mr. O'Connor, Mr. Perry, and Mr. Crick.

Mr. Terry moved, “That the Question be now put.”

Question put,—That the Question be now put.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th December, 1900.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.		Noes, 12.	
Mr. Wood.	Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Affleck,	Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Sawyer,	Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Sec,	Mr. Norton,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Spence,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Terry,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Winchcombe,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Dick,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Neild.	Mr. McGowen.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. MacMahon,		
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Ferris,	<i>Tellers,</i>	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Archer,	Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Jessep,	Mr. O'Connor.	Mr. Miller.

And it appearing by the Tellers' Lists that the number in favour of the motion, being a majority, consisted of "at least forty Members,"—

Question,—That the word proposed to be left out stand part of the Question,—put and passed.

Question again proposed, That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

Debate continued.

Mr. Gillies moved, That the Honorable Member for Glebe, Mr. Hogue, be not further heard.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 29.		Noes, 24	
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Archer,	Mr. Nobbs,	Mr. MacMahon,
Mr. Sec,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Brunker,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Norton,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Sawers,	Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. J. H. Young,	Mr. Winchcombe,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Thomas Clarke.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Terry,	Mr. Carruthers,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Richards,	Mr. Byrne,	Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Spence.
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Barnes.	Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. Nelson,	<i>Tellers</i>	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Pyers,		Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Moore,	
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Watson.	Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. Ferris,		Mr. Haynes,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Haynes moved, "That the Question be now put."

Question put,—That the Question be now put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 47.		Noes, 10.	
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Richards,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. Norton,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Sec,	Mr. Archer,	Mr. Terry,	Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Winchcombe,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Sawers,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Ashton.
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Rose,	
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Watson,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Mahony,	Mr. Carruthers.	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Wilson,	<i>Tellers,</i>	Mr. Miller.
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Affleck,		
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Nicholson,	Mr. Hawthorne,	
Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Spence,	Mr. O'Connor.	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Macdonald,		
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Byrne,		

And it appearing by the Tellers' Lists that the number in favour of the motion, being a majority, consisted of "at least forty members,"—

Question put,—That the Bill be printed, and now read a second time.

The House divided.

Ayes, 48.		Noes, 9.	
Mr. Carroll,	Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Spence,	Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. Richards,	Mr. Neild,	Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Sec,	Mr. Ferris,	Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. J. H. Young,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Watkins,	Mr. Terry,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Archer,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. McLean,	Mr. Miller.
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Winchcombe,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Crick,	Mr. Quinn,	Mr. Moore,	Mr. Austin Chapman,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Sawers,	Mr. Rose,	Mr. Nicholson.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Ashton.	
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Norton,	<i>Tellers,</i>	
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Barnes,	Mr. Affleck,	
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Kidd,	Mr. Mahony.	
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. Byrne,		
Mr. F. Clarke,	Mr. Macdonald,		

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

(2.)

4th December, 1900.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

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

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Watson, Temporary Chairman, reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again at a later hour of the day.

11. ADMINISTRATION OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENT:—Mr. O'Connor, on behalf of the 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 27th July, 1900, a.m., together with Appendix.
Ordered to be printed.

12. UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY (FISHER LIBRARY) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor was delivered by Mr. O'Sullivan, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 192.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Lieutenant-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 erection of a Library within the grounds of the University of Sydney, in connection with that University.

Government House,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

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

13. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Deputy-Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Banks Half-holiday Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable banks and branch banks to be closed on certain afternoons; to provide that such afternoons shall not be banking or business hours for the purpose of any business at such banks and branches; and to amend the Bills of Exchange Act, 1887,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(2.) Parliamentary Electorates Redistribution Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the redistribution of New South Wales into electoral districts; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to that object,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(3.) Government Savings Bank (Commonwealth Arrangements) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the conduct of the Government Savings Bank on and after the transfer of the Postal Department to the Commonwealth; and to amend the Government Savings Bank Act of 1870,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(4.) Governor-General's Establishment Contribution Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise certain annual payments to be made towards the maintenance of the establishment of the Governor-General,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(5.) Liverpool Municipal Loan Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to authorise the Council of the Municipal District of Liverpool to borrow certain moneys for the repayment of loans,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th December, 1900.

(6.) Friendly Societies (Amendment) Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill, returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to amend the Friendly Societies Act, 1899*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 4th December, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Pages 1 and 2, clause 3. *Omit* clause 3, *insert* the following new clause :—

The period of twelve months mentioned in section ninety-one of the Principal Act shall be deemed to have been and to be a period of two years.

Page 2, clause 6, line 39. *After* "provided" *insert* "that the Rules and Constitution of the Society shall first be made to accord with the provisions of the said section and that"

Amendment of
section ninety-
one of the
Principal Act.

Examined,—

W. J. TRICKETT,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, by Mr. Deputy-Speaker, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be taken into consideration at a later hour of the day.

14. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Cooma, via Nimitybelle and Bombala, to Delegate*):—Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Cooma, *via* Nimitybelle and Bombala, to Delegate. Debate ensued.

Interruption.

15. EARLY CLOSING (AMENDMENT) BILL:—Ordered, on motion of Sir William Lync, That the following Message be carried to the Legislative Council :—

MR. PRESIDENT,

With reference to the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 1st December, 1900, in reference to the Early Closing (Amendment) Bill, the Legislative Assembly requests that the following words "Disagrees to the amendment in clause 5, which inserts the words 'and shops conducted by a proprietor without the assistance of any employee or employes,'" may be substituted for the words "Disagrees to the amendment in clause 4 which inserts the words 'the same manner as provided in the preceding section for existing country shopping districts.'"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

14. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Cooma, via Nimitybelle and Bombala, to Delegate*):—

Question again proposed, after the *Interruption* indicated above.

Debate resumed.

Question put,—and Division called for,—but there not being Tellers on the part of the *Noes* no Division could be had; and Mr. Deputy-Speaker declared the Question to have been resolved in the *affirmative*.

16. FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AMENDMENT BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read, on motion of Mr. Sec, Mr. Deputy-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. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Lees, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Mr. Sec, 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 Friendly Societies Act, 1899*."

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

17. GOLD DREDGING LEASES MODIFICATION BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Fegan moved, "That" this Bill be now read a third time.

Mr. Norton 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 2 and the Schedule,"—instead thereof.

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

Debate ensued.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

Ordered, That the Debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

4th December, 1900.

18. COMPANIES DEATH DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL:—

Mr. Deputy-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 Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899*," with the Amendment indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which Amendment the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

COMPANIES DEATH DUTIES (AMENDMENT) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendment referred to in Message of 4th December, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, Clause 4, line 21 After "company" insert "nor when the only pastoral business carried
"on by the Company relates to property that has fallen into the hands of such Company
"by reason of foreclosure or conveyance of the Equity of Redemption in discharge of a
"mortgage debt or relates to property acquired by such Company for the purpose of
"working the same in connection with the property so foreclosed or conveyed as
"aforesaid."

