

Votes

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 21 JUNE, 1898.

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 twenty-seventh day of May, 1898.

Mr. Speaker took the Chair.

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

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

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

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

“By His Excellency's Command,
“JAMES N. BRUNKER.

“GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!”

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

• Charles Collins, Esquire, Member for Narrabri, deceased.
• John McElhone, Esquire, Member for Sydney—Fitzroy Division, deceased.

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

• Hugh Ross, Esquire,—for Narrabri.
• John Norton, Esquire,—for Sydney—Fitzroy Division.

3. **VALIDITY OF NARRABRI ELECTION**:—Mr. Speaker also reported that with reference to the Writ for the Election of Hugh Ross, Esquire, for Narrabri, a Proclamation had been issued, dated 18th June, 1898, declaring such election valid, notwithstanding the omission of the Deputy Returning Officer at Bulycroft to open the polling at such Booth at the time prescribed by law.

4. **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:—

• Hugh Ross, Esquire,—for Narrabri.
• John Norton, Esquire,—for Sydney—Fitzroy Division.

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5. 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 Honourable House do attend His Excellency immediately in the Legislative Council Chamber.”

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

The House resumed pursuant to adjournment.

6. ASSENT TO BILLS:—Mr. Speaker acquainted the House that during the recess he had received the following Messages from His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor:—

- (1) Primitive Methodist Church Property Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 1.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to amend the Primitive Methodist Church Temporalities Act, 1879, and to grant powers of dealing with properties held on trusts for the benefit of the said church discharged from trust in certain events, and for other purposes incidental thereto,*”—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, 10th December, 1897.

- (2.) Loan Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-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 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.

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- (3.) Appropriation Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message, No. 3.

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, 1897, to the 30th day of June, 1898, inclusive of both dates, and to adjust the Vote ‘Advance to Treasurer, 1896-7,’ for Supplementary charges during the period from the 1st day of July, 1896, to the 30th day of June, 1897, 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 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.

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- (4.) Joint Stock Companies Arrangement (Continuation) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 4.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to continue section 3 of the Joint Stock Companies Arrangement Act, 1891, to the 1st day of January, 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.

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- (5.) Sydney Water Supply Conduit Additional Works Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,

Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 5.

A Bill, intituled “*An Act to sanction the construction of a duplicate main in connection with the Sydney Water Supply, the enlargement and strengthening of the existing canal, and to vest the said works in the Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage,*”—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.

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(6.)

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(6.) International Patents and Trade Marks Arrangements Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 6.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to bring New South Wales within the provisions of the International Patents Convention of 1883,*"—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.

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(7.) North Sydney Loan Enabling Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 7.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to validate certain Loans raised by the formerly-existing Boroughs of East Saint Leonards and Victoria, and renewed by the Borough of North 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.

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(8.) Trust Property (Amendment) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 8.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to make further provision for the vesting of trust property in new trustees,*"—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.

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(9.) Consolidated Revenue Fund (Municipal Grant) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 9.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to appropriate and apply out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales a certain sum to make good Supplies granted for the Services of the year 1897-8,*"—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.

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(10.) Stockton Graving-dock (Leasing) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 10.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Governor to declare certain lands in the parish of Stockton, county of Gloucester, to be public thoroughfares; to provide for the closing of Wharf-Road in that parish; and to extend the term for which leases of certain lands in that parish may be granted under sections 89 and 90 of the 'Crown Lands Act of 1884,' and section 46 of the 'Crown Lands 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.

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(11.) Vegetation Diseases Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 11.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act for the better prevention of the spread of diseases, and for the destruction of insects, fungi, and other pests injuriously affecting any kind of vegetation; and to prevent the introduction of those diseases and insects into the Colony,*"—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.

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(12.) Glebe Island Bridge Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 12.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to sanction the construction of a stone causeway, having a steel swing-span in the centre, in substitution for the present bridge at Glebe Island,*"—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.

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(13.) Nyngan Town Hall (Mortgage) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 13.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to enable the Municipal Council of the Municipal District of Nyngan to borrow money for the purpose of defraying the costs of erecting and completing a Town Hall, Council Chambers, Offices, and buildings on lands within the Municipal District of Nyngan, 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.

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(14.) Artesian Wells Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 14.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the construction of Artesian Wells and works in connection therewith; and to authorise charges to be levied in respect of the same; and for other purposes 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.

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(15.) Real Property (Crown Lands) Bill:—

FREDK. M. DARLEY,
Lieutenant-Governor.

Message No. 15.

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for and to validate the exchange or surrender of land by trustees, executors, and administrators; to provide for a notification being made in the register and on the grant or certificate of title of land which has become Crown land; and to enable corrections in Crown grants to be made; and to validate any such corrections heretofore made,*"—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.

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7. **ORDNANCE LANDS TRANSFER BILL:—**Mr. Reid presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill for confirming the transfer to the Secretary at War in England from the Principal Officers of Ordnance there of certain lands in New South Wales, and for amending the Ordnance Land Act of Council, 1840,*"—which was read a first time *pro formá*.

8. **THE GOVERNOR'S OPENING SPEECH:—**Mr. Speaker reported that the House had this day attended the Governor in the Legislative Council Chamber, when His Excellency was pleased to deliver an Opening Speech to both Houses of Parliament, of which, for greater accuracy, he had obtained a copy,—which he read to the House as follows:—

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

The completion, in March last, of the measure drafted by the Representatives of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, as a fitting basis for federal union, imposed upon the Government the duty of making arrangements for the submission of the Bill to the electors, in accordance with the Act 59 Victoria No. 24, as amended by Act No. 34, of 1897.

2. In accordance with an agreement between the Prime Ministers of the Colonies named, Friday, the 3rd instant, was the day appointed for taking the poll in New South Wales upon the question whether the Bill should be accepted or rejected.

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3. The Government did not call Parliament together before the poll was taken, believing it to be their duty to abstain from any course that might tend to encourage party conflicts, or to inflame the issues of local politics, at a time when the minds of the electors were fully occupied with the great struggle which was being waged, for and against a measure fraught with the gravest consequences to the national life of Australia.

4. The result of the polling showed a smaller number than 80,000 votes in favour of the Bill. Under the Acts previously mentioned that result was equivalent to a rejection of the measure; in which case it is provided that no further action shall be taken under those Acts.

5. The Government are not prepared, however, to abandon their efforts to arrive at a satisfactory removal of those features of the Bill which have prevented the people of this country from voting more largely in its favour, and which have caused so many thousands of the electors to vote against it.

6. My Advisers are, therefore, anxiously engaged upon the preparation of proposals to modify the Convention Bill in certain respects. These will shortly be submitted in clear and definite terms to the electors of New South Wales.

7. They will include—

- (1) An objection to the principle of Equal Representation in the Senate, which, if not altered, must be accompanied by the removal of the stipulation requiring that a majority vote at a joint sitting of both Houses to be effective shall consist of three-fifths of the Members present; or, failing that, the principle should be qualified by a provision for a National Referendum instead of a joint sitting.
- (2) Some of the financial provisions to be recast, and the Braddon clause omitted altogether.
- (3) Money Bills not to be amended by the Senate.
- (4) The same protection for the territorial rights of each State, as there is for the representation of each State in the Federal Parliament, and this should include more definite provisions with regard to inland rivers.
- (5) Seat of government,—instead of the proposal in the Bill, adoption, in a slightly-modified form, of the plan followed in the Canadian Constitution.
- (6) It is also considered that the Appellate Jurisdiction should be remodelled.

8. The life of the present Parliament is rapidly drawing to a close. In the few days left it is impossible to deal with the large measures of reform—including that of the Legislative Council—to which the Government stand pledged. These must now await the assembling of a new Parliament. But there are a few measures, in an advanced stage, which can be revived, and passed into law. Prominent amongst these are the Immigration Restriction Bill, and a Bill dealing with the value of improvements on Crown Lands. An endeavour will also be made to pass a short Bill extending the hours of polling at elections.

9. The Legislative Assembly, by motion dated 25 August, 1896, resolved that there should be a special referendum at the General Election on the fiscal question. It is found that this step cannot legally be taken without legislative authority. A short Bill will therefore be introduced, in order to give effect to the resolution, and the promise made by my Advisers in connection therewith.

10. There are several measures of great importance to large classes and interests in the community which, I regret to say, cannot be taken up in this brief Session with any reasonable hope of success. I refer to measures such as the Friendly Societies Bill, the Bill to reform our Shipping and Navigation Laws, and the Fisheries Bill. These Bills will receive prompt attention, it is hoped, in the new Parliament.

GENTLEMEN OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY,—

11. It affords me much gratification to inform you that the Revenue is in a most satisfactory condition. During the three financial years ending 30th instant deficiency debts of previous years, railway debts, and interest thereon have been paid out of current revenue to an amount approaching £900,000 sterling, and yet there will be a credit balance at the close of the period.

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

12. The protracted and disastrous droughts in various parts of the Colony, which have afflicted all classes of pastoral settlers for several years past, are, happily, breaking, and the prospects of the approaching season are highly encouraging. The area under cultivation shows an unprecedented increase for the past two years of no less than 35 per cent.; the area under wheat for grain shows a growth of 66 per cent. during the same period; and the progress of dairy-farming is not less astonishing. The work of clearing waste lands, and turning them to purposes of production, is vigorously proceeding in all directions. Thousands of residential holdings have been taken up under the Land Act of 1895. The scrub lands of the West Bogan district, recently cleared by the Government, are now being rapidly leased at rentals yielding a fair return upon the outlay. The cost of the work will be gradually redeemed out of rental. The statistics of mining and manufacturing industry, as well as those of agriculture, show gratifying signs of progress.

13. There are, however, still some legitimate grievances of the *bona fide* settlers under the earlier land laws, whose land was valued at a uniform value, without regard to quality or situation. It is intended to deal with this and other inequalities, by reappraisal of capital value in the case of conditional purchases, and in the case of conditional leases for their conversion at fair actual value into conditional purchases; the rents of conditional leases to be reappraised from time to time.

14. The beneficial effects of the provisions of the "Coal Mines Regulation Act" respecting the ventilation of mines, and the safety of miners, when properly carried out, indicate the expediency of similar measures with reference to mines beyond the scope of that measure. A project for a National Fund for the benefit of the families of miners killed or permanently disabled is being formulated.

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15. The striking benefits conferred upon the occupiers of the soil by the working of Agricultural Colleges and Experimental Farms have induced the Government to resolve upon the extension of similar institutions over the whole of the agricultural areas of the Colony. Additional bursaries will be provided, and national prizes offered at Agricultural Shows, including rewards for the best-kept farms and orchards in suitable districts. Efforts will also be made to reduce ocean freights for the benefit of such products requiring cold storage as promise to develop into a large and profitable export; and the Government are now carrying out extensive works at Darling Harbour in connection with the railways, which, when completed, will offer shipping facilities for Colonial produce superior to any in the Southern Hemisphere.

16. New South Wales possesses almost unrivalled resources for the development of a great and prosperous Wine Industry. Important proposals to extend the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the benefit of this branch of Colonial Industry will appear on the next Estimates.

17. I now leave you to the discharge of your high and honorable duties, and I pray that under Divine Guidance your deliberations may promote the welfare of all classes of the people.

Mr. Rigg then moved, and Mr. Hogue 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. Ashton, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Dick, Dr. Graham, Mr. Millard, Mr. Millen, "Mr. A. B. Piddington," and the Mover.

Mr. Crick moved, That the Question be amended by inserting after the words "Mr. A. B. Piddington" the words "Mr. Norton, Mr. Ross."

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 19.

Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Norton,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Waddell,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. Perry,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. M. T. Phillips.

Tellers,

Mr. Crick,
Mr. Gillies.

Dr. Ross,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. Lyne,
Mr. See,
Mr. Copeland,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Young,
Mr. McFarlane,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Molesworth,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Schey,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Fegan,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Hayes,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Smailes,

Noes, 80.

Mr. Watson,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Wilke,
Mr. Moore,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. F. Clarke,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Affleck,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Law,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Greene,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Black,

Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Gormly,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Ashton,
Mr. A. B. Piddington,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. W. H. B. Piddington,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Mr. Morton.

Tellers,

Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Russell Jones.

And so it passed in the negative.

Original Question put and passed.

And the Committee retired to prepare the Address,—

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

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

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

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

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

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

Mr. Rigg then moved, and Mr. Dick 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. Lyne moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraph 2:—

"That this House desires to inform your Excellency that it declines to allow the present Administration to deal with the important question of Federation."

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

Debate ensued.

Mr. Millen 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.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

21st June, 1898.

9. DENTISTS BILL:—Mr. Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

A Bill, intituled "*An Act to provide for the registration of Dentists qualified to practise; and for other purposes in connection with the practice of Dentistry,*"—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,
Sydney, 21st June, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

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

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

10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 2.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 22 JUNE, 1898.

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

PAPERS:—Mr. Speaker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) 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, 1897, together with the Auditor-General's Report thereon, transmitted to the Legislative Assembly under the provisions of the Audit Act of 1870.
- (2.) Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and the Executive Council,—
- (a) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the "Prospecting Vote," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Imported Stock."
- (b) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the "Prospecting Vote," to supplement the Vote in connection with the "Board for Exports."
- (c) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Lands," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Reorganisation of the Public Service."
- (d) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Lands—Contingencies," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Legal Expenses."
- (e) Authorising the transfer of amounts from three heads of Service, to supplement the Vote in connection with "Reorganisation of the Public Service."
- (f) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Petty Sessions—Contingencies," to supplement another Vote in connection with "Department of Justice."
- (g) Authorising the transfer of amounts from the Votes "Legislative Assembly" and "Legislative Council," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Legislative Council and Assembly."
- (h) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Lands—Contingencies," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Legal Expenses."
- (i) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the "Prospecting Vote," to supplement the Vote in connection with "School of Mines and Assay Works."
- (j) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Mines," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Department of Lands."
- (k) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the "Prospecting Vote," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Imported and Introduced Stock."
- (l) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the "Prospecting Vote," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Agriculture."
- (m) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Lands," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Reorganisation of the Public Service."
- (n) Authorising the transfer of amounts from various heads of Service, to supplement the Vote in connection with "Stores and Stationery."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

James Ashton, Esquire,
John Henry Cann, Esquire,
Charles Alfred Lee, Esquire,
Edward William O'Sullivan, Esquire,
Albert Bathurst Piddington, Esquire,

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

22nd June, 1898.

3. 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—

“ William Morris Hughes, Esquire,
“ Llewellyn Charles Russell Jones, Esquire,
“ Francis Augustus Wright, Esquire,
“ John Lionel Pegan, Esquire,
“ James Graham, Esquire, M.D.,

“ John Moore Chanter, Esquire,
“ George Alexander Cruickshank, Esquire,
“ James Gormly, Esquire,
“ Francis Edward McLean, 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 twenty-second day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred
“ and ninety-eight.

“ J. P. ABBOTT,
“ Speaker.”

4. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL:—

(1.) Mr. Hogue presented a Petition from William Hunter, of Lithgow, miner, John William Wilson, of Lithgow, engineer, and William Wiley, of Glebe Point, near Sydney (trading as the Lithgow Co-operative Coal Company), representing that the Lithgow Co-operative Coal Company Railway Bill, which was introduced into this House during the last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.

And the 409th Standing Order of this House, permitting of the prayer of the Petitioners being entertained,—
Petition received.

(2.) Ordered, that the Bill be read a second time on Wednesday next.

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

Question put and passed.

Whereupon Mr. McCourt made his acknowledgments to the House.

6. 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. Rigg, That the following Address-in-Reply to the Governor's Opening Speech, as read by the Clerk, be now adopted by this House:—

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

“MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

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

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

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

Upon which Mr. Lyne had moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraph 2:—

“ That this House desires to inform your Excellency that it declines to allow the present
“ Administration to deal with the important question of Federation.”

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

Mr. Griffith 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.

7. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunner moved, That this House do now adjourn until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

Debate ensued.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

THURSDAY, 23 JUNE, 1898, A.M.

Question put and passed.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 3.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 23 JUNE, 1898.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Clerk informed the House that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent; and read a letter from him stating that he was not at all well to-day, and requesting the indulgence of the House under the circumstances.

Whereupon the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, pursuant to the 22nd Standing Order of the House.

2. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—Mr. Ewing, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Warren to Coonamble.
 - (2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Harbour Works at Tweed River.
 - (3.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from the terminus of the Rosehill Railway to Dural.
 - (4.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Koorawatha to Grenfell.
 - (5.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Byrock to Brewarrina.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
3. PAPERS:—Mr. Carruthers laid upon the Table,—
- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Wollongong, county of Camden, for the establishment of a Public Park at Lake Illawarra.
 - (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Winton, county of Parry, for the establishment of a Public Cemetery at Winton.
 - (3.) Regulations under the Hay Irrigation Act of 1892.
 - (4.) Copy of *Gazette* Notice, setting forth the mode in which it is proposed to deal with the street and lane through Knox Park, Murwillumbah, in accordance with the provisions of the 7th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 22.
 - (5.) 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.
 - (6.) Abstract of Crown Lands authorised to be dedicated to Public Purposes, in accordance with the 104th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (7.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (8.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.
 - (9.) 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.
 - (10.) Amended Regulations Nos. 76, 251, 252, 253, 257, 258, and 213, and amended Forms Nos. 23, 24, 63, and 51, under the Crown Lands Acts; also Regulations and Forms under the Church and School Lands Act, 1897.

(11.)

23rd June, 1898.

(11.) Notice of intention to declare that, under section 44 of the Act 58 Victoria No. 18, the undermentioned Additional Conditional Purchase and Conditional Lease, Land District of Inverell, shall cease to be voidable, viz., Additional Conditional Purchase 96-26, 60 acres, portion 36, and Conditional Lease 96-19, 240 acres, portion 37, each in the parish of New Valley, county of Hardinge, and applied for by J. F. Readett.

(12.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Burra Burra Leasehold Area, for the purpose of providing for Settlement by other holdings.

(13.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Werai Leasehold Area, for the purpose of providing for Settlement by other holdings.

(14.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Ganmain Leasehold Area, for the purpose of providing for Settlement by other holdings.

(15.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Kooba Leasehold Area, for the purpose of providing for Settlement by other holdings.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

5. PRECEDENCE OF BUSINESS (*Sessional Order—Formal Motion*):—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice,—

(1.) That, during the present Session, unless otherwise ordered, General Business shall take precedence of Government Business on Tuesdays until seven o'clock p.m., after which hour Government Business only shall be taken; 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 TRADES HALL SITE BILL (*Formal Motion*):—

(1.) Mr. Cann moved, pursuant to Notice, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to vest certain land at Broken Hill in trustees on trust for the erection of a Trades Hall.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Cann then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to vest certain land at Broken Hill in trustees on trust for the erection of a Trades Hall*,"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and read a second time on Tuesday, 5th July.

7. VOTE OF CREDIT:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,

Message No. 16.

Governor.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends to the consideration of the Legislative Assembly that provision be made for defraying the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony for the months of July, August, and September, or following month, of the financial year ending 30th June, 1899,—together with provision for the advance to the Colonial Treasurer, Services of the current year, and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

Government House,

Sydney, 22nd June, 1898.

Ordered to be referred to the Committee of Supply.

8. 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. Rigg, That the following Address-in-Reply to the Governor's Opening Speech, as read by the Clerk, be now adopted by this House:—

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

"MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

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

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

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

Upon which Mr. Lyne had moved, That the Address be amended by the insertion of the following words, to stand paragraph 2:—

"That this House desires to inform your Excellency that it declines to allow the present Administration to deal with the important question of Federation."

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

And

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

23rd June, 1898.

And the House continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

FRIDAY, 24 JUNE, 1898, A.M.

Debate continued.

Mr. Speaker entered the House and took the Chair.

Mr. Speaker apologised for his unavoidable absence last evening, and stated that he had abstained from attending on the advice of three doctors.

Privilege:—The Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, drew attention to certain words used by the Honorable Member for Quirindi, Mr. Levien, in this debate, as reported in *Hansard*, making serious charges; and requested the Government to appoint a Royal Commission to investigate Mr. Levien's charges.

And Mr. Levien, being heard, and implicating both Mr. Sleath and Mr. Ferguson, the Honorable Member for Sturt,—

The Premier promised that a Royal Commission should be appointed to inquire into the matters referred to in Mr. Levien's speech.

Debate ensued.

Disorder:—The Honorable Member for Sydney—Fitzroy Division, Mr. Norton, having interjected certain disorderly words, was, by direction of Mr. Speaker, removed from the Chamber by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The Debate on the subject of "The Governor's Opening Speech," then resumed.

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

The House divided.

Ayes, 32.

Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Dr. Ross,
Mr. Lync,
Mr. Wright,
Mr. Mackay,
Mr. O'Sullivan,
Mr. Chapman,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Price,
Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Reymond,
Mr. Hurley,
Mr. Travers Jones,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Levien,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Cruickshank,
Mr. Hassall,
Mr. Crick,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Gornly,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Rose,
Mr. Wood,
Mr. Ewing.

Tellers,

Mr. Perry,
Mr. Willis.

Noes, 65.

Mr. Brunker,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Sydney Smith,
Mr. Gould,
Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Carruthers,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Moiesworth,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Anderson,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. McCourt,
Mr. Frank Farnell,
Dr. Graham,
Mr. Millen,
Mr. Baviater,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Lee,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Gillies,
Mr. Ball,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Bull,
Mr. Afleck,
Mr. Robert Jones,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. Hogue,
Mr. Jessop,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. James Thomson,
Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Harris,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Ross,
Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Newman,
Mr. Whiddon,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Black,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Fegan.

Tellers,

Mr. Storey,
Mr. Russell Jones.

And so it passed in the negative.

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

Mr. Reid informed the House that he had ascertained it to be the pleasure of the Governor to receive their Address-in-Reply to His Excellency's Opening Speech on Tuesday next, at half-past 4 o'clock.

9. COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into the Committee of Supply.
Question put and passed.

10. COMMITTEE OF WAYS AND MEANS:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into the Committee of Ways and Means.
Question put and passed.

11. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at a quarter before Twelve o'clock (noon), until Tuesday next, at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 4.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

TUESDAY, 23 JUNE, 1898.

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,—

It affords me much pleasure to receive from you this Address, containing, as it does, your expressions of loyalty and attachment to the Throne and Person of Our Sovereign.

It is gratifying to have your assurance that the measures mentioned in the Speech will, when submitted to you, receive full and due consideration; and I trust that the result of your deliberations will prove to be beneficial to all classes of this community.

Government House,
Sydney, 23rd June, 1898.

HAMPDEN,
Governor.

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-third June, 1898, and signed by His Excellency the Governor, empowering William McCourt, Esquire, Chairman of Committees of the Legislative Assembly, in the absence of the Speaker, to administer to Members the Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance required by law,—which Commission, by direction of Mr. Speaker, was read by the Clerk, as follows:—

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

“ To all to whom these presents shall come,—

“ Greeting :

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

“ Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Colony, at Government House, Sydney, in New
“ South Wales aforesaid, this twenty-third day of June, in the year of our Lord one
“ thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, and in the sixty-second year of the Reign of Her
“ Majesty Queen Victoria.

“ HAMPDEN.

“ By His Excellency's Command,

“ JAMES N. BRUNKER.”

28th June, 1898.

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) The McSharry Arbitration Case:—Mr. Bavister asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Who was the leading counsel for the Crown in the McSharry Arbitration Case?
- (2.) Was his remuneration at per day or per sitting, and what was the amount per day or sitting?
- (3.) Did he claim a fee for the preparation of the case?
- (4.) Is such a fee usually claimed by and paid to barristers?
- (5.) Did he threaten to withdraw from the case unless such payment was made?
- (6.) If he had withdrawn from the case at that time, would it have involved the Government in any increased expenditure; if so, how, and to what probable amount?
- (7.) How much did he claim as fee for preparing the case, and was it paid?
- (8.) What amount has been paid him altogether for his services in this case?
- (9.) How long a time did his address to the arbitrator take after all the evidence had been given?

Mr. Young answered,—The following information has been supplied me by the Crown Law Officers:—

- (1.) Mr. Bruce Smith.
- (2.) The remuneration both for the Court sittings and work in Counsels' Chambers was fixed at £16 5s. for a day of five hours, and for shorter periods *pro rata*.
- (3.) Mr. Bruce Smith was engaged for months before the hearing assisting the Crown Solicitor and Engineers in the preparation of the defence. During that time a large chart of the evidence was prepared, which took the place of the usual advice on evidence. The fees for that work amounted to £994 17s. 6d.
- (4.) No similar fee is usually charged, but the claims in this case were of an extraordinary character, and it was impossible to judge the case by ordinary standards.
- (5.) When the Crown Solicitor intimated that the work of preparing the case would be discontinued during the recess for the Adelaide Convention in April, 1897, Mr. Bruce Smith said he would have to withdraw if such determination were adhered to.
- (6.) It is impossible to answer. Assuming that the arbitrator would have permitted an adjournment of a month to enable another senior counsel to read up the brief, a fresh fee of about 250 guineas would have had to be paid, with innumerable consultation fees. The Crown case at that stage would have been paralyzed, and the bulk of the fees paid to Mr. Smith wasted.
- (7.) The total fees to which he was entitled before the hearing amounted to £994 17s. 6d. This amount he was paid.
- (8.) £8,201.
- (9.) Thirty-six days.

(2.) The McSharry Arbitration Case:—Mr. Bavister asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Who was the leading counsel for the plaintiff in the McSharry Arbitration Case?
- (2.) How many sittings were occupied in his address in opening the case?

Mr. Young answered,—

- (1.) The Honorable R. E. O'Connor, Q.C.
- (2.) Five days.

(3.) The McSharry Arbitration Case:—Mr. Bavister asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

- (1.) Has the McSharry Arbitration Case been brought to a conclusion?
- (2.) Who was the arbitrator?
- (3.) Was his remuneration at per day or sitting, and what amount per day or sitting?
- (4.) What was the time occupied per sitting; longest, shortest, and general average?
- (5.) On how many days was more than one sitting held?
- (6.) Is it true that a question as to the admission of evidence was raised, and that the arbitrator allowed several sittings to be devoted to the taking of evidence before giving his decision not to admit that evidence?
- (7.) What amount has already been paid to the arbitrator?
- (8.) When did sittings end, and how long has he been considering his award?
- (9.) Is he still entitled to fees while considering his award; if so, at what rate?