Examined,—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, That the amendment made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Deputy-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. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Ashton reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's Amendment.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, 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 amend the Companies (Death Duties) Act, 1899*."

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

19. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Deputy-Speaker reported the following messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) City Railway Extension (Devonshire-street) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the extension of the railway from its present terminus at Redfern to the north of Devonshire-street, and the construction there of a commodious station and administrative offices; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to those objects*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment."

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

(2.) Early Closing (Amendment) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council having had under consideration the Legislative Assembly's Messages, dated 1st and 4th December, 1900, in reference to the Early Closing (Amendment) Bill,—does not insist upon its Amendments disagreed to by the Assembly, and agrees to the Assembly's Amendment upon the Council's Amendments in this Bill.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 4th December, 1900.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy President.

20. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Fisher Library, University of Sydney*):—

Mr. O'Sullivan (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That it is expedient that the erection of a library within the University grounds, as recommended by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works, be carried out.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

21. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*Railway from Booyong to Ballina*):—

Mr. O'Sullivan moved, pursuant to Notice, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Booyong to Ballina.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th December, 1900.

WEDNESDAY, 5 DECEMBER, 1900, A.M.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 24.

Mr. Wood,	Mr. O'Connor,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. H. Clarke,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Jessep,	Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Miller,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. FitzGerald,
Mr. Ewing,	Mr. Donaldson.
Mr. Millard,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Austin Chapman.
Mr. Hurley,	

Noes, 22.

Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Terry,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Wright,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. Norton,
Mr. Nobbs,	Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Rigg,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Ashton,	Mr. Smith.
Mr. Nielsen,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Ross,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Henry Chapman,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick.
Mr. Thomas Clarke,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

22. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS (*High-level Bridge over the Hawkesbury River at Richmond*):—Mr. O'Sullivan 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 High-level Bridge over the Hawkesbury River at Richmond.

Point of Order:—Mr. Ashton submitted that the motion was out of order, the requirement of the Public Works Act not being complied with.

Debate ensued.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker said he could not agree that it was out of Order.

Question put and passed.

23. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Deputy-Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Culcairn to Germanton 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 Culcairn to Germanton; to amend the provisions of the Public Works Act, 1900, so far as they relate to the duty of the Constructing Authority to make and maintain fences along the said line; to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads; to provide for the imposition of a tax on certain lands in connection with such line; and for other purposes*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th December, 1900, a.m.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

(2.) Government Railways (Employees' Appeal) Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,

The Legislative Council has this day agreed to the Bill returned herewith, intituled "*An Act to make better provision for the hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888*,"—with the amendments indicated by the accompanying Schedule, in which amendments the Council requests the concurrence of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5 December, 1900, a.m.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy-President.

GOVERNMENT RAILWAYS (EMPLOYEES' APPEAL) BILL.

Schedule of the Amendments referred to in Message of 4th December, 1900.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 1, clause 1, line 6. *Omit "or" insert "and except with regard to the right to promotion "under section"*

Page 1, clause 1, line 11. *Omit "two representatives of the employees" insert "one employee"*

Page 2, clause 1, lines 4 and 5. *Omit "representatives of the employees" insert "employee"*

Page 2, clause 1, line 6. *Omit "names" insert "name"*

Page 2, clause 1, lines 6 and 7. *Omit "representatives to" insert "employees shall"*

Examined.—

F. T. HUMPHERY,
Deputy Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, That the amendments made by the Legislative Council in this Bill be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Deputy-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. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Sleath reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

On motion of Sir William Lyne, the report was adopted.

Ordered

4th December, 1900.

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 make better provision for the hearing and determination of appeals by employees of the Railway Commissioners, and to amend the Government Railways Act of 1888.*"

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 5th December, 1900, a.m.*

24. SURVEYORS REGISTRATION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Hassall, Mr. Deputy-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 for the registration and licensing of surveyors; to authorise surveyors so licensed to enter any land; and to regulate the practice of surveyors; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Watson, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Watson, That the report be *now* received.

Mr. Watson then reported the Resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide for the registration and licensing of surveyors; to authorise surveyors so licensed to enter any land; and to regulate the practice of surveyors; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects.

On motion of Mr. Hassall, the Resolution was read a second time, and agreed to.

(2.) Mr. Hassall then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to provide for the registration and licensing of surveyors; to authorise surveyors so licensed to enter any land; and to regulate the practice of surveyors; and for purposes of and incidental to the above objects,*"—which was read a first time.

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

25. SHEARERS ACCOMMODATION BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Perry, Mr. Deputy-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 for the proper and sufficient accommodation of shearers.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Dick reported that the Committee had come to a Resolution.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Dick, That the report be *now* received.

Mr. Dick then reported the Resolution, which was read a first time, as follows:—

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to provide for the proper and sufficient accommodation of shearers.

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 provide for the proper and sufficient accommodation of Shearers,*"—which was read a first time.

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

26. POSTPONEMENTS:—

(1.) The remaining Government Business, until To-morrow.

(2.) The Orders of the Day of General Business, until To-morrow.

27. ALFRED AUSTIN SAMPSON'S SETTLEMENT LEASE, GUNNEDAH:—Mr. Moore moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Alfred Austin Sampson's Settlement Lease, Gunnedah," brought up on 30th August, 1900, be now adopted.

Question put and passed.

28. DISMISSAL OF MRS. ABRAHAM, SHAFTESBURY GIRLS' ASYLUM:—Mr. Holman moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Dismissal of Mrs. Abraham, Shaftesbury Girls' Asylum," brought up on 1st December, 1900, a.m., be now adopted.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 35.

Mr. Hurley,	Mr. Austin Chapman,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Cohen,	Mr. Henry Chapman,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. E. M. Clark,	Mr. Morgan,	Mr. Donaldson,
Mr. Hassall,	Mr. Haynes,	Mr. Thomas Clarke,
Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Cook,	Mr. Neild.
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. O'Connor,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Wilson,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. See,	Mr. Ross,	Mr. Miller.
Mr. Holman,	Mr. Millard,	
Mr. Nobbs,	Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Law,	Mr. McLean,	

Noes, 8.

Mr. Garland,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Ferris,
Mr. Spruson,
Mr. Dick.

Tellers,

Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Smith.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

29. STATE PARLIAMENT:—Mr. Cohen moved, pursuant to Notice, That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the approaching accomplishment of Federation, it is expedient that legislative provision should be made for the reduction of the number of Members in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council, and for the limitation of the tenure of office of Members of the Legislative Council.

Debate ensued.

Mr.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

4th December, 1900.

Mr. Moore moved, That this debate be now adjourned.

Debate ensued.

Question put, That this debate be now adjourned.

The House divided.

Ayes, 35.

Mr. See,	Mr. Thomas Brown,
Sir William Lyne,	Mr. Watson,
Mr. Wood,	Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Perry,	Mr. Ross,
Mr. Meagher,	Mr. Ferris,
Mr. O'Sullivan,	Mr. Slenti,
Mr. Taylor,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. O'Connor,	Mr. Cook,
Mr. MacMahon,	Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. Holman,
Mr. Dacey,	Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Hurley,	Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Pyers,	Mr. Fegan.
Mr. Haynes,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Anderson,	
Mr. Donaldson,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Smith.
Mr. Moore,	

Noes, 14.

Mr. Nobbs,
Mr. Neild,
Mr. M'Leau,
Mr. Garland,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Cohen,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Wilson,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Thomas Clarke.

Tellers,

Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Austin Chapman.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Ordered, that the debate be adjourned until To-morrow.

30. GRAFTON TO CASINO RAILWAY BILL:—The Deputy-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 Grafton to Casino, to provide for the transfer to the Railway Commissioners of New South Wales of certain revenues derived from certain lands benefitted by the line, to authorise the construction of the said line on public roads, and for other purposes,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th December, 1900, A.M.

W. J. TRICKETT,
Deputy Speaker.

31. PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARY:—Mr Haynes moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Joint Committee of the Library of the Parliament, brought up on 28th November, be now adopted. Question put and passed.
32. CLAIM OF JAMES AND PATRICK GUIHEN OF KANGAROO VALLEY:—Mr. Alexander Campbell moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Claim of James and Patrick Guihen, of Kangaroo Valley," brought up on 30th November, 1899, be now adopted. Question put and passed.
33. SPECIAL ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That this House at its rising do adjourn until 7 o'clock, p.m., This Day. Debate ensued. Question put and passed.
34. ADJOURNMENT:—Sir William Lyne moved, That this House do now adjourn. Debate ensued. Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at twelve minutes before Six o'clock a.m., until *Seven* o'clock p.m., This Day.

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

J. H. CANN,
Deputy-Speaker.





PROCLAMATION.

NEW SOUTH WALES. }
 to wit. }
 (L.S.)
 FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

By His Excellency The Honourable Sir FREDERICK MATTHEW DARLEY,
 Knight Commander of the Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and
 Saint George, Lieutenant-Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony
 of New South Wales and its Dependencies.

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, Sir FREDERICK MATTHEW DARLEY, the Lieutenant-Governor aforesaid, in pursuance of the power and authority so vested in me, do hereby prorogue the said Legislative Council and Assembly until Wednesday, the sixteenth day of January next, and the same stand so prorogued accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Sydney, this fifth day of December, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred, and in the sixty-fourth year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,

WILLIAM JOHN LYNE.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN.

1900.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS UNDISPOSED OF AT THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

(PROROGUED, 5 DECEMBER, 1900.)

QUESTION:—

1. MR. AFLECK *to ask* THE COLONIAL TREASURER,—
 - (1.) Were all the shops closed on last Sunday and Sunday week that used to be open on Sundays in the city and suburbs?
 - (2.) If they were not closed, why were none of the proprietors of those open prosecuted, as they had been previously?
 - (3.) Do the police now report that all shops are closed on Sunday; and, if any were open, were the police authorised to keep their eyes closed to the breaches of the Act?
 - (4.) Is it his intention to allow matters to fall back to the old state, and allow an open violation of the Sunday by these shops being allowed to remain open?

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—NOTICES OF MOTIONS:—

1. MR. O'SULLIVAN *to move*, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a Tramway from Carlingford to Dural.
2. MR. O'SULLIVAN *to move*, That it is expedient that the construction of a line of railway from Carlingford to Dural be carried out.
3. MR. O'SULLIVAN *to move*, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Liverpool to Mulgoa.
4. MR. O'SULLIVAN *to move*, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Muswellbrook to Cassilis, with a branch from Denman to Singleton.
5. MR. SEE *to move*, That leave be given to bring in a Bill for the protection of native bears.
6. MR. O'SULLIVAN *to move*, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from the proposed Central Railway Terminus, at the north of Devonshire-street, along Kent-street to The Rocks, and thence back to the starting-point by way of Macquarie-place and Elizabeth-street, with stations en route and a depôt on The Rocks for freight and other traffic; a connection with the proposed North Shore Bridge, and provision for a future Eastern Suburbs railway connection.
7. MR. CBURCK *to move*, That this House now agrees to and adopts the Standing Order in reference to Limitation of Debate as brought up by the Standing Orders Committee on the 24th July, 1900, and authorises Mr. Speaker to present such Standing Order to His Excellency the Governor for approval.
8. MR. O'SULLIVAN *to move*, That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of erecting an Hospital for the Insane at Orange.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:—

1. Municipalities (Incorporation Validating) Bill; to be further considered in Committee. [*Mr. Sec.*]
2. Gold-Dredging Leases Modification Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Fegan, "That this Bill be now read a third time." Upon which Mr. Norton 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 2 and the Schedule"—instead thereof.
3. Hay Irrigation (Amending) Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the Hay Irrigation Act and Hay Irrigation (Amendment) Act, 1895. [*Mr. Hassall.*]
4. Surveyors Registration Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Hassall.*]
5. Municipalities (Amendment) Bill; to be further considered in Committee. [*Mr. Sec.*]