Mr. Young answered,—The following information has been supplied me by the Crown Law Officers:—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) The Honorable Edmund Barton, Q.C.
- (3.) There is no distinction between "days" and "sittings"; each sitting occupies a day in Court practice. The remuneration was £27 per sitting.
- (4.) Ordinary days, 10.30 to 1, 2.30 to 4. On Mondays, 11 a.m.
- (5.) On none.
- (6.) Apart from unimportant points, such as continuously arise at all trials, the weighty questions relating to the legal points in this case were all postponed, to be argued and dealt with at the conclusion of the hearing. They have now been so argued, including several which go to the root of the whole action, but they have not yet been decided.
- (7.) £4,133 5s., by the Crown.
- (8.) The sittings closed 10th June, and the arbitrator has since been considering his award.
- (9.) He is entitled to be paid for perusing the shorthand notes, and examining the evidence, which runs to twenty-four volumes, each of about 500 pages. No rate has been fixed upon.

(4.) Telegraph Messengers:—Mr. Bavister asked the Postmaster-General,—Is there any truth in the statements and complaints of the Honorable Member for Sydney—Fitzroy Division—that a large number of Telegraph messengers have been dismissed the Service because they are over 18 years of age, and only for that reason?

Mr. Cook answered,—No messengers have been dismissed for the reason stated, nor has there been any proposal to do so.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

28th June, 1898.

- (5.) Newspaper-sorters at the General Post Office:—Mr. Bavister asked the Postmaster-General,—Is it true that newspaper-sorters at the General Post Office usually work from twelve to fourteen hours per day?

Mr. Cook answered,—It is not true that newspaper sorters work from twelve to fourteen hours a day. They are required by the regulations to work eight hours a day. Occasionally, when there is a rush of work, they are required to work an hour or so extra, but in lieu of this they are granted indulgencies when the work is slack, and frequently leave their work half and three quarters of an hour before their time. Last week the average hours of attendance was eight hours and ten minutes, and this includes overtime for sorting English mails and the weekly papers, for which two-thirds of the sorters are paid, and should work five hours at least a week extra.

- (6.) Witnesses Expenses at Coroners' Inquests:—Mr. Edden asked the Minister of Justice,—
(1.) Has he come to any decision regarding the question of paying witnesses called to give evidence at Coroners' inquests some remuneration for loss of time and as expenses?
(2.) If so, what is the nature of such decision?

Mr. Gould answered,—It is estimated that, if witnesses attending Coroners' inquests were paid at Quarter Sessions rates, it would be necessary to provide a sum of not less than £3,500 per annum to meet such payments. The existing practice is to pay all witnesses who are persons not interested in the case the actual necessary expenses incurred by them, and, in the case of wage-earners, they are also usually paid either the wages they have lost through attending at the Coroners' Court, or the rates of payment they would have been entitled to had they attended a Quarter Sessions Court.

- (7.) Proposed Institution for Confirmed Inebriates:—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Is it intended to take any steps in the direction of establishing an institution in which confirmed inebriates may be treated for alcoholic disease by the State?
(2.) Was not the establishment of such an institution recommended recently by a prominent official?

Mr. Gould answered,—I would draw the Honorable Member's attention to my reply to a Question on this subject, asked by the Honorable Member for Rylestone on the 28th July last. I may add that inquiries have recently been made as to whether a suitable site for the establishment of an institution for habitual inebriates is available, and that the whole question is receiving consideration.

- (8.) Electors Names on Electoral Rolls:—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is he aware that the Electoral Rolls for the Colony are loaded with the names of many electors who, having changed their residences, have been enrolled in other electorates, their names remaining unexpunged from the roll on which they were originally placed because of the fact that there is no provision in the Electoral Act to enable this course to be pursued?
(2.) Will he cause some amendment of the Act to be effected, so that this objection may be met?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Chief Electoral Officer:—

- (1.) The rolls now in force do contain the names of a large number of persons who have changed their place of residence, as they were revised during October, 1897, since which time a number of transfers, deaths, and disqualifications have taken place in each Electoral District. It is the duty of the Registrar of each district, upon the issue of a transferred right, to cancel the right for the original district, and forward the same to the Registrar of such district, who cancels the enrolment, and notes opposite to the name the words "cancelled right issued for another district," as provided by section 38. In the cases of deceased or disqualified electors, the word "dead" or "disqualified" is noted opposite to the name if enrolled as provided by sections 45 and 46 of the Act. The rolls prepared for the Returning Officers show all particulars of transfers of Electors' Rights, deaths, and disqualifications to date, as well as other information. They are specially prepared and forwarded, noted up to within a few days of polling-day.
(2.) An amendment of the Act does not appear necessary in view of the foregoing. It would be difficult to provide for printing the rolls so as to effect the end desired.

- (9.) Police Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it not a fact that pensions under the present Police Superannuation Fund cannot be paid for want of funds?
(2.) As a consequence, are there not remaining in the Service many officers over the statutory age of 60 years who, in the interest of the Service, should be retired?
(3.) Has he promised in previous Sessions that a Bill would be introduced to put the fund on a sound basis?
(4.) Will he state definitely when such Bill will be introduced?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) All Police pensions authorised have been regularly paid.
(2.) There is no statutory age, but there are seventeen officers and ten sergeants in the Department over 60 years of age, most of whom, however, are able and willing to continue in the performance of their duty.
(3 and 4.) With regard to the status of the Pension Fund, I may inform the Honorable Member that that is now being dealt with by experts with a view to future legislation which we hope to introduce next Parliament.

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(10.) Homestead Selection of J. R. Gilfillan, County of Forbes:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that one J. R. Gilfillan became the successful selector of a homestead selection (after ballot) of 418½ acres, 96-22 (24th December, 1896), parish of Broulin, county of Forbes?
- (2.) Is it true that the land was confirmed to the selector by the Local Land Board at Forbes on the 22nd April, 1897?
- (3.) Has the same land been applied for by one W. Richards, junr., of Grawlin, as an additional conditional purchase; and did the Land Board disallow the application?
- (4.) Is it true that since Richards' application was disallowed he has lodged an appeal, thereby putting the selector to unnecessary inconvenience and expense, and preventing him from occupying the land after it having been confirmed to him?
- (5.) Will he see that immediate steps are taken to have the selector protected from further annoyance, expense, and delay in the occupation of his *bonâ fide* homestead selection?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) It was confirmed to the selector on 22nd April, 1898.
- (3.) Richards applied for the land as a conditional lease, but the Board disallowed the application.
- (4.) Richards (*per* the Union Bank of Australia, Limited) has lodged an appeal against the disallowance of his application.
- (5.) The Land Appeal Court have ordered that the case stand over pending the judgment of the Privy Council in Colliss' case.

(11.) Bequest of the late Alfred Nobel:—Mr. Wilks asked the Minister of Justice,—

- (1.) Has he been advised of a bequest of the late Alfred Nobel, furnishing valuable prizes for the encouragement of invention and discovery in the Arts and Sciences; and, if so, will he state shortly the essence of same, how the matter came under his notice, and the sources of his information?
- (2.) Will he have any objection to laying the papers upon the Table of this House, the printing of the same, and their distribution to Schools of Art, Mechanics' Institutes, and like bodies, and scholastic and kindred institutions?

Mr. Gould answered,—My attention was drawn in September last by Mr. Walsh (a patent agent) to an extract from an American newspaper containing some particulars of a bequest made by the late Mr. Alfred Nobel of prizes made for the advancement of science and literature. I have since caused inquiries to be made through the Agent-General in London, and have been advised that the will in question is now the subject of litigation, and that it is doubtful whether it will stand. Under these circumstances, and until it has been decided whether the will will be acted upon, and which of the provisions are good in law, it will not be advisable for the Government of this Colony to issue any statement or afford particulars of the prizes provided for in the will.

(12.) Alleged Evils and Abuses in the Police Force:—Mr. Bavister asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has the desirability of having a full and thorough inquiry into the alleged evils and abuses existing in connection with the Police Force been considered by him; and, if so, what (if any) action is intended to be taken?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I may inform the Honorable Member that I have received no information with regard to evils and abuses existing in the Police Force, consequently I have had no opportunity of considering the subject; but if any representations are made to me with regard to evils and abuses I will make full inquiry into them.

(13.) Land Settlement:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that he made a statement at Bodalla to the effect that during the past "two or three years over 20,000 souls had been settled on the land"?
- (2.) If yes, was he not aware at the time he made the above-mentioned statement that a large number of settlers under homestead selection and settlement leases are not new settlers, but are men who were settled on the land under old tenures prior to the 1895 Act?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) The returns showing the operations under the Land Act prove that over 25,000 souls have been settled on the land thereunder.
- (2.) The very fact that the Honorable Member cites is a sufficient proof that the older tenures did not settle on the land, many of those holding under such tenures. The new tenures effectively provide that the land shall always have its tenant or revert to the Crown.

(14.) Leave of Absence to Police in Country Districts:—Mr. Edden, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) To what period of leave per annum are the police of country districts entitled?
- (2.) Are they permitted to take full advantage of this concession?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that there is no fixed regulation; but no reasonable application is refused when the requirements of the service admit.

(15.) Deviation through Mr. Jones' property, at Mount View:—Mr. Molesworth, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the deviation through Mr. J. Jones' land at Mount View be established?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Instruction to survey this deviation has issued to the District Surveyor, who will be asked to expedite the matter.

(16.) Inspection of Books under the Land Tax Act:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Are the Commissioners' Land Tax books yet open for public inspection, in accordance with the Act; if not, when are they likely to be?
- (2.) Is the *ultra vires* regulation in connection with the above now cancelled; if not, when will it be?

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- (3.) Has the Australian Agricultural Company yet paid their land tax; if so, what was the amount?
- (4.) The same information as asked for in Question No. 3, in connection with the Peel River Company?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) The preparation of the Land Tax Assessment Book, which will be open for public inspection, is not yet completed, but is being proceeded with with all possible expedition.
- (2.) The regulation in connection with the above having been declared *ultra vires*, becomes inoperative, and does not require formal cancellation.
- (3 and 4.) To answer these would, it is estimated, be an infringement of the terms of the Act.
- (17.) Bridge over Bumble Creek:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Lands,—Will he expedite the resumption of land required in connection with the erection of a bridge over Bumble's Creek, on the Ourimbah Creek Road?
- Mr. Brunker* answered,—Survey of land required for the road having been made, notice of intention to resume such land will shortly be given in the *Government Gazette*.
- (18.) Messrs. Anderson and Howlett's Contract, New Line Road:—*Mr. Howarth* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Was Anderson and Howlett's Contract, on the New Line Road, completed according to plans and specification?
- (2.) How many maintenance men have been employed on the said contract since the completion of the same?
- (3.) What has been the cost to the Department since the contract has been completed?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Four.
- (3.) About £8.
- (19.) The McSharry Arbitration Case:—*Mr. Bavister* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Can he inform this House of the cost to date to the Government of the proceedings in the McSharry Arbitration Case, and on what date the award in the case is likely to be made known to the public?
- Mr. Reid answered,—£28,298 1s. The arbitrator has the award now under consideration, but no idea can be given as to when he will be prepared to announce it.
- (20.) Amount paid as Parliamentary Allowance to Mr. Bruce Smith:—*Mr. Bavister* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Was any sum of money paid from the Treasury under the Parliamentary Representatives Allowance Act on account of the seat held by Mr. Bruce Smith, late Member for The Glebe; if so, what was the amount so paid?
- (2.) To whose order or on whose authorisation was such money paid?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Yes; £803 1s. 9d. allowance for the period 23rd October, 1891, to 25th June, 1894.
- (2.) Paid to Mr. Bruce Smith.
- (21.) Spread of Ticks or Texas Fever:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) Has a fence or any similar line of quarantine ever acted as a barrier to the spread of ticks or Texas Fever?
- (2.) Has any form of tick inspection prevented the spread of this bovine disease in any part of Australia or Queensland?
- (3.) Has any means yet adopted by the Queensland authorities been in any sense effectual in arresting the spread of Texas Fever; if not, are the authorities of this Colony about to repeat the same means of failure?
- (4.) Has the Queensland vaccine ever been tried during a virulent form of outbreak?
- (5.) Has not the testing been practised in places where Texas Fever has exhausted its power, and during a season of the year when the virulence of the disease was in abeyance?
- (6.) In view of the total failure of all means yet tried, is the Minister prepared to form a Veterinary Board of practical men to devise a scientific course of action for the total suppression of the complaint; if so, when?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Yes; reports have been received to the effect that fences have checked the spread of Texas Fever, and a fence between the tick infested and uninfested States in North America is strictly maintained.
- (2.) Yes, frequently, when properly carried out.
- (3.) Yes; some of the means adopted by Queensland have been effectual, and this Colony has adopted them as far as they consider them so.
- (4.) Yes.
- (5.) The testing of inoculation for Texas Fever has not yet been confined to places where the disease has exhausted its power, nor to any particular season of the year.
- (6.) It is not considered that there has been a total failure of all means yet tried for the suppression of the disease, and the Department is adopting the best means to prevent its introduction into this Colony. Experiments are now being made under the direction of the Board of Health, and there is therefore no need for the appointment of a further Board at present.

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(22.) Establishment of the Eight-hour Principle on the Railway:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the reason that practical effect has not been given to the motion moved by the Honorable Member for Redfern, Mr. McGowen, and carried unanimously, in favour of establishing the eight hour principle on the railway?
- (2.) Is it a fact that some youths and suburban officers are now working ten hours a day?
- (3.) Is it a fact that in some cases officers who are called on to work extra hours on Sunday are compelled to go off duty?

Mr. Reid answered,—I refer the Honorable Member to a Question bearing on the same subject, which was asked last Session (10th November), when I intimated that I had been informed by the Railway Commissioners that they were at all times desirous of carrying out any resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly, where they could do so consistently with due regard to the large public interests committed to their charge. They point out, however, that the question is a most difficult one to deal with. For example, the enginemmen are paid from 11s. to 15s. per day for nine hours' work. For all public holidays worked they receive two days' pay, or a holiday with pay at another time. They receive six good-conduct holidays per year. In all, sixteen holidays per year, with pay. They are provided with free lodging accommodation when away from home, and are paid 3s. per night in addition. If effect is given literally to the resolution of the Legislative Assembly, the reduced hours must be accompanied by a reduction of pay, and a withdrawal or a modification of some of the special conditions of employment mentioned, in order to bring the Service within the limits of an ordinary eight hours per day system. With regard to Question 2, some youths and subordinate officers are working ten clear hours, but their work is not arduous or continuous. In regard to Question 3, it is not known to what the Honorable Member refers.

(23.) Contributors to the Superannuation Fund:—Mr. Rose asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Were not many Civil Servants induced to discontinue contributing to the Superannuation Fund on the distinct understanding that they would have the amounts already paid refunded on their voluntary retirement?
- (2.) Is it not a fact that in some such cases these amounts have been refunded?
- (3.) In view of the decision of the Supreme Court in *Russell v. Reid*, will the Premier take immediate steps to have the law amended, so as to carry out the representations that were made?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will make a statement on this subject to-day.

(24.) Deviation on Road, Tuggerah Beach:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Lands,—When will the deviation on the road to the homestead selections from the Tuggerah Beach Road be established?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Notice of intention to resume the requisite land for the road will be given in the *Government Gazette* in the course of a few days.

(25.) Bridge over Bumble's Creek:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—When will tenders be invited for the erection of a bridge over Bumble's Creek on the Ourimbah Creek Road?

Mr. Young answered,—So soon as the deviation of the road has been established. I have directed that the matter be expedited.

(26.) Bridge over Terrigal Lake:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for Mr. Wheeler, asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Has the deviation in connection with the erection of a bridge over Terrigal Lake yet been established?
- (2.) If not, what is the cause of delay?
- (3.) Will he take the necessary steps to expedite the matter?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No.
- (2.) Awaiting survey of road and transmission of plan of survey.
- (3.) The District Surveyor is being reminded.

(27.) North Shore Railway and Tramway Passengers travelling by the North Shore Ferry:—Mr. Howarth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Has he any means of discovering the number of North Shore railway and tramway passengers who travel by the North Shore ferry?
- (2.) If not, will he endeavour to obtain an estimate of the number?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that no return is recorded as to the number of railway and tramway passengers who travel by the North Shore Ferry, and the information could only be obtained by counting the passengers, which would be a tedious process and involve expense. No public benefit would result from this being done.

(28.) Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act:—Mr. Robert Jones asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Will he try and amend the Electoral Act so as to minimise the method of personating and plural voting?
- (2.) Is he aware that at present one man can be in possession of several rights by going to a registrar and stating he had lost his right, thus enabling him to secure not one but several rights?
- (3.) Is he aware that this man can go and vote once on each right at a fresh polling-place each time, thus enabling him to vote several times?

Mr. Brunker answered,—

- (1.) No cases of personation or plural voting have been reported to me under the present system.
- (2 and 3.) Yes; but such persons are liable to a penalty under the Act.

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- (29.) Storage of Coal at Circular Quay :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Are large quantities of coal being landed by steamship companies at their different wharfs, Circular Quay?
 - (2.) Has any special consideration or permission been given for the landing of this coal; and, if not, why has it been allowed?
 - (3.) In view of the large amount of pedestrian traffic on these wharfs, will he take steps to prevent any public nuisance from coal-dust, or from the improper use of these wharfs by the storage of coal?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Coal is being landed by two steamship companies on their leased wharfs at Circular Quay.
 - (2.) The usual permission has been granted for landing the coal on payment of wharfage, leviable under the "Wharfage and Tonnage Rates Act."
 - (3.) The landing of the coal will not cause any nuisance to the public.
- (30.) Industrial Schools Act :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has he yet decided to take steps to amend the Industrial Schools Act to provide for grades of punishment, so that truant boys, and those committing trifling offences, may be sent to the N.S.S. "Sobraon" for periods commensurate to the act for which they are punishable, as stated by him to be under consideration on 13th May, 1897?
 - (2.) Will he also take steps to modify the regulations which prevent the children of respectable parents sent to the country corresponding and communicating with those parents?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) An amendment of the present Act is being prepared. Time, however, will not allow of its introduction this Session.
 - (2.) This matter will receive consideration.
- (31.) Waiting-room Accommodation at Dawes Point :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that no shelter-shed or waiting-room is provided for cyclists and foot passengers using the horse-ferry service at Dawes Point?
 - (2.) Is the Department now building a horse-ferry dock at Fort Macquarie; and will he consider the advisability of providing some weather shelter in connection with same?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) There is no horse-ferry service at Dawes Point, and therefore there is no shelter-shed.
 - (2.) It is not at present proposed to erect a shelter-shed at the New Ferry Dock, nor does there appear to be any necessity for one, seeing there is no shelter on the steamers nor at North Shore.
- (32.) Leases of Jetties at Circular Quay :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Have any leases of the various jetties at Circular Quay held by them been renewed to the North Shore Ferry Company during the recess of Parliament; and, if so, for what period, and at what rentals?
 - (2.) What are the terms of the various leases now held by the company; and at what rentals?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) No. The leases of the ferry jetties to the North Shore Ferry Company have not expired.
 - (2.) The North Shore Ferry Company have leases of two jetties at Circular Quay on a three years' lease—one at a rental of £1,000, and the other at £400 per annum.
- (33.) Waiting Accommodation at Circular Quay and Milson's Point :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he obtain a report from the responsible officer as to the insufficiency of waiting accommodation provided by the North Shore Ferry Company at Circular Quay and Milson's Point, and make such representations as will compel the company to provide for the convenience of the passengers using the Government railways and tramways on the company's property at Milson's Point, as well as the general public?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I am not aware of any insufficiency of accommodation at the North Shore Ferry Company's jetty at Circular Quay, and the accommodation at Milson's Point is on the company's private property, with which the Government has nothing to do.
- (34.) Salaries of Temporary Officers during Record Reign Celebrations :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Were the permanent officers of the Public Service paid salaries for Record Reign celebrations, June 22nd and 23rd last; and was a reduction made in the salaries of temporary officers for those days?
 - (2.) Was a public holiday fixed for June 3rd, Federal Bill election day; and is it proposed to deal with permanent and temporary employees in the same unequal manner; if so, will he consider the advisability of making payment for the enforced holiday?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) Permanent officers were paid salaries for Record Reign celebrations, June 22nd and 23rd last. A reduction was made in the salaries of certain temporary employees for those days, a return of which was moved for on the 13th July, 1897, and the information laid upon the Table of the House on the 30th November, 1897.
 - (2.) A public holiday was fixed for 3rd June, 1898, Federal Bill election day, and temporary employees similarly situated to those mentioned in the return will not receive pay for that day.
- (35.) Fines imposed for Breaches of the Tobacco Act :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Were fines imposed in various suburbs of the city in July last for breaches of the "Tobacco Act"?
 - (2.) Was a petition presented by those persons fined at Paddington, and was a remission made in their cases?
- (3.)

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- (3.) Have petitions been received from persons in any other suburbs, asking a similar remission; if so, what are the names of such suburbs, and have they been refused?
- (4.) What circumstances led to the refusal of these remissions; and why was Paddington selected for special consideration?
- (5.) Will he deal with other petitions for remissions of fines having the same claims as the Paddington petitioners in the same liberal spirit?
- Mr. Gould answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Applications were made on behalf of some of the persons fined at Paddington, and portions of the penalties were, after full inquiry and consideration, remitted in certain cases, but not in all. No general reduction was authorised.
- (3.) Yes, from Glebe and North Sydney; the applications were refused, after careful consideration.
- (4 and 5.) Paddington was not selected for special consideration, but the penalties inflicted there were higher than those imposed at the other suburban Courts, and were promptly brought under notice. Applications for remissions in other cases were not submitted until after the lapse of several months, while, upon inquiry, the circumstances did not appear to justify the remission sought.
- (36.) Early Closing Bill:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Has he taken any steps towards the preparation of an Early Closing Bill, as promised last Session?
- Mr. Young answered,—An amendment of the present Act has been prepared. Time, however, will not allow of its introduction this Session.
- (37.) Claims for Gratuities under Public Service Act, 1895:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will he lay upon the Table of this House the papers ordered, on the 5th August last, of the names and claims for gratuities under the Public Service Act of 1895, of applicants classed as casual employees?
- Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the papers referred to will be ready in a few days.
- (38.) North Shore Ferry Strike:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Has it come under his notice that a number of lads employed by the North Shore Ferry Company have struck against long hours and low wages paid to them?
- (2.) Has he any power under the Factories and Shops Act to deal with cases of this kind; if not, will he consider the advisability of amending the Bill in that direction?
- Mr. Young answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) No.
- (39.) Fumigation of Citrus Fruit:—Mr. Jessep asked the Secretary for Mines,—Have any steps been taken in the direction of effecting the fumigation of citrus fruit prior to export; if so, what method or methods are being adopted?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—Yes; and full information will be given to-morrow.
- (40.) Appointment of Inspectors under Vegetation Diseases Act:—Mr. Jessep asked the Secretary for Mines,—
- (1.) How many persons have been appointed as inspectors under the Vegetation Diseases Act?
- (2.) Names, qualifications, salaries, and dates of their appointment?
- (3.) Are any of the above recent arrivals from any of the adjoining colonies; if so, by whom were they recommended?
- Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—
- (1.) Only one appointment has been made outside officers already in the Service.
- (2 and 3.) Applications were invited for the position, and Mr. F. G. Chomley was appointed on 5th May last, at a salary of £200 per annum, upon the recommendation of a Special Board, who were appointed to make a selection of the most eligible candidate. Mr. Chomley has a special knowledge of all fruit diseases, and the best means to be adopted for their prevention. He was previously employed at the Mildura Fruit Settlement.
- (41.) Mr. Buckland, Public School Teacher at Kingswood:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) On what date was Mr. Buckland appointed Public School teacher at Kingswood, and has he held that position ever since?
- (2.) What salary did he receive the first year at Kingswood, and what arrangements were made with him as to payment of rent, and what amount was paid to Mr. Cadden as landlord for the house occupied by Buckland?
- (3.) What arrangements were made as regards Buckland's rent after he left Cadden's house, and what was his salary; did he live in his own house; if so, what did he receive from the Department for living in his own house?
- (4.) Did Buckland receive a higher salary for teaching in the above school than he would have received had there been a dwelling at the school owned by the Department?
- (5.) What salary does Buckland receive at the present time?
- (6.) What rent would he be charged by the Department for a house at the salary he receives as per his classification?
- (7.) Is it a fact that the Education Department purchased about 10 acres of land at Kingswood, for a Public School site, at a cost of about £250?
- (8.) Is it a fact that the school buildings, clearing, fencing, &c., cost about £500 in addition to the cost of the 10 acres of land; is there room on the above 10 acres of land for a teacher's residence?
- (9.) Is he aware that Mr. Buckland, the teacher, lives 2 miles from the school by the nearest public road?

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(10.) Is he aware that the Public School is left without any caretaker, or any person to look after it, from every Friday afternoon till the following Monday morning, and for weeks during school holidays?

(11.) Are the school buildings insured; if so, for what amount?

(12.) Is it a fact that a teacher's residence of five rooms, kitchen, &c., built of brick, iron roof, could be properly finished for £300, the interest on which would be only £12 per annum, and according to Mr. Buckland's classification, and on account of the number of children regularly attending Kingswood School, the Department would receive as rent for this residence £35 per year or over?

(13.) Was a petition presented by the Member for the District from a large number of parents and people of this portion of the district, asking for a teacher's residence to be erected; also an offer to build one of six rooms for less than £300?

(14.) Is Mrs. Buckland, the wife of the teacher at Kingswood, compelled to teach sewing two afternoons per week, as well as giving instructions to the boys, as per classes 5 to 10?

(15.) What additional salary is allowed her for these duties, and does she perform these duties as per school regulations?

Mr. Young answered,—The information asked for is of so voluminous a nature that I shall be glad if the Honorable Member will move for it in the form of a return.

(42.) The McSharry Arbitration Case:—*Mr. Black* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) How long has the case of *McSharry v. Minister for Works* been before the Court of Arbitration?

(2.) What were the preliminary expenses of the case, and to whom were they paid?

(3.) Who was the arbitrator, and what were his fees per sitting?

(4.) Who were engaged as counsel for the Government, and what were their fees per sitting?

(5.) How many professional witnesses were engaged, and at what cost per sitting?

(6.) How many sittings of the Court were held?

(7.) What are the charges of arbitrator and counsel for chamber work?

(8.) What fees have been paid in individual amounts up to date by the Government to arbitrator, counsel, and witnesses?

(9.) What claims, and to what amount, have been made in connection with this case which are still unsatisfied?

(10.) What is the total cost of the case to the Government up till now?

(11.) How much longer may the case be expected to last?

Mr. Young answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Crown Law Officers:—

(1.) The arbitration was referred by an Order of date 18th December, 1895, and the hearing commenced on the 20th July, 1896, and lasted until the 10th June, 1898.