6. Coal Mines Regulation (Further Amendment) Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Fegan.*]
7. Sunday Trading Regulation Bill; second reading. [*Sir William Lyne.*]
8. Defence Lands Resumption Bill; second reading. [*Mr. O'Sullivan.*]
9. Scaffolding Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the inspection and regulation of scaffolding, engines, and gear used in connection with the erection, demolition, alteration, repair, cleaning, or painting of buildings or structures; for the security of persons working in connection with such scaffolding, engines, and gear; and for purposes consequent upon or incidental to those objects. [*Mr. See.*]
10. Oyster Fisheries (Amendment) Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise the resumption for certain purposes of Oyster Culture Leases, granted under the Fisheries Act, 1881, or the Oyster Fisheries Act of 1884, and for purposes consequent on or incidental to that purpose. [*Mr. See.*]
11. Travelling Stock Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Fegan.*]
12. Defamation Bill (*Council Bill*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "That this Bill be now read a second time."
13. Metropolitan Traffic (Amendment) Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to provide for the registration of certain vehicles, and the regulation of the traffic of certain animals; to amend and extend the Metropolitan Traffic Act, 1900; and for purposes consequent upon and incidental to these objects. [*Mr. See.*]
14. Country Towns Water and Sewerage (Amendment) Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to make further and better provision for and in relation to the water supply, sewerage, and drainage of country towns; 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; and for purposes consequent on or incidental thereto. [*Mr. O'Sullivan.*]
15. Mines Inspection Bill; to be further considered in Committee. [*Mr. Fegan.*]
16. Mining Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Fegan.*]
17. Public Works (Amendment) Bill; second reading. [*Mr. O'Sullivan.*]
18. Election Expenses Bill; second reading. [*Mr. See.*]
19. Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts Amendment Bill; 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. [*Mr. O'Sullivan.*]
20. Petty Sessions Fees Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to amend the law relating to fees in respect of proceedings before Justices; to enable the Governor to fix such fees; and for other purposes in connection therewith. [*Mr. Wood.*]
21. Fire Brigades Bill (No. 2); second reading. [*Mr. See.*]
22. Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works (*Railway from Glen Innes to Inverell*),—resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. O'Sullivan, "That it be referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works to consider and report upon the expediency of constructing a line of railway from Glen Innes to Inverell."
23. Sydney Industrial Blind Institution Incorporation Bill; second reading. [*Mr. See.*]
24. Fisheries Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading. [*Mr. See.*]
25. Public Health Promotion Bill; second reading. [*Mr. See.*]
26. Fruit Case Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Fegan.*]
27. Stock Diseases Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Fegan.*]
28. Statutory Rules Publication Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill for the publication of Statutory Rules. [*Sir William Lyne.*]
29. Forfeiture of Leases Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading. [*Mr. Hassall.*]
30. Explosives Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to explosives. [*Sir William Lyne.*]
31. Shearers Accommodation Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Perry.*]
32. Supply; resumption of the Committee. [*Sir William Lyne.*]
33. Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee. [*Sir William Lyne.*]

GENERAL BUSINESS—NOTICES OF MOTIONS:—

1. MR. NORTON to move, That, in the opinion of this House, it is not expedient that the Government should enter into any contract which may entail the importation of raw materials from other countries for the manufacture and supply of steel rails until this House has had an opportunity of fully considering the report upon the iron-ore deposits of New South Wales, which Mr. J. B. Jaquet, of the Geological Survey Branch of the Mines Department, has been engaged in compiling since 1898.
2. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That, in the opinion of this House, compensation should be given in the case of Patrick Brown, whom a Select Committee recommended to the favourable consideration of the Government in a report laid upon the Table of the House, 11th February, 1892.
3. MR. LAW to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence between the Archbishop of Sydney, the Registrar-General, and the Minister of Justice in connection with a proposed amendment of the Marriage Laws.

4. **MR. PRICE** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the mineral leases of Monks and Party, near Scone, and the lease application made by Mr. Mustan.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Fegan, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Edden, Mr. Arthur Griffith, Mr. Byrne, Mr. McLean, Mr. Chanter, and the Mover.
5. **MR. PRICE** to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) The present system of granting mining prospecting aid is unsatisfactory, and should be administered by Local Boards consisting of representatives of the Government and those interested in mining.
 (2.) A resident Government Geologist be appointed in each mining district.
 (3.) The various sections of the assay, mining, geological, metallurgical, and mineralogical departments, including the University and Technical College branches, should be amalgamated, with a view to affording facilities for the study of mining, and the granting of certificates of competency to persons qualifying for same.
6. **MR. PRICE** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, it is inequitable to charge tolls on punts and permit traffic on bridges to go free.
 (2.) The interests of the Colony will best be served by abolishing tolls on punts.
7. **MR. PRICE** to move, 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.
8. **DR. ROSS** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the number or applications now being dealt with by the Department of Lands for land exchanges, the area so applied for, and the respective districts in which the exchanges are about to take place.
9. **MR. NIELSEN** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, a grant of the fee-simple of all lands taken up as conditional purchases under the Land Act of 1861, which for any reason whatever have not been brought under the provisions of the Land Acts of 1875 or 1884, with respect to payment of balances, should be made without further payment on the expiry of fifty years from the date of the original selection of such lands; provided that such lands are on that date in possession of the original selector, or of any of his descendants upon whom such lands have devolved on the death of the original selector, and that all conditions have been fulfilled other than the payment of the balance of purchase-money.
10. **MR. NIELSEN** to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) The interest charged on the unpaid balances on conditional purchases is excessive, and should be reduced to 2½ per cent.
 (2.) An amendment of the Land Act should be made to give effect to the foregoing resolution.
11. **MR. NIELSEN** to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) The labourers employed on railway deviation and other works of a like nature should be paid at the rate of 7s. per day of eight hours.
 (2.) All skilled workmen should be paid union rates.
 (3.) An amendment of the Railway Act should be made without delay to give effect to the foregoing resolutions, and to provide a minimum wage for all railway employees.
12. **DR. ROSS** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The amount of Loan money that will be required to carry out the construction and completion of certain proposed public works that have been referred to and approved of by the Public Works Committee.
 (2.) The amount of Loan money now on hand to carry on the completion of these public works.
 (3.) The amount that will be required to be borrowed as a fresh Loan, either locally or on the English money market, for the completion of these works.
13. **MR. COOK** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The number of exemption certificates granted for the year 1893 under the following headings:—
 Under 9 years; between 9 and 10; 10 and 11; 11 and 12; 12 and 13; 13 and 14; over 14 years.
 (2.) The like information for the year 1894.
 (3.) The like information for the year 1895.
 (4.) The like information for the year 1896.
 (5.) The like information for the year 1897.
 (6.) The like information for the year 1898.
 (7.) The like information for the year 1899.
 (8.) The like information for the year 1900.
14. **MR. DACEY** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the manner in which matrimonial institutions are conducted.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. See, Mr. Garland, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Mahony, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Norton, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Nielsen, and the Mover.
15. **MR. MEAGHER** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the extraordinary large number of officers whose ages and length of service entitle them to retirement in the Police Force, but who are precluded on account of the condition of the Superannuation Fund, it is imperative that the condition of the Fund be dealt with this Session, and thus long-delayed promotion afforded to younger and vigorous men, and the efficiency of the Force assured.

16. **MR. CHANTER** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House—(a) all revenue derived from the sale, lease, or other occupation of Crown lands should in the future be devoted only to the construction of public works; (b) no loan moneys in the future should be expended in other than reproductive works, such as railways, telegraphs, telephones, and such other works as will yield a direct return to the Treasury.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.
17. **MR. CHANTER** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim made by Messrs. Permewan, Wright, & Co., Limited, against the Government for the destruction of their steamer "Rodney" on the Murray River.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. See, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Wright, Mr. Sawers, and the Mover.
 (3.) That the Return to Order, and Further Return to Order, "Destruction by Fire of the "Steamer 'Rodney,' " laid upon the Table on 22nd October, 1895, and 13th November, 1895, respectively, be referred to such Committee.
18. **MR. CHANTER** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all land exchanges effected subsequent to the passing of the Land Act of 1885.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Hassall, Mr. Moore, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Watson, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Levien, and the Mover.
19. **MR. HAYNES** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the charges of W. Matthews of maladministration and fraud in the Registrar-General's Department.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Wood, Mr. Nielson, Mr. Terry, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Anderson, Mr. McGowen, and the Mover.
20. **MR. J. H. YOUNG** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The amount expended on alterations and improvements at Parliament House and grounds since October last, specifying separately—(a) the several galleries in Chamber; (b) the Opposition Room; (c) the bowling and tennis ground; (d) the billiard-room.
 (2.) The amount spent since same date in furnishings.
 (3.) The estimated further expenditure to complete sub-head items (c) and (d).
 (4.) The vote of Parliament from which payments to date have been made.
21. **MR. HAYNES** to move,—
 (1.) That the Municipal District of Lambton Bill be referred to a Select Committee for consideration and report.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. See, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Hughes, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Fegan, Mr. Cotton, Mr. E. M. Clark, and the Mover.
22. **MR. NEILD** to move, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Claim of Mr. J. L. Davidson "Paddington," brought up on the 13th September, 1900, be now adopted.
23. **MR. MOORE** to move, That, in view of the importance of the mining industry, the need of reform of the mining laws, and the increasing responsibilities of administration, this House is of opinion that the Minister for Mines should give his undivided attention to the duties of that office.
24. **MR. WADDELL** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should, during this Session, introduce a Bill to give Parliament the power (when it thought fit) to remit important questions to a referendum vote of the electors.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.
25. **MR. GARLAND** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the removal of Peter Behrendt from the position of sanitary inspector, and his dismissal from the position of officer-in-charge of disinfectants in the quarantine area.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Sir William Lyne, Mr. Sawers, Mr. Henry Clarke, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Cohen, Mr. Ashton, and the Mover.
26. **MR. NORTON** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the condition and general management of the Government Hospitals for the Insane in this Colony.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. See, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Brunker, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Terry, Mr. Lees, and the Mover.
 (3.) That such Committee have the power to visit similar hospitals in any of the larger capital cities of Australia.
27. **MR. AUSTIN CHAPMAN** to move, 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 lessen the number of hotels in proportion to the population.
28. **MR. AUSTIN CHAPMAN** to move, 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 law relating to the sale of intoxicating liquors, and having reference to the licensing of clubs.
29. **MR. MOORE** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the provisions of the Electoral Law relating to electors' rights should be repealed, and other means adopted for the prevention of personation which will not cause the wholesale disfranchisement of electors.

30. **MR. MEAGHER** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of A. H. Byron against the Government of New South Wales, in respect of certain inventions of his in use on the Government Tramways.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Lee, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Dacey, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Terry, Mr. E. M. Clark, and the Mover.
31. **MR. MEAGHER** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the state of the finances and the contribution to be made shortly by this Colony towards the expenses of the Federal Commonwealth, including the salary and maintenance of the Governor-General and his establishment, it is expedient that steps should be taken to reduce the salary and expenses of the vice-regal establishment of this Colony.
32. **MR. MEAGHER** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into the conditional purchase 74-3,662, Lismore, of J. T. McIlpatrick, in reference to certain land resumed for road purposes.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Hassall, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Gillies, Mr. Wilks, Mr. Terry, Mr. E. M. Clark, and the Mover.
33. **MR. MEAGHER** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should bring in a Bill to amend the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893, and the Amending Act of 1896, by abolishing the system of electoral rights, and providing for the adoption of the Hare-Spence system of voting, and in other respects.
34. **MR. NEILD** to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to legitimatise the issue born before marriage of parents subsequently married.
35. **MR. ROSE** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, a measure of law reform should be introduced embodying the following proposals:—(a) The extension of District Court jurisdiction to personal actions where the amount claimed does not exceed £500; (b) the appointment of a Judge for the purpose of hearing all such motions, applications, summonses, and other matters as are now or hereafter shall be within the jurisdiction of a Judge in Chambers; (c) that in all civil actions the Judge shall determine all questions of law and fact, but upon the application of either party to the suit the Judge shall order a jury to be summoned to try questions of fact; (d) that it shall be the duty of a Judge, on the application of either party, so to amend all errors and make all such amendments of any matter of record as shall be necessary or expedient to bring the real issue between the parties on for trial.
36. **MR. RICHARDS** to move, That, in view of the vexatious harassing of miners by lessees (under annual lease or other conditions) who have encroached on gold-fields' reserves, and water frontages within such reserves, in future no applications to lease other than for mining purposes be granted until after reasonable notice has been given by the Mines Department to the Member for the district in which the reserve or reserves are situated, and that similar notice be communicated to the Chairman of Land Board of the district.
37. **MR. HAYNES** to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill for the abolition of the capital penalty for all crimes other than that of wilful and deliberate murder.
38. **MR. RIGG** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and documents relating to a claim upon the Government by George Cooke for a reward for the discovery of the Nerrigundah and Gulf Creek Gold-fields.
39. **MR. ROSE** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the nucleus of a National Bank should be provided for by the amalgamation of the Government and Barrack-street Savings Banks.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor.
40. **MR. HAYNES** to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) No Member of either branch of the Legislature,—
 (a) Should appear in any civil court in any case where the Crown is interested.
 (b) Should appear in any case in any criminal court where the Crown is interested.
 (c) Should act in any matter or proceeding whatsoever where the Crown is interested.
 (2.) Any Member contravening any of the above resolutions shall forfeit his seat.
 (3.) The Government should at once bring in a Bill to give effect to the above resolutions.
41. **MR. DONALDSON** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the present system of cancelling unexpended Road Votes should be abolished, and that the amounts remaining unspent at the end of each financial year should be placed to the credit of the respective roads for which the money was voted.
42. **MR. MEAGHER** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the interests of Parliamentary Government will be best conserved by the abolition of a political body like the Elections and Qualifications Committee, and in substitution therefor the appointment of an independent judicial tribunal similar to that in vogue in the Imperial Parliament.
43. **MR. RICHARDS** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon all the circumstances affecting the prosecution of Constables McGovern and McDonald.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Wood, Mr. Reid, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Hurley, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Chanter, Mr. Quinn, Mr. Kidd, and the Mover.