(2.) £3,800 16s. 5d., and were as follows:—*Sir Julian Salomons*, £3 13s.; *Mr. C. B. Stephen*, £7 17s.; *Mr. C. G. Heydon*, £31 10s.; *Mr. Bruce Smith*, £994 17s. 6d.; *Mr. Atlee Hunt*, £142 12s.; *Mr. B. C. Simpson*, £2,241 17s.; *Mr. Thomas Rhodes*, £66 15s.; *Mr. J. H. Cardew*, £77 10s.; travelling expenses and copying, £234 4s. 11d.; total, £3,800 16s. 5d.

(3.) *Mr. Edmund Barton*—£27 per diem; half paid by each party.

(4.) *Mr. Bruce Smith*—£55 for the first day, and £16 5s. per diem afterwards. *Mr. Atlee Hunt*—£22 for the first day, and £5 10s. per diem afterwards.

(5.) Eleven, at a cost of £32 9s. 6d. per sitting.

(6.) 319 sittings.

(7.) Arbitrator, nil; *Mr. Bruce Smith*, £3,498 10s. 6d.; *Mr. Atlee Hunt*, £1,119 15s. 6d.

(8.) Total of fees paid by the Government to Arbitrator, £4,133 5s.; total of fees paid by the Government to counsel (*Mr. Bruce Smith*), £8,201 0s. 6d.; total of fees paid by the Government to counsel (*Mr. A. Hunt*), £2,815 5s. 6d. Total of fees paid to witnesses as under:—*Mr. B. C. Simpson*, £8,245 18s. 4d.; *Mr. D. C. Simpson*, £225 15s.; *Mr. Rhodes*, £169 8s. 6d.; *Mr. J. H. Cardew*, £680 15s. 6d.; *Mr. Poultney*, £217; *Mr. James Stephen*, £55; *Mr. J. Miller*, £30 19s. 9d.; *Mr. W. Scott*, £22 10s.; *Mr. W. Flemming*, £2; *Mr. D. C. Grey*, £85 14s.; *Mr. George Chamier*, £475 0s. 6d.; *Mr. John Whitton*, £210; *Mr. R. Crosby*, £40; *Mr. McGloin*, £2 10s.; *Mr. G. Boque*, £21; *Mr. W. Warbrick*, £30; *Mr. W. Rayment*, 10s. 6d.; *Mr. C. Warbrick*, £127 10s.; *Mr. A. Johnston*, £1 1s.; *Mr. J. Rhodes*, £4; *Mr. J. Ahearn*, £68 5s.; *Mr. Thomas Ferguson*, £10; *Mr. W. L. Langtree*, £73 10s.; *Mr. C. Palmer*, £14 16s. 1d.; *Mr. G. Mann*, £8; *Mr. John Taylor*, £3 3s.; *Mr. J. D. Francis*, £11 3s.; *Mr. John Bromley*, £4; *Mr. C. Napier Bell*, £181 2s.; total, £11,070 12s. 2d.

(9.) Arbitrator, £175 10s.; *Mr. Bruce Smith*, £503 15s.; *Mr. A. Hunt*, £88 10s. 6d.; *Mr. B. C. Simpson*, £50.

(10.) £28,292 1s.

(11.) The hearing of evidence has closed, and the arbitrator has retired to consider his award. Cannot say when it will be published.

(43.) Sub-letting of Contracts on the Tamworth-Manilla Railway:—*Mr. Black* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that sub-letting of contracts has taken place on the Tamworth-Manilla railway extension?

(2.) If so, will he take steps to put a stop to it?

Mr. Young answered,—One case of sweating by subletting was brought before me, and I have called upon the contractor to show cause why the penalty for this breach of the contract should not be enforced.

(44.) Amendment of the Navigation Act:—*Mr. Black* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he, during the ensuing Session, introduce a Bill for the amendment of the Navigation Act, with a view to prevent the despatch to sea of unseaworthy and ill-found vessels, whether under sail or steam?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes; if the Honorable Member [means by the ensuing Session the first Session of the next Parliament.

(45.)

28th June, 1898.

(45.) Inspection of Registration Offices:—Mr. Black asked the Colonial Secretary,—Does he intend, according to promise, to introduce a Bill for the inspection of registration offices during the present term?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I may inform the Honorable Member that my colleague, the Secretary for Industry, has a Bill prepared for the purpose of dealing with this question, and no doubt he will introduce it if the state of public business warrants it.

(46.) Customs and Excise Revenue received for 1892-3:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the total revenue received from Customs and Excise during the years 1892 and 1893 respectively?

(2.) What was the total revenue received from Pilotage and Harbour Light Rates respectively, for the year 1897, at Sydney?

(3.) The same information respecting the port of Newcastle?

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

(47.) Land and Income Tax Revenue:—Mr. Molesworth asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What was the total revenue received from Land Tax for the years 1896 and 1897 respectively?

(2.) The same information respecting Income Tax?

(3.) How many persons paid tax on incomes of £1,000 per annum and upwards?

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

(48.) Hours of Polling under the Municipalities Acts:—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Has his attention been directed to the circumstance that, in consolidating the Municipalities Act and Amending Acts, the hour at which the polls in country and city municipalities alike shall close was fixed at 5 o'clock; whereas it was provided in the measures referred to that in certain city and suburban municipalities the hour should be 5 and in country municipalities 4 o'clock?

(2.) Is he aware that a considerable amount of misapprehension exists in country municipalities with regard to this change, apparently affected in error by the consolidation of the Acts under review?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes; and the matter will receive attention.

(49.) Polling-places in connection with the Federal Referendum:—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is he aware that much complaint was raised in consequence of the fact that no notification appeared in the country Press of the polling-places fixed upon in connection with the carrying out of the Federal Referendum?

(2.) Will he cause this defect to be remedied in connection with future votes of the character referred to?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Yes; but the law relating to this matter was fully complied with; any alteration or amendment of it to enable the course suggested by the Honorable Member to be carried out must be the subject of future legislation.

(50.) Fees Allowed to Presiding Officers and Poll-clerks:—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Have complaints been made to him regarding the insufficiency, especially in remote country districts, of the fees allowed (under the recently amended scale) to presiding officers and poll-clerks?

(2.) Will he take into consideration the advisability of increasing same, seeing the important nature of the duties fulfilled by these officers?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The fees were reduced after full consideration, and have been approved by the Governor-in-Council. No sufficient reason has yet been assigned for increasing the rates.

(51.) Public Health Act—Life-boat Service at Newcastle—Endowments to Municipalities:—Mr. Archibald Campbell asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Does the Government intend to adopt means whereby municipalities will be relieved from the cost of having the Public Health Act administered within such areas; and, if so, in what direction, and to what extent?

(2.) Is there a life-boat service in operation at the port of Newcastle; and, if so, is it subsidised by Government, and to what extent annually or otherwise?

(3.) Will special endowment to the extent of 2s. 6d. in the £ be granted to municipalities within the current year, in accordance with a promise made to a deputation by the Premier before the close of last Session; if so, when will such endowment be available?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) The Government propose that, pending the passing of legislation placing the municipalities upon a proper footing, such expenditure as is absolutely necessary in the administration of the Public Health Act within municipal areas shall be a charge upon the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

(2.) Yes; the cost for maintenance last year was £330.

(3.) Will refer to this matter presently.

(52.) Endowment to Municipalities:—Mr. Perry asked the Colonial Treasurer,—When will the endowment of 2s. 6d. in the £, voted last Session, be paid to the municipalities entitled thereto?

Mr. Reid answered,—I will refer to this subject presently.

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- (53.) Amendment of the Mining Act:—Mr. Lee asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Has he received any communication from the Chamber of Mines since the deputation from that body waited upon him with reference to amending the Mining Act?
 (2.) Has he any objection to lay the same upon the Table of the House?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—No communication has been received from the Chamber referred to

- (54.) "Tick Pest" Regulations:—Mr. Lee asked the Secretary for Mines,—
 (1.) Has he considered the representations made by the residents at Acacia Creek, White Swamp, and other places on the northern border, regarding the severity of the "Tick Pest" Regulations?
 (2.) In view of the hardships imposed upon those residents, will he take immediate steps to permit them to cross and recross the border line with working cattle and horses?
 (3.) Has it not been represented that, unless some concession is granted, the settlers will have to abandon their holdings?
 (4.) Has he decided upon removing the quarantine line either into Queensland or to a certain distance from the border in this Colony?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Yes.
 (2.) It is hoped that arrangements will be made which will enable the residents at the places mentioned to cross and recross their horses within a limited distance of the Border, but no cattle of any description can be allowed to enter this Colony from Queensland east of the 148th meridian.
 (3.) Yes.
 (4.) Both proposals have been considered, but it is not yet decided which course, if either, will be adopted. The question will, however, be settled in a few days.

- (55.) Cost of Bridge across Clarence River at Tabulam:—Mr. Lee asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he take the necessary steps to inquire into the cost of a bridge across the Clarence River at Tabulam?

Mr. Young answered,—I have already called for a report upon the subject, and will communicate with the Honorable Member when the information has been received.

4. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY TUNNEL-ROADWAY BILL:—

- (1.) Mr. Haynes, for Mr. Parkes, presented a Petition from John Sulman, of Sydney, representing that the City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill, which was reintroduced into this House during the last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.
 And the 409th Standing Order of this House permitting of the prayer of the Petitioner being entertained,—
 Petition received.

- (2.) Ordered, that the Bill be further considered in Committee To-morrow.

5. CITY AND NORTH SYDNEY RAILWAY BILL:—

- (1.) Mr. Haynes, for Mr. Parkes, presented a Petition from John Sulman, of Sydney, representing that the City and North Sydney Railway Bill, which was reintroduced into this House during the last Session of Parliament, and passed through several stages, was interrupted by the close of the Session, and praying that leave may be given to proceed with the said Bill during the present Session.
 And the 409th Standing Order of this House permitting of the prayer of the Petitioner being entertained,—
 Petition received.

- (2.) Ordered, that the Bill be further considered in Committee To-morrow.

6. PAPERS:—

Mr. Sydney Smith laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Regulations under the Imported Stock Acts, 1871-1896.
 (2.) Regulation under the Mining Act of 1874.
 (3.) Regulation relating to the renewal of Mineral Leases under the Mining Act of 1874.
 (4.) Regulations under the Artesian Wells Act of 1897.
 (5.) Annual Report of the Stock and Brands Branch of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1897.
 (6.) Report on Agriculture and Forestry to 31st December, 1897.
 (7.) Proclamations under the Imported Stock Acts, 1871, 1884, 1896.
 (8.) Report of the Department of Mines and Agriculture for the year 1897.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Annual Returns under the 103rd section of the District Courts Act of 1858.
 (2.) Additional Gaol Regulation No. 8A.
 (3.) Amended Gaol Regulation No. 31.
 (4.) Additional Gaol Regulations.
 (5.) Amended Gaol Regulation No. 80.
 (6.) Regulations under the Patents Law Amendment Act of 1887, and the Patents Law Amendment Act, 1895.
 (7.) Despatch respecting Extradition and Fugitive Offenders.
 (8.) Return to an Order, made on 20th July, 1897,—“Patents Office—Examiner of Patents.”
 (9.) Return (*in part*) to an Order, made on 17th March, 1892,—“Convictions under the Licensing Act.”

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- (10.) Rules of the Supreme Court in Equity Jurisdiction.
- (11.) Rules of the Supreme Court in Equity Jurisdiction.
- (12.) Rules of the Supreme Court in Equity Jurisdiction.
- (13.) Report on Prisons for the year 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Statement showing reasons for granting sick leave on full pay to Mr. G. J. Skinner, Department of Lands, in accordance with Public Service Regulation.
 - (2.) Statement showing reasons for granting sick leave on full pay to Mr. E. S. Vautin, Department of Lands, in accordance with Public Service Regulation.
 - (3.) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Hay Irrigation Trust for the year 1897.
 - (4.) Report of the Department of Lands for the year 1897.
 - (5.) Return to an Order, made on the 27th October, 1897,—“Ownership of Trundle Dam.”
 - (6.) Report of the Royal Commission appointed on 22nd December, 1897, to inquire into the Institution for the Blind, Strathfield, together with Appendix and Minutes of Evidence.
 - (7.) Report of the Royal Commission appointed on 23rd September, 1897, to inquire into charges against Senior Constable Quelch, together with Minutes of Evidence, &c.
 - (8.) By-law of the Borough of Central Illawarra.
 - (9.) By-law of the Borough of Newcastle.
 - (10.) By-law of the Borough of Jamberoo.
 - (11.) By-law of the Borough of Petersham.
 - (12.) By-law of the Municipal District of Ermington and Rydalmere.
 - (13.) By-law of the Municipal District of Adamstown.
 - (14.) By-law of the Municipal District of Wallendbeen.
 - (15.) By-laws of the Borough of Enfield.
 - (16.) By-laws of the Borough of Burwood.
 - (17.) By-laws of the Borough of Lane Cove.
 - (18.) By-laws of the Borough of Vacluse.
 - (19.) By-laws of the Borough of Newcastle.
 - (20.) By-laws of the Borough of Junee.
 - (21.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Concord.
 - (22.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Penrith.
 - (23.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Bourke.
 - (24.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Canterbury.
 - (25.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Murrumbidgee.
 - (26.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Nyngan.
 - (27.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Ballina.
 - (28.) Additional By-laws of the Borough of Bathurst.
 - (29.) Additional By-laws of the Municipal District of Strathfield.
 - (30.) Additional By-laws of the Municipal District of Dungog.
 - (31.) Additional By-laws of the Municipal District of Dubbo.
 - (32.) Additional By-laws of the Municipal District of Hamilton.
 - (33.) By-laws of the Borough of Newcastle, under the Newcastle Paving and Public Vehicles Regulation Act.
 - (34.) By-law of the Sydney Hospital.
 - (35.) Regulations under the Fisheries Act of 1881, and the Oyster Fisheries Act of 1884.
 - (36.) Regulations under the Oyster Fisheries Act of 1884.
 - (37.) Regulations under the State Children's Relief Acts of 1881 and 1896.
 - (38.) Regulations under the Australasian Federation Enabling Act of 1895 and Amendment Act of 1897.
 - (39.) Regulation under the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893.
 - (40.) Amended Regulations under the Volunteer Force Regulation Act of 1867.
 - (41.) Statement of Receipts and Expenditure of the Corporation of the City of Sydney for the year 1897.
 - (42.) Twelfth Annual Report of the Goulburn Fire Brigades Board under the Fire Brigades Act of 1884.
 - (43.) Report of the Wollongong Fire Brigades Board for the year ending 31st March, 1898, under the Fire Brigades Act, 1884.
 - (44.) Report of Police Department for the year 1897.
 - (45.) Report of Commissioners of Fisheries for the year 1897.
 - (46.) Report of Registrar of Friendly Societies and Trade Unions for the year 1896.
 - (47.) Report of the Coast Hospital, Little Bay, for the year 1896.
- Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1858, of land, parish of St. Lawrence, county of Cumberland, for the Extension of the Premises of the Board of Water Supply and Sewerage, Pitt and Wilmott streets, Sydney.
- (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Weromba, county of Camden, for a Reserve for Access to Water at the Village of the Oaks.
- (3.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Liberty Plains, county of Cumberland, for the Supply of Water to the City of Sydney and Suburbs.
- (4.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for the construction of certain works for the Improvement of Cook's River near Tempe.
- (5.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Tamworth, county of Inglis, for Additions to Tamworth Court-house premises.