44. MR. RICHARDS to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The names, age at date of promotion, and length of service at time of promotion for the past ten years, of—(1) Superintendents in the Police Force; (2) like information as to inspectors and sub-inspectors; (3) like information as to senior-sergeants and sergeants; (4) senior-constables and first-class constables.
 (2.) The names of all officers in the Police Service who, at period of return, have exceeded sixty years of age, and length of service.
45. MR. WILKS to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House,—
 (1.) A return showing the names of the owners of the properties in all the areas cleansed by the authority of the Government during the last six months.
 (2.) A similar return in connection with all the areas now in process of cleansing.
 (3.) A statement showing the sanitary condition of the above-mentioned properties prior to the commencement of the cleansing operations.
46. MR. HOLMAN to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) The system of trying prisoners undergoing sentences, charged with breaches of discipline, by visiting magistrates should be abolished in favour of trial in open Court.
 (2.) Flogging as a punishment for such breaches of discipline should be abolished.
47. MR. COTTON to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers relating to the removal of Warder W. A. Stewart from Dubbo Goal to Coonamble in August, 1899.
48. MR. MEAGHER to move, That, in the opinion of this House,—
 (1.) The practice of Ministers of the Crown appearing in Criminal Courts in opposition to the Crown is pernicious, and fraught with danger to the best interests of the people.
 (2.) The practice of Ministers of the Crown appearing before acting or temporary holders of judicial offices, where permanent appointment rests with the Executive, should be discontinued.
49. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That, in the opinion of this House, for the more profitable, economical, and effective working of the railways and tramways of North Sydney and district, it is desirable, in the public interest, that the passenger and vehicular ferry traffic with Sydney should be controlled by the Government, either by the resumption of the Sydney Ferries Company's properties and plant or the running of an independent service.
50. MR. E. M. CLARK to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Richard Augustus Willoughby Green to certain lands known as Bromby's Grant, Gore Hill Estate, North Sydney.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Hassall, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Law, Mr. Watson, Mr. Archer, Mr. Nobbs, Mr. Thomas Clarke, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Affleck, and the Mover.
51. MR. E. M. CLARK to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the suspension and claims of Robert Roberts, late bookbinder in the Registrar-General's Department.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Wood, Mr. Archibald Campbell, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Lees, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Meagher, Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, Mr. Nobbs, and the Mover.
52. MR. E. M. CLARK to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claims of James Fitzgerald against the Public Works Department for goods supplied to men employed upon the Hornsby-Galston Road in 1894.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Meagher, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Dr. Ross, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Henry Chapman, and the Mover.
53. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the names of all persons pensioned prior to the appointment of the Public Service Board, specifying,—
 (1.) The age of pensioner, amount of pension received by same, and length of service at time of being placed upon the Fund.
 (2.) From what Department retired, specifying nature of office.
 (3.) The total amount contributed by such pensioner to the Fund up to period of retirement.
 (4.) Reasons alleged for retirement, and whether enforced or voluntary.
 (5.) In all cases under preceding paragraph 4 the names of all pensioners who pay, and those who do not pay, the abatement specified under the Civil Service Act of 1884, giving reasons for the difference or distinction made, and the amount of such abatement in every case paid and unpaid.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:—

1. Legitimation Bill (*Council Bill*); third reading. [*Mr. Hogue.*]
2. State Parliament; resumption of the adjourned Debate on the motion of Mr. Cohen, "That, in the opinion of this House, in view of the approaching accomplishment of Federation, it is expedient that legislative provision should be made for the reduction of the number of Members in the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council, and for the limitation of the tenure of office of Members of the Legislative Council."
3. Inclosed Lands Protection Act Amendment Bill; to be further considered in Committee. [*Mr. Dight.*]
4. Aberdare Collieries Railway Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading. [*Mr. Gillies.*]
5. Ministerial Election Bill; second reading. [*Mr. Hogue.*]
6. Tied Houses Bill; to be further considered in Committee. [*Mr. Watson.*]
7. Public Works Committee Election Bill; to be further considered in Committee. [*Mr. Watson.*]

8. Public Instruction Act Amendment Bill; resumption of the Debate, on the motion of Mr. Arthur Griffith, "That this Bill be now read a second time."
9. Seamen Act Amendment Bill; second reading. [Mr. Smith.]
10. Railway Commissioners Appointment Bill; second reading. [Mr. Quinn.]
11. Money-lenders and Infants Loans Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading. [Mr. Hawthorne.]
12. Municipal District of Inverell Reduced Area Bill (*as agreed to in Select Committee*); second reading. [Mr. Cruickshank.]
13. Fire Insurance Policies Bill; to be further considered in Committee. [Mr. Meagher.]
14. Licensed Tied Houses Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill dealing with principles of freedom of trade and contract in respect of bonds taken by brewers over the licensees of public-houses. [Mr. Meagher.]
15. Sydney Coal Delivery Acts Repeal Bill; second reading. [Mr. Cohen.]
16. Companies Employees Wages Protection Bill; consideration in Committee of the Whole of the expediency of bringing in a Bill to protect the wages and salaries of persons employed by companies. [Mr. McLean.]
17. Amended Life Insurance Encouragement Bill; second reading. [Mr. Garland.]
18. Labour Unions Employees Protection Bill; second reading. [Mr. Edden.]
19. Public Service Board Appointment Bill; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Quinn, "That this Bill be now read a second time."
20. Crown Lands; resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Rose,—
 - "(1.) That, in the opinion of this House,—
 - "(1.) The present policy of excluding available Crown lands from conditional purchase in favour of homestead selections and settlement leases is opposed to the best interests of the country.
 - "(2.) Holders of homestead selections and settlement leases should have the right of converting such tenures into conditional purchases.
 - "(2.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor."
21. Saywell's Tramway and Electric Lighting Bill (*as amended and agreed to in Select Committee*); resumption of the adjourned Debate, on the motion of Mr. Carruthers, "That this Bill be now read a second time."
22. Agreements Validating Act Repeal Bill; second reading. [Mr. Willis.]
23. Trade Union (Subscription Recovery) Bill; second reading. [Mr. McGowan.]

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 5th December, 1900.

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

1900.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS IN DIVISIONS AND COUNTS-OUT
DURING THE SESSION OF 1900.