(6.)

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- (6.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Weenya, county of Nicholson, for the construction of the Middle Billabong Weir.
- (7.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Umangla, county of Ewenmar, and parish of Warren, county of Oxley, for the construction of a Weir near Warren.
- (8.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Narrandera, county of Cooper, for the erection of a Post and Telegraph Office at Narrandera.
- (9.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Mudgee, county of Wellington, for the Supply of Water to the Town of Mudgee.
- (10.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, Parish of Orange, county of Bathurst, for the establishment and construction of Rifle Range at Orange.
- (11.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Comlaroi, county of Fitzroy, for the erection of Police Buildings at Coramba.
- (12.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Tuggerah, county of Northumberland, for the erection of a Residence for the Inspector of Fisheries at Tuggerah Lake.
- (13.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Warron, county of Oxley, for the construction of a Weir near Warren.
- (14.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Daley, county of Lincoln, for the construction of a Bridge over Coalbaggie Creek.
- (15.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Kempsey, county of Macquarie, for the construction of a Bridge over Macleay River at Kempsey.
- (16.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Arakoon, county of Macquarie, for the erection of Buildings for Warder's Quarters at Trial Bay.
- (17.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish of Field of Mars, county of Cumberland, for the Supply of Water to the Districts North of the Parramatta River.
- (18.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Petersham, county of Cumberland, for the construction of Stormwater Sewers discharging into Johnstone's Bay, Port Jackson.
- (19.) Notification of resumption, under the Lands for Public Purposes Acquisition Act, of land, parish or Cootanundry, county of Harden, for Supply of Water to the Town of Cootamundra.
- (20.) Accounts of the South Head Roads Trust for half-year ended 31st December, 1897.
- (21.) By-laws, under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts, 1880-1889.
- (22.) Metropolitan Drainage By-laws; Willoughby Falls; Stormwater Drain No. 3, Careening Stormwater Drains No. 2 and No. 3, and Neutral Bay Stormwater Drains No. 2 and No. 3.
- (23.) Water By-laws, under Hunter District Water Supply and Sewerage Acts, 1892-1897.
- (24.) Summary of special works carried out by Department of Public Works by day labour during period from 2nd August, 1894, to 14th June, 1898.
- (25.) Statement showing ordinary day labour continuously employed by Department of Public Works.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Huntley, county of Bathurst, for maintaining the traffic on the Great Western Railway Line, by effecting Improvements to Grades between Huntly and Bloomfield.
- (2.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Graham, county of Bathurst, for Grade Improvements, on the Great Western Railway at Millthorpe.
- (3.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Forbes, county of Ashburnham, for Trucking-yards, and Approaches thereto, at Forbes.
- (4.) By-laws of the Borough of Burwood, under the Nuisances Prevention Act of 1897.
- (5.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Ballina, under the Nuisances Prevention Act of 1875.
- (6.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Yass, under the Nuisances Prevention Act of 1875.
- (7.) Return to an Order, made on 18th August, 1897,—“Wharfage Rates and Tonnage Dues Act.”
- (8.) Return to an Order, made on 12th May, 1897,—“The Civil Service.”
- (9.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for November, 1897.
- (10.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for December, 1897.
- (11.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for January, 1898.
- (12.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for February, 1898.
- (13.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for March, 1898.
- (14.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for April, 1898.
- (15.) Statement of Payments made from the Treasurer's Advance Account for May, 1898.
- (16.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Kindra, county of Bourke, for Improving the Grade on the South-western Railway, near Coolaman.
- (17.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895, in connection with the Nursing Staff, Coast Hospital.
- (18.) Regulation under the Land and Income Tax Assessment Act of 1895 (substituted forms D, E, and K).
- (19.) Regulations under the Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act of 1894, in substitution of those gazetted on 31st December, 1896, and Supplementary Regulations, under the “Noxious Trades and Cattle Slaughtering Act of 1894.”
- (20.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for Quarter ended 31st December, 1897.
- (21.) General Abstracts of Bank Liabilities and Assets for Quarter ended 31st March, 1898.
- (22.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies' Liabilities and Assets for Quarter ended 31st December, 1897.

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- (23.) General Abstracts of Banking, Land, Building, and Investment Companies' Liabilities and Assets for Quarter ended 31st March, 1898.
 (24.) Statement of Trust Monies Deposit Account from 1st April, 1897, to 31st March, 1898.
 (25.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Quirindi, county of Buckland, for the Improvement of Grades, near Quirindi, on the Great Northern Railway.
 (26.) Notification of resumption, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, parish of Temi, county of Buckland, for the construction of a Ballast Siding near Ardglan, on the Great Northern Railway.
 (27.) Report of the proceedings of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales from 1st July to 31st December, 1897.
 (28.) Report of the Public Service Board, dated 30th November, 1897.
 (29.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for Quarter ending 31st December, 1897.
 (30.) Report of the Railway Commissioners on Railways and Tramways for Quarter ending 31st March, 1898.
 (31.) Report on Leprosy in New South Wales for the year 1896.
 (32.) Fifteenth Annual Report under the Inscribed Stock Act of 1883.
 (33.) Regulations under the Public Health Act, 1896.
 (34.) Regulations of the Borough of Paddington, under the Public Health Act, 1896.
 (35.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895 (Substituted, Amending, &c.)
 (36.) Regulations under the Public Service Act of 1895 (General).
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

7. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (POLLING) BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
 Governor.

Message No. 17.

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 time for polling at Parliamentary Elections.

*Government House,
 Sydney, 27th June, 1898.*

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

8. FREE-TRADE AND PROTECTION REFERENDUM BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Speaker:—

HAMPDEN,
 Governor.

Message No. 18.

In accordance with the provisions contained in the 54th section of the Constitution Act, the Governor recommends for the consideration of the Legislative Assembly the expediency of making provision to meet the requisite expenses in connection with a Bill to authorise a referendum to the people, and the taking of a vote on the question whether the existing fiscal policy should continue or a protective tariff be carried into law, and for purposes consequent on and incidental to the above objects.

*Government House,
 Sydney, 27th June, 1898.*

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

9. SUNDAY TRADING BILL (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Copeland 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 legalise, regulate, and restrict Sunday trading; to make other provisions with respect to Good Friday and Christmas Day; and to amend the law with respect to clubs.

Question put and passed.

10. INCOME TAX (*Formal Motion*):—Mr. Molesworth moved, pursuant to Notice, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the number of persons who paid income tax during the year 1897, as follows:—(1) From £200 to £300 per annum; (2) £301 to £400 per annum; (3) £401 to £600 per annum; (4) £601 to £800 per annum; (5) £801 to £1,000 per annum; (6) upwards of £1,000 per annum.

Question put and passed.

And it being Seven o'clock, Government Business only taken, under Sessional Order adopted on 23rd June, 1898.

11. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intituled "A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1898-9, Services of the current year, 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.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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12. **STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Standing Orders Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. McCourt, Mr. Lyne, Mr. See, Mr. Lee, Mr. Molesworth, Mr. McGowen, Mr. Crick, Mr. Young, and the Mover, with leave to sit during any adjournment, to report in any matter or thing referred to or pending before the said Committee, and to confer upon subjects of mutual concernment with any Committee appointed for similar purposes by the Legislative Council.
Question put and passed.
13. **REFRESHMENT COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Refreshment Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Neild, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Hogue, Mr. Levis, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Chapman, Mr. W. H. B. Piddington, Mr. Cann, 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.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
14. **LIBRARY COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Library Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Speaker, Mr. Neild, Mr. Hogue, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Perry, Mr. Black, Mr. Mackay, Mr. Bavister, 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.
15. **PRINTING COMMITTEE**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice,—
(1.) That the Printing Committee for the present Session shall consist of Mr. Gormly, Mr. Watson, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Dugald Thomson, Mr. Millen, Mr. Schey, Mr. Price, Mr. Dick, Mr. Archibald Campbell, 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.
(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.
16. **IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL**:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Immigration Restriction Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during last Session, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the following Message be sent to the Council:—Mr. President,—A Bill, intituled “An Act to place certain restrictions on immigration; to provide for the removal from the Colony of prohibited immigrants; to impose certain disabilities upon them whilst in the Colony; and for other purposes incidental to or consequent upon the before-mentioned objects,”—forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Assembly requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Council's Standing Order in that behalf.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.
Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.
17. **SUPPLY (Financial Statement)**:—The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into the Committee of Supply.

And the Committee continuing to sit till after Midnight,—

WEDNESDAY, 29 JUNE, 1898, A.M.

Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. Ashton, Temporary Chairman, reported a *Point of Order* from the Committee, and obtained leave to sit again after the decision of the House had been given.

Point of Order:—Mr. Ashton, stated that the Honorable Member for Botany, Mr. Dacey, under a resolution for Supply, was proceeding to refer to the report of a Royal Commission appointed to inquire into certain charges against one Quelch, and was going at great length into details and evidence, there being nothing to show that the costs of such Commission were included in the proposed expenditure. Objection being taken by the Honorable Member for West Macquarie, Mr. Crick, to the lengthy quotations, Mr. Ashton ruled that Mr. Dacey was in order, and the matter was then referred for Mr. Speaker's decision. Debate ensued.

Mr. Speaker ruled that Mr. Dacey was out of order in quoting so extensively, particularly as the proposed vote under consideration did not warrant that course, no item relevant to the matter referred to by Mr. Dacey being in the resolution proposed.

On motion of Mr. Brunker, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the Committee resumed.

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.

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

28th June, 1898.

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

(1.) *Resolved*,—That there be granted to Her Majesty a sum not exceeding £2,293,800; being £1,482,800 to defray the expenses of the various Departments and Services of the Colony during the months of July, August, and September, or following month of the financial year ending 30th June, 1899, to be expended at the rates which have been sanctioned for the financial year ending 30th June, 1898, subject to the rate of any reduction that may hereafter be made in the expenditure of the year 1898–1899:

For Services of the year 1897–1898—£60,000 for Treasurer's Advance Account—further sum—the whole amount to be adjusted not later than the 30th June, 1899.

For Services of the year 1898–1899—£300,000 for Public Works and Services—Roads and Bridges; and £50,000 for Treasurer's Advance Account, the whole amount to be adjusted not later than the 30th June, 1900.

And in anticipation of Loan Votes—For Treasurer and Secretary for Finance and Trade—£2,000, for Additions, Improvements, and Fittings, Government Printing Office.

For Railways—£150,000 towards Additions to Railway Lines, Stations, Buildings, Workshops, for Rolling Stock, and for other purposes, including Safety Appliances; and £100,000 towards the improvement of Grades and Curves.

For Tramways,—£35,000 for Additions to Workshops and Buildings, and for other purposes, including Duplication of portions of Existing Lines; and £25,000 for Rolling Stock.

For Public Works—£1,000 for Railway Construction Branch—Cootamundra to Gundagai Railway—Arbitration Expenses—further sum; £78,000 for Metropolitan Board of Water Supply and Sewerage—being £20,000 for Reticulation Works, improvements of Existing Reservoirs and Tanks, strengthening Canal Banks, and other main works of Water Supply; £30,000 for Western Suburbs Sewerage, including Balmain, completion of Reticulation and Ventilation Works, both gravitation and low-level; £20,000 for North Sydney Sewerage, including Willoughby, Mosman's and Neutral Bay Reticulation Works; and £8,000 for Sewerage Farms, underdraining—Buildings and Railway.

And for Mines and Agriculture—£10,000 for the promotion of Agriculture, and for Agricultural Colleges and Experimental Farms.

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

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

The Chairman also reported that the Committee had come to a resolution.

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

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

(1.) *Resolved*,—That towards making good the Supply granted to Her Majesty for the Services of the financial years 1897–8 and 1898–9, the sum of £2,293,800 be granted out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales.