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committee.	Counts-out.	Total.
Abbott, The Hon. Sir Joseph Palmer, K.C.M.G. (Resigned as <i>Speaker</i> , 13 June, 1900).	1	.....	.....	1
Afleck, William, Esq.	34	54	1	89
Anderson, George, Esq.	49	73	4	126
Archer, William, Esq.	19	35	1	55
Ashton, James, Esq.	33	30	1	64
Barnes, John Frederick, Esq.	30	37	2	69
Bennett, Walter, Esq.	36	37	1	74
Brown, Thomas, Esq.	31	52	4	87
Brunker, The Hon. James Nixon, Esq.	51	71	5	127
Byrne, Francis Arthur, Esq.	34	36	1	71
Campbell, Alexander, Esq.	30	23	.....	53
Campbell, Archibald, Esq.	11	30	.....	41
Cann, John Henry, Esq. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>)	41	.....	4	45
Carroll, James George, Esq.	59	76	3	138
Carruthers, The Hon. Joseph Hector, Esq.	9	12	.....	21
Chanter, John Moore, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	15	25	1	41
Chapman, Austin, Esq.	37	46	2	85
Chapman, Henry, Esq.	23	16	1	40
Clark, Edward Mann, Esq.	26	27	.....	53
Clarke, Francis, Esq.	21	39	.....	60
Clarke, Henry, Esq.	29	36	.....	65
Clarke, Thomas, Esq.	27	28	.....	55
Cohen, John Jacob, Esq.	34	35	2	71
Cook, Joseph, Esq.	49	53	3	105
Cotton, Francis, Esq.	12	7	.....	19
Crick, The Hon. William Patrick, Esq.	33	25	.....	58
Cruickshank, George Alexander, Esq.	38	33	.....	71
Dacey, John Rowland, Esq.	31	48	2	81
Davis, David, Esq.	13	36	.....	49
Davis, William Walter, Esq. (Resigned 28th August, 1900. From 11th September, 1900).	25	30	.....	55
Dick, William Thomas, Esq.	16	23	.....	39
Dight, Charles Hilton, Esq.	26	28	1	55
Donaldson, Robert, Esq.	34	42	.....	76
Edden, Alfred, Esq.	38	43	4	85
Ewing, Thomas Thomson, Esq.	24	22	.....	46
Fegan, The Hon. John Lionel, Esq.	54	70	4	128
Ferguson, William John, Esq.	19	24	1	44
Ferris, William John, Esq.	30	44	2	76
FitzGerald, Robert George Dundas, Esq.	11	23	.....	34
Fitzpatrick, John Charles Lucas, Esq.	48	63	1	112
Fitzpatrick, Thomas, Esq.	19	27	1	47
Garland, John, Esq.	31	43	.....	74
Gillies, John, Esq.	45	30	3	78
Goodwin, Thomas Henry Hall, Esq.	13	10	1	24
Gormly, James, Esq.	32	47	.....	79
Graham, James, Esq., M.D.	20	17	.....	37
Griffith, Arthur Hill, Esq.	30	48	5	83
Griffith, Thomas Hunter, Esq.	5	11	.....	16
Harris, Sir Matthew, Kt.	4	7	.....	11
Hassall, The Hon. Thomas Henry, Esq.	40	43	1	89
Hawthorne, John Stuart, Esq.	31	40	3	74
Hayes, James, Esq.	4	7	.....	11
Haynes, John, Esq.	25	28	.....	53
Hogue, James Alexander, Esq.	36	44	4	84
Holman, William Arthur, Esq.	36	49	1	86
Howarth, George, Esq.	10	10	.....	20
Hughes, William Morris, Esq.	20	26	1	47
Hurley, William Fergus, Esq.	59	74	3	136
Jessop, Thomas, Esq.	44	63	2	109

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committee.	Counts-out.	Total.
Kidd, John, Esq.	28	43	1	77
Law, Sydney James, Esq.	29	45	1	75
Lee, Charles Alfred, Esq.	21	21	.....	42
Lees, Samuel Edward, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	25	34	1	60
Levien, Robert Henry, Esq.	4	6	.....	10
Lynce, The Hon. Sir William John, K.C.M.G.	43	64	1	113
Macdonald, Hugh, Esq.	33	49	3	85
MacMahon, Michael John, Esq. (From 6th November, 1900) ...	20	25	.....	45
Mahony, William Henry, Esq.	29	45	1	75
McCourt, The Hon. William, Esq. (<i>Elected Speaker 13th June, 1900</i>) ...	.....	.....	.....	.....
McFarlane, John, Esq.	18	9	1	28
McGowen, James Sinclair Taylor, Esq.	46	54	1	101
McLaughlin, John, Esq.	5	4	.....	9
McLean, Francis Edward, Esq.	18	11	1	30
Meagher, Richard Denis, Esq.	36	43	3	87
Millard, William, Esq.	45	51	2	98
Miller, Gustave Thomas Carlisle, Esq.	35	36	.....	71
Molesworth, Edmund William, Esq.	31	36	1	68
Moore, Samuel Wilkinson, Esq.	40	51	3	94
Morgan, William, Esq.	28	28	.....	56
Neild, John Cash, Esq.	28	22	1	51
Nelson, Arthur David, Esq.	32	39	2	73
Newman, Henry William, Esq.	9	21	.....	30
Nicholson, John Barnes, Esq.	24	41	.....	65
Nielsen, Niel Rasmus Wilson, Esq.	34	41	.....	75
Nobbs, John, Esq.	31	55	2	83
Norton, John, Esq.	36	25	.....	61
O'Connor, Broughton Barnabas, Esq.	24	23	.....	52
O'Connor, Daniel, Esq.	30	38	2	70
O'Sullivan, The Hon. Edward William, Esq.	53	63	5	121
Perry, The Hon. John, Esq.	40	69	1	110
Phillips, Simeon, Esq.	21	18	1	43
Piddington, William Henry Burgess, Esq. (Deceased 27th September, 1900.)	9	6	1	15
Price, Richard Atkinson, Esq.	20	24	4	48
Pycers, Robert, Esq.	38	56	.....	94
Quinn, Patrick Edward, Esq.	31	37	1	69
Reid, The Right Hon. George Houston, P.C., Q.C.	10	20	.....	30
Reynold, Joseph Bernard, Esq.	12	20	.....	32
Richards, Edwin, Esq.	23	20	.....	43
Rigg, William, Esq.	20	37	2	59
Rose, Thomas, Esq.	20	37	.....	57
Ross, Andrew, Esq., M.D.	25	41	.....	69
Ross, Hugh, Esq.	29	52	2	83
Sawers, William, Esq.	10	15	.....	25
See, The Hon. John, Esq.	49	62	2	113
Slenth, Richard, Esq.	34	41	3	78
Smith, Samuel, Esq.	36	23	1	60
Smith, Sydney, Esq. (Unseated by Elections and Qualifications Committee, 17th July, 1900.)	2	.....	.....	2
Spence, William Guthrie, Esq.	26	29	1	56
Spruson, Wilfred Joseph, Esq.	23	36	.....	59
Storey, David, Esq.	13	24	1	38
Taylor, Thomas Whitford, Esq. (From 31st July, 1900) ...	34	35	.....	69
Terry, Edward, Esq.	32	40	.....	72
Thomas, Josiah, Esq.	30	60	.....	90
Thomson, Dugald, Esq.	13	33	.....	46
Thomson, James, Esq.	7	7	.....	14
Waddell, Thomas, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	31	42	1	74
Watkins, David, Esq.	38	44	4	86
Watson, John Christian, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	44	37	2	83
Whiddon, Samuel Thomas, Esq.	3	3	.....	6
Wilks, William Henry, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>) ...	19	49	1	69
Willis, William Nicholas, Esq.	19	19	.....	38
Wilson, Charles Graham, Esq.	21	20	.....	41
Winchcombe, Frederick Earle, Esq. (From 13th November, 1900) ...	6	8	.....	14
Wise, The Hon. Bernhard Ringrose, Esq., Q.C. (Resigned 30th October, 1900.)	7	13	1	21
Wood, The Hon. William Herbert, Esq.	47	56	1	104
Wright, Francis Augustus, Esq.	26	34	.....	60
Young, The Hon. James Henry ...	25	29	.....	54
Young, William White, Esq. (From 3rd July, 1900) ...	28	34	.....	62