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

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

(1.) Ordered, on motion of Mr. Reid, that a Bill be brought in, founded on Resolution of Ways and Means (No. 1), to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1898–9; Services of the current year; and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan.

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled “*A Bill to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1898–9; Services of the current year; and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan,*”—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(3.) Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be “*An Act to apply certain sums out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund of New South Wales towards the Services of the year 1898–9; Services of the current year; 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 1898–9; Services of the current year; and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan,*”—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,

Sydney, 29th June, 1898, a.m.

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

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 5.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

WEDNESDAY, 29 JUNE, 1898.

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

QUESTIONS :—

(1.) Total State money paid to the Honorable E. Barton, the Honorable R. E. O'Connor, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. B. R. Wise :—Mr. Haynes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What amount of State money for any service whatsoever has been paid respectively to the Honorable Edmund Barton, the Honorable R. E. O'Connor, Mr. Bruce Smith, and Mr. B. R. Wise?

(2.) What amount, distinct from the above, has been paid the three first-named, respectively, in connection with the McSharry Arbitration Case?

(3.) Are payments still being made in connection with the arbitration case referred to, and are the gentlemen named in receipt of payments therefrom; if so, the amount daily or weekly to each?

Mr. Reid answered,—

(1.) It is impossible to give the information required from the records of the Treasury.

(2.) I think the Answers to the Questions yesterday will supply the information.

(3.) No; but I am not aware whether the arbitrator will receive payment for his work in considering his award.

(2.) Land Alienation in New Guinea :—Mr. Black asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) What reply (if any) has he received from the Home Government with reference to the method of land alienation practiced in New Guinea?

(2.) If no satisfactory reply be received, what action (if any) will be taken by the allied Premiers?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Home Government is disposed to ratify the transaction entered into with the New Guinea Land Syndicate; but I believe Queensland and Victoria will agree with this Colony in strongly opposing the passage of the Ordinance. The Government of Queensland has promised to communicate its views upon the whole transaction shortly. This Government is strongly opposed to it.

(3.) Law of Libel :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—When is it proposed to introduce and pass a Bill to amend the Law of Libel, as promised a considerable time since by him on behalf of the Honorable the Attorney-General?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The Bill will be introduced in the Legislative Council to-morrow; notice of motion will be given to-night.

(4.) State-controlled Ammunition Factory :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick, asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it the intention of the Government to establish at an early date a State-controlled ammunition factory, or have they entered into any negotiations whatever with private persons with the object of having such a factory established in this Colony?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This matter has been under the consideration of the Government for some time. I am not able to give a definite reply to the honorable gentleman's Question in consequence of the absence of the Major-General, whom I desire to consult on the subject before giving an Answer.

(5.) Depositors of Savings Bank of New South Wales :—Mr. Edden, for Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) For what reason or purpose has it been determined that cheques presented at the Savings Bank of New South Wales and its branches by depositors shall not be accepted?

(2.) Will he, in the interests of depositors, and to serve their convenience, cause this Regulation to be set aside?

Mr. Reid answered,—The Managing Trustee reports the Bank does not refuse cheques.

(6.)

29th June, 1898.

- (6.) Proposed Railway to Botany:—*Mr. Thomas*, for *Mr. Dacey*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Will he consider the advisability of constructing a railway to Botany when dealing with the railway policy of the Government?
 - (2.) Is it the intention of the Government to construct a line of railway from Erskineville to meet the requirements of the eastern suburbs?
- Mr. Young* answered,—Due consideration will be given to these matters when future railway proposals are being determined by the Cabinet.
- (7.) Alleged Mutiny in Maitland Gaol:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for *Mr. Gillies*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that on Saturday last, 25th instant, a mutiny took place in the Maitland Gaol, during which pots, pans, and tables were thrown about and smashed by the prisoners?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that such mutiny was brought about by the conduct of Governor Jackson and First-class Warder Neshaw ordering the prisoners to perform certain work contrary to the Regulations of the Gaol?
 - (3.) Is it a fact that certain of the prisoners have been removed to Sydney to be tried for mutiny?
 - (4.) Is it a fact that Governor Jackson, now acting in Maitland Gaol, was removed from Biloela Gaol; was he removed as a punishment, and did he suffer a reduction in his salary as a consequence of such removal?
 - (5.) Will he cause inquiries to be made as to the origin of the mutiny in question; also as to the general conduct of Governor Jackson towards the warders under him, as also towards the confinees in Maitland Gaol?
- Mr. Gould* answered,—The following information has been forwarded to me by the Comptroller-General of Prisons:—
- (1.) A disturbance took place at Maitland Gaol on the 25th instant, caused by two incorrigibles (who are old criminals) inciting some of their fellows to create disorder, but it was not a serious matter.
 - (2.) No. One prisoner made use of a filthy expression to the officer, for which he was locked up.
 - (3.) No. They have been dealt with by the Visiting Justice; three sent to Parramatta and four to Berrima Gaols.
 - (4.) *Mr. Jackson* was promoted from Biloela to Maitland Gaol. He did not suffer reduction in salary.
 - (5.) This has already been done. *Mr. Jackson*, who has been in the Prison Service since 1880, has the reputation of being a careful and competent officer, and has filled many important subordinate positions with credit. The disorder which took place is attributable to a few incorrigible prisoners, who have now been removed to other gaols.
- (8.) Document respecting Parliamentary Printing:—*Mr. Thomas*, for *Mr. McGowen*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Was an important document, having reference to Parliamentary printing, submitted to the Honorable the Premier some months since by *Mr. F. Ironside*, late principal reader at the Government Printing Office?
 - (2.) Would he have a copy of the same laid upon the Table of the House, together with any papers accompanying it, for the information of the Members?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—
- (1.) A letter was received from *Mr. Ironside* on that subject.
 - (2.) I scarcely think this necessary, but the papers will be produced on motion.
- (9.) Allowances to Postal Officials in the Western Districts:—*Mr. Thomas*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Postmaster-General,—When will the district allowances, as recommended by the Civil Service Board, for Post Office officials in the western portion of the Colony, be available; and from what date will these allowances be paid?
- Mr. Cook* answered,—It is proposed to provide on the next Estimates for the payment of these allowances in certain outlying districts from the 1st July next.
- (10.) Claim of *Mr. McSharry* against the Works Department:—*Mr. Black* asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) What was the original claim of *Mr. McSharry* against the Department of Works?
 - (2.) What sum could have secured a settlement of his claim?
- Mr. Young* answered,—The following information has been supplied me by the Crown Law Officers:—
- (1.) The claim was rendered for the first time in April, 1891, and amounted to £115,366 19s. 6d. Subsequently this was increased by about £35,000
 - (2.) There was never any suggestion of a settlement.
- (11.) Land Taxation:—*Mr. Dugald Thomson* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that, though the stated intention of the Government in initiating land taxation was not to tax improvements, landowners, while themselves paying only on unimproved value, are allowed under the Act to charge the tax to lessees on the value of improvements made by the latter?
 - (2.) Is he aware that legal opinion has been circulated supporting this interpretation of the Act, and is he in possession of any opinion to the contrary?
 - (3.) Is it not the case that under this system the leaseholder, who has highly improved land, will pay nearly the whole of the land tax, even though his ground rental is the full present value?

Mr.

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Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) It seems to be a fact.
- (2.) I am not in a position to give an Answer. I have no knowledge on the subject.
- (3.) This is a question of fact, and I am not aware of the facts.

(12.) **Erection of Lock-up at Manildra**:—Dr. Ross asked the Colonial Secretary,—Has the Inspector-General of Police recommended, or is it the intention of the Government, to have a lock-up erected at Manildra, in the Molong District; if so, when is the work likely to be proceeded with?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am informed by the Inspector-General of Police that a lock-up cell is required at Manildra, and will be erected as soon as funds are provided.

(13.) **Land Settlement near Canowindra, Molong District**:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—Is it his intention to take any steps with the view of having the large area of land that is reserved in the vicinity of Canowindra, Molong District, county of Ashburnham, thrown open for selection and settlement, seeing the increasing demand that there is for people settling on the soil; if so, when?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—Executive authority is about to be obtained for the conversion of part of the village lands of Canowindra into suburban lands, with a view to the setting apart for homestead selection of 233 acres 1 rood 10 perches in seven blocks, ranging from 11 acres 1 rood 30 perches to 65½ acres. The land will be open to homestead selection on the 15th September next.

(14.) **Application of Mr. McCulloch for Exchange of Land**:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Lands,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that an application has been made by one Mr. McCulloch, of Buckimbah Station, near Molong, county of Gordon, for an exchange of inferior land for land of first-class quality, viz., reserve 2,069, and land well fitted for selection and agricultural settlement?
- (2.) Has the application for the exchange been granted; if so, when?
- (3.) Is it a fact that residents of Yeoval have written to the Lands Department protesting against the exchange of the land?
- (4.) Is he aware that Mr. McCulloch is now busy getting the land fenced in?
- (5.) In the interest of settlement, will he see that the application for the exchange is disallowed?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—

- (1.) An application to exchange land on Buckimbah Station, comprising 1,122 acres, has been lodged by Messrs. McCulloch, but the characteristics of this land as reported to me are not identical with those indicated by the Honorable Member.
- (2.) The application has not been finally dealt with.
- (3.) Two protests have been received, but the writers did not appear before the Land Board at the inquiry, though duly notified of the date of the inquiry.
- (4.) No.
- (5.) The Land Board report that the completion of this exchange is desirable in the public interest, and it has not been shown to me that the Board's opinion is incorrect. I may remind the Honorable Member that the Land Boards are established to make local inquiry and to report upon such matters as these, and they decide upon sworn testimony adduced in open Court. If the Land Board's decision is to be overridden by me, it will only be done upon testimony demonstrating clearly the error of the Board.

(15.) **Supply of Electricity by the Railway Commissioners**:—Mr. Perry, for Mr. Rose, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners intend supplying electric current to private persons in George-street or elsewhere?
- (2.) Is it a fact that the Railway Commissioners have at the present time entered into a contract with any person or persons for lighting their premises?
- (3.) If yes, is it his intention to take any steps towards preventing the Government from competing against private enterprise?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I am informed that the Railway Commissioners have made an agreement with one firm to supply them with electrical energy.
- (3.) In connection with the working of an electric tramway plant, there must always be considerable surplus energy available at different points on the lines during certain periods of every day which cannot be utilised for the general operation of the system, and if not disposed of in some other way will be practically wasted; to avoid this the surplus energy, which is of an intermittent nature, will be utilised as proposed.

(16.) **Mr. Bear, Superintendent of Fire Brigades**:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that Mr. Bear, Superintendent of Fire Brigades, has been suspended from duty for some time; and, if so, how long?
- (2.) Has the Public Service Board held inquiry into the case; and, if so, with what result?
- (3.) Has the recommendation of the Board been dealt with in any way?
- (4.) In view of the utterances of the Premier concerning the freedom of the Public Service Board from political influence, will he state the cause for the delay in dealing with this case?
- (5.) Has he any objection to lay the papers in this case upon the Table of the House?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I shall be glad to supply the information asked for in this Question if the Honorable Member will move for it in the usual way.

29th June, 1898.

2. CROWN LANDS BILL:—*Mr. Brunker*, for *Mr. Carruthers*, moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Crown Lands Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during last Session, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the following Message be sent to the Council:—*Mr. President*,—Referring to the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 8th December, 1897, in reference to certain amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Crown Lands Bill, the proceedings with respect to which were interrupted by the prorogation of the Legislature, the Assembly requests that the said Message may be considered under the Council's Standing Order in that behalf.

Question put and passed.

Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.

3. PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR BILL:—*Mr. Young* moved, pursuant to Notice, That the Port Kembla Harbour Bill, forwarded to the Legislative Council during last Session, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the following Message be sent to the Council:—*Mr. President*,—A Bill, intituled "An Act to sanction the construction of a deep-water harbour at Port Kembla,"—forwarded to the Legislative Council for concurrence during last Session of the present Parliament, not having been finally dealt with because of the prorogation of the Legislature, the Legislative Assembly requests that the said Bill be proceeded with under the Council's Standing Order in that behalf.

Debate ensued.

Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 40.

Mr. McCourt,	Mr. Newman,
Mr. Brunker,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Gould,	Mr. Parkes,
Mr. Cook,	Mr. Ewing,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Henry Clarke,	Mr. Greene,
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Waddell,	Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Kelly,	Mr. Barnes,
Mr. Reid,	Mr. Moore,
Mr. Nelson,	Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Carruthers,	Mr. Hogue,
Mr. McLaughlin,	Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,	Mr. McLean,
Mr. Simcoe Phillips,	Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Hawthorne,	Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Hayes,	Mr. Pyers.
Mr. Hurvey,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	
Mr. Anderson,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Watson,	Mr. Jessep.

Noes, 24.

Mr. Lyne,	Mr. O'Sullivan.
Mr. Hurley,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Dr. Ross,	Mr. H. H. Brown,
Mr. Chanter,	Mr. Griffith.
Mr. Carroll,	
Mr. Goodwin,	
Mr. Wheeler,	
Mr. Watkins,	
Mr. James Thomson,	
Mr. Afleck,	
Mr. Morgan,	
Mr. Law,	
Mr. Edden,	
Mr. Macdonald,	
Mr. Ross,	
Mr. Wilks,	
Mr. Black,	
Mr. Molesworth,	
Mr. Dick,	
Mr. O'Reilly,	
Mr. Ashton,	

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

Message to the Legislative Council sent accordingly.