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 5 December, 1900.

F. W. WEBB,
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly

15. Sittings of the House:—

Return of the number of days on which the House sat in the Session of 1900, 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.		Entries in Votes.
					h. m.	h. m.	
1	12 June	Tuesday	12 noon	12:28 o'clock p.m.	3	43	16
			4 o'clock p.m.	7:15			
2	13	Wednesday	11:30 a.m.	12:15	8	49	31
			3:30 p.m.	11:34			
3	14	Thursday	4	11:8	7	8	15
4	19	Tuesday	4	10:46	6	46	14
5	20	Wednesday	4	5:22	13	22	17
6	21	Thursday	4	1:35	9	35	12
7	26	Tuesday	3:30	1:13	9	43	18
8	27	Wednesday	4	6:30	14	30	29
9	28	Thursday	4	10:54	6	54	24
10	3 July	Tuesday	4	11	7	0	23
11	4	Wednesday	4	11:10	7	10	14
12	5	Thursday	4	5:30	13	30	7
13	10	Tuesday	4	10:57	6	57	10
14	11	Wednesday	4	12:25	8	25	13
15	12	Thursday	4	7:35	15	35	18
16	17	Tuesday	4	11:20	7	20	8
17	18	Wednesday	4	1:50	9	50	14
18	19	Thursday	4	3:17	11	17	13
19	24	Tuesday	4	10:57	6	57	17
20	25	Wednesday	4	3:43	11	43	15
21	26	Thursday	4	1:50	9	50	14
22	31	Tuesday	4	11:46	7	46	13
23	1 August	Wednesday	4	5:10	1	10	2
24	3	Thursday	4	2:58	10	58	17
25	7	Tuesday	4	11:13	7	13	10
26	8	Wednesday	4	3	11	0	12
27	9	Thursday	4	2:30	10	30	12
28	14	Tuesday	4	11:17	7	17	14
29	15	Wednesday	4	11:4	7	4	12
30	16	Thursday	4	11:41	7	41	16
31	21	Tuesday	4	10:40	6	40	16
32	22	Wednesday	4	3:45	11	45	18
33	23	Thursday	4	3:56	11	56	10
34	28	Tuesday	4	4:30	12	30	16
35	29	Wednesday	4	1:16	9	16	15
36	30	Thursday	4	10:55	18	55	11
37	4 September	Tuesday	4	7:8	8	8	13
38	5	Wednesday	4	12:10	8	10	26
39	6	Thursday	4	1:33	9	33	34
40	11	Tuesday	4	12:33	8	33	15
41	12	Wednesday	4	2:46	10	46	22
42	13	Thursday	4	12:25	8	25	16
43	18	Tuesday	4	11:50	7	50	17
44	19	Wednesday	4	1:24	9	24	16
45	20	Thursday	4	1:37	9	37	12
46	25	Tuesday	4	11:49	7	49	17
47	26	Wednesday	4	3:45	11	45	17
48	27	Thursday	4	4:40	12	40	12
49	2 October	Tuesday	4	11:5	7	5	9
50	3	Wednesday	4	12:43	8	43	18
51	4	Thursday	4	12:53	8	53	24
52	5	Friday	10 a.m.	4	6	0	12
53	9	Tuesday	4	11:12	7	12	12
54	10	Wednesday	4	2:17	10	17	10
55	11	Thursday	4	3:32	11	32	17
56	12	Friday	10 a.m.	4:44	6	44	5
57	16	Tuesday	4	11:9	7	9	14
58	17	Wednesday	4	6:30	14	30	14
59	18	Thursday	4	2:25	10	25	14
60	19	Friday	10 a.m.	5	7	0	10
61	23	Tuesday	4	3:2	11	2	10
62	24	Wednesday	4	3:5	11	5	26
63	25	Thursday	4	1:24	9	24	14
64	26	Friday	10 a.m.	4:55	6	55	13
65	30	Tuesday	4	11:13	7	13	22
66	31	Wednesday	10 a.m.	11:19	13	19	14
67	1 November	Thursday	10	11:15	13	15	9
68	2	Friday	10	5	7	0	15
69	6	Tuesday	10	12:5	14	5	12
70	7	Wednesday	10	11:22	13	22	11
71	8	Thursday	10	11	13	0	8
72	9	Friday	10	5	7	0	7
73	13	Tuesday	4	10:57	6	57	15
74	14	Wednesday	10 a.m.	1:5	15	5	19
75	15	Thursday	10	12:28	14	28	17
76	16	Friday	10	5	7	0	14
77	20	Tuesday	10	12:5	14	5	16
78	21	Wednesday	10	6:25	20	25	9

No.	Month.	Day.	House Met.	House Adjourned.	Hours of Sitting.	Hours after Mid-night.	Entries in Votes.
79	22 November	Thursday	7 o'clock p.m.	1:39 o'clock a.m.	h. m. 6 39	h. m. 1 39	14
80	23 "	Friday	10 " a.m.	5:55 " p.m.	7 55	...	13
81	26 "	Monday	10 " "	1:34 " a.m.	15 34	1 34	7
82	27 "	Tuesday	10 " "	11: 5 " p.m.	13 5	...	16
83	28 "	Wednesday	10 " "	6:20 " a.m.	20 20	6 20	33
84	29 "	Thursday	4 " p.m.	3:40 " "	11 40	3 40	39
85	30 "	Friday	10 " a.m.	9:58 " p.m.	35 58	21 58	37
86	3 December	Monday	4 " p.m.	4:35 " a.m.	12 35	4 35	27
87	4 "	Tuesday	4 " "	5:48 " "	13 48	5 48	34
Total.....					393 9	166 6	1,375

Average length of sitting, daily, 10 hours 15 minutes.

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 5th December, 1900.

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