4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—*Mr. Ewing*, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—
(1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Narrabri to Pilliga.
(2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Woolabra to Collarendabri.
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. PAPERS:—

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Report on the completion of the following works:—(a) Outfall Sewer, Eastern Branch, and Sub-mains, Western Suburbs Sewerage; (b) Lavender Bay Sub-main, Blue's Point Sub-main, Willoughby Creek Stormwater channel, Falcon-street Branch Main Outfall Sewer, Ernest-street Sub-main, Main Outfall Sewer Extension, McDougall-street Sub-main, Willoughby-street Sub-main, and Glen-street Sub-main; (c) Double Bay Creek Stormwater Channel; (d) Homebush Creek Stormwater Channel, Albyn-street Branch, Homebush Road Branch and Russell-street Branch Extension; (e) Northern Main Sewer, 3rd Division, and the Foucart-street branch.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Brunker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report of the Royal Commission on the methods of carrying on Government Institutions—Part I,—Institutions dealing with the Blind, and with the Deaf and Dumb, together with Appendix and Minutes of Evidence.

(2.) Thirteenth General Report, together with Returns, giving a record of the Committee's inquiries, and Minutes of Proceedings, of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Public Works.

(3.) Report of Board for the Protection of the Aborigines for the year 1897.

(4.) Report on Botanic Gardens and Domains, &c., for the year 1897.

(5.) 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.

(6.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Tubbo Leasehold Area for Settlement by other Holdings.

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- (7.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Billabong Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.
 (8.) Report of the Fire Brigades Board, Sydney, for the year 1897.
 (9.) Report of Captain Commanding Naval Defence Forces for the year 1897.
 (10.) By-law of the Borough of Narrandera.
 (11.) By-laws of the Municipal District of Cobar.
 (12.) By-law under the Public Vehicles Regulation Act of 1873.
 Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (POLLING) BILL:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to extend the time for polling at Parliamentary Elections.
 Question put and passed.
7. FREE-TRADE AND PROTECTION REFERENDUM BILL:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That this House will, on its next sitting day, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise a referendum to the people, and the taking of a vote on the question whether the existing fiscal policy should continue, or a protective tariff be carried into law; and for purposes consequent on and incidental to the above objects.
 Question put and passed.
8. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until To-morrow:—
 (1.) Supply; resumption of the Committee.
 (2.) Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee.
9. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL:—The Order of the Day having been read,—
 Mr. Hogue moved, that this Bill be now read a second time.
 Question put and passed.
 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 with amendments.
 On motion of Mr. Hogue, the report was adopted.
 Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time To-morrow.
10. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Brunker moved, That this House do now adjourn.
 Debate ensued.
 Question put and passed.

The House adjourned accordingly, at two minutes before Nine o'clock, until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 6.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 30 JUNE, 1898.

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

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

(1.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the "Prospecting Vote" to supplement the Vote in connection with "Agriculture."

(2.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Roads and Bridges—Public Works and Services," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Government Architect."

(3.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote for "Nursery Garden, Campbelltown," to supplement the Vote in connection with "Botanic Gardens."

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

2. COMMITTEE OF ELECTIONS AND QUALIFICATIONS:—

(1.) *Maturity of Warrant reported*:—Mr. Speaker reported that his Warrant appointing the Committee of Elections and Qualifications for the present Session, laid upon the Table on Wednesday, 22nd June, 1898, 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*:—Francis Edward McLean, Esquire, John Lionel Fegan, Esquire, and Llewellyn Charles Russell Jones, Esquire, came to the Table, and were sworn by the Clerk as Members of the Committee.

3. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Grant for Luddenham Road, from Kingswood:—Mr. T. R. Smith asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What amount of money was granted for Luddenham Road, from Kingswood, and handed over to trustees—Messrs. W. C. Fulton, Robert Wallan, Edgar Cox, and A. W. Stephen?

(2.) What amount was expended on the above road out of the grant of £1,200; and did the Roads Engineer approve of the work before it was paid for?

(3.) How was this money expended; the names and amounts of each party employed on the above road?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) £1,200.

(2 and 3.) This information can be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return if moved for in the usual way.

(2.) The Commonwealth Bill:—Mr. Affleck asked the Colonial Secretary,—What was the total cost to the country in connection with the Commonwealth Bill proceedings from beginning to end?

Mr. Brunker answered,—Pending the receipt of details from the adjoining colonies, it would be impossible to furnish the information asked for by the Honorable Member.

(3.) Bridge over the Murray River at Barooga:—Mr. Hayes asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Have the Government considered the offer made to them by the Victorian Government to erect at their own cost a bridge over the Murray River at Barooga?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes, and it cannot be entertained. If the bridge were erected it would entail the construction and maintenance of most expensive works on the New South Wales side, in order to secure approach.

30th June, 1898.

- (4.) Subsidy for Rifle-shooting under Service Conditions.—Mr. Price asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) In view of the importance of rifle-shooting under service conditions, is it the intention of the Government to increase the subsidy to that branch of rifle competition?
 - (2.) Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of this House, before the close of the Session, copies of all correspondence, questions, reports, and all other documents bearing on this question?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I would ask the Honorable Member to postpone this Question until the return of the Major-General.

- (5.) Land held by Mr. Withers at Jervis Bay :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) What concessions have been granted to Mr. Withers or any other persons in connection with land at Jervis Bay?
 - (2.) What area of land has been granted to Mr. Withers at that place?
 - (3.) Upon what terms and conditions was the lease granted?
 - (4.) Is he aware that the land leased contains very valuable timber?
 - (5.) Is any royalty charged for cutting timber on the leases?
 - (6.) If not, is he aware that this acts prejudicially to the interests of persons engaged in the timber industry, who are obliged to pay license fees and royalties?
 - (7.) Is it a fact that the concessions have been disposed of to an English syndicate for a large sum of money?
 - (8.) Were the conditions of the lease granted contrary to the recommendations of the Mines and Forestry Departments; if so, why were such leases granted?
 - (9.) Will he place the whole of the papers upon the Table of this House during this Session?

Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1, 2, and 7.) None; but after public competition, in accordance with the Crown Lands Act, two tenders, for an aggregate area of 20,948 acres, near Jervis Bay, county of St. Vincent, have been accepted from H. J. Withers as improvement leases. I am not aware of the disposal of any rights possessed by Mr. Withers to an English syndicate.
- (3.) These are lengthy, and are set out in the lease, copy of which the Honorable Member is at liberty to inspect. They are specially drawn up to ensure the use of the land under proper regulations for timber-getting.
- (4.) The land is reported to contain much good timber, difficult of access, and far from road or water carriage.
- (5.) No; but license fee of 10s. per month must be paid for each man employed in cutting or removing mature timber for trade purposes.
- (6.) No.
- (8.) The Mines Department offered no objection to leasing the forest reserve as improvement leases, provided stringent conditions were imposed relative to the preservation of young timber and the cutting of mature timber of such a nature as would conserve the public interest, which have been embodied in the formal lease.
- (9.) I have no objection whatever to this course, but the papers should be moved for in the usual manner.

- (6.) Mitigation of Floods in the Hunter :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) In view of the fact that he has promised to facilitate the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the question of the mitigation of floods in the Hunter, and, further, that the question must be dealt with in relation to the whole scheme, is it his intention to agree to the construction of any cuttings or embankments near Pitnacree Road or through Howe's Lagoon?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the carrying out of such works would increase the flood-waters at Raymond Terrace, Hexham, Morpeth, and the lower parts of the river?
 - (3.) Have the reports of his officers been in opposition to carrying out sectional schemes?
 - (4.) Is he aware that the carrying out of such sectional works would seriously interfere with the riparian rights of the residents lower down the river?
 - (5.) Is it the intention of the Government to continue the work at East Maitland, to the injury of those resident on the Lower Hunter?
 - (6.) Will he take steps for the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the various flood schemes, so that the inquiry may take place during the recess?

Mr. Young answered,—The question of the mitigation of floods in the Hunter River District will, as promised by me, receive consideration in due course. The Honorable Member may rest assured I will not approve of any partial work which might have an injurious effect on properties lower down the river.

- (7.) Abolition of Tolls on Punts :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Public Works,—
- (1.) Is it the intention of the Government to abolish tolls on punts?
 - (2.) If not, will he impose a similar toll on all bridges?
 - (3.) Is he aware that persons using punts suffer greater inconvenience than those using bridges; if so, why is a charge made in the former and not in the latter case?

Mr. Young answered,—I have no present intention of taking action on the lines suggested by the Questions of the Honorable Member.

- (8.) Vote for Public Parks, Reserves, and Cemeteries :—Mr. Price asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Upon what basis is the Vote for Public Parks, Reserves, and Cemeteries apportioned?
 - (2.) Is he aware that the distribution of the amounts is very disproportionate; if so, what are the reasons that the Vote is allotted in that way?
 - (3.) Will he be good enough to inquire into the matter, and ascertain who is responsible for the partial distribution of the Vote?

Mr.

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Mr. Carruthers answered,—

- (1.) Upon official reports, representations by trustees, and from other local sources.
 (2 and 3.) The distribution must necessarily be disproportionate, owing to the variation in area of parks and reserves; the necessity for further improving, or for providing for the maintenance of existing improvements, is not identical in all cases. With regard to cemeteries, the cost and class of fencing and clearing differs in the various parts of the Colony.

(9.) Wheat produced at Experimental Farm, Wagga Wagga:—*Mr. O'Sullivan*, for *Mr. Chapman*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Will he kindly let this House know the average returns of wheat per acre produced from the Experimental Farm at Bomen or Wagga Wagga, and price obtained for same?
 (2.) Is it a fact that quarters have been erected to accommodate students, and these quarters have not been filled during the last term?
 (3.) Is it a fact that as low as 7 bushels, or thereabouts, have been produced per acre during the past two years?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1.) Previously to the past two years the average was 16 bushels per acre, but owing to the severe drought this was considerably reduced during the past two seasons. The average price obtained for the seed-wheat was 7s. 3d. per bushel.
 (2.) Fourteen students were in residence during the term, but it is not proposed to increase this number to any extent until alterations now under consideration have been carried out.
 (3.) During the past two years the yield from late-sown crops did not exceed an average of 7 bushels per acre, but, as before stated, this was owing to the unprecedented drought from which the district suffered. Some of the crops, however, averaged 14 bushels per acre.

(10.) Protection of Native Animals:—*Mr. Fegan*, for *Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Will he, this Session, have a Bill (similar to that in operation in South Australia), providing for the protection of native animals (kangaroo, wallaby, bear, platypus, and opossum), presented to the House for consideration and passage?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—No.

(11.) Government Aid in connection with the recent Disastrous Gales:—*Mr. Black* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has the Government taken into consideration the request made to him by a deputation some weeks ago that he, following the precedent furnished by the Secretary for Mines, would grant a sum of money for distribution among those deprived of their bread-winners by the recent disastrous gales?

Mr. Reid answered,—All cases of distress in connection with the recent shipwrecks have, as far as they could be discovered, been relieved.

(12.) Storage of Coal on the Sydney Wharfs:—*Mr. Black* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) Do the southern coal-owners intend to shut down their mines in the event of the weighing conditions being insisted on?
 (2.) With this in view, are they storing large quantities of coal on the Sydney wharfs?
 (3.) These being so, will he withdraw the Port Kembla Harbour Bill from further consideration during this Session?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

- (1 and 2.) I am not aware.
 (3.) This is a matter outside of my administration.

(13.) Report of Royal Commission to inquire into the Dangers of carrying Coal Cargoes:—*Mr. Archibald Campbell* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Have the Government taken any action, or do they intend to do so, concerning the report and recommendations of the Royal Commission which was appointed to inquire into the cause of the dangers to which vessels carrying coal are stated to be peculiarly liable, and as to the best means that can be adopted for removing or lessening the same?

Mr. Reid answered,—A report has been called for on the subject.

(14.) Fishing off Bare Island:—*Mr. Dacey* asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) Is it a fact that no one but members of the Amateur Fishermen's Association are allowed to fish off Bare Island?
 (2.) Is it a fact that the Government have granted certain privileges to the association named?
 (3.) Will he state the nature of the privileges (if any)?

Mr. Brunker answered,—I am informed by the Military authorities that permission has been granted to a limited number of the association to fish from the Military Bridge at La Perouse. The permission does not extend to Bare Island.

(15.) Wages of Government Employees on Railway Deviations:—*Mr. Wheeler* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Will he approve of the wages of men employed under the Government on railway deviations, &c., being increased from 6s. to 7s. per day, and give instructions accordingly?

Mr. Reid answered,—The works in question are carried out by the Railway Commissioners, who also fix the rates of pay. I will be glad to refer the matter to them.

(16.) Diseases in Sheep Acts:—*Dr. Ross* asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) How long has the Diseases in Sheep Act been in existence?
 (2.) Have any cases of scab in sheep existed in the Colony during the last ten or fifteen years?
 (3.) Seeing that the disease has been exterminated, is it the intention of the Government to take any steps to have the Act repealed?

30th June, 1898.

(4.) Is he aware that the tax falls heavily on sheep-owners throughout the Colony, especially those who have to pay Land and Income Tax?

(5.) The amount of money that is to the credit of the Trust Fund under the Diseases in Sheep Act?

Mr. Sydney Smith answered,—

(1.) Since 6th December, 1866.

(2.) Yes; in 1883, among some imported sheep.

(3.) No; the Inspectors under the Diseases in Sheep Act have a number of other duties to discharge. They have to supervise the travelling stock traffic, and protect the travelling stock reserves from trespass. They also see to the enforcement of the provisions of the Act relating to the registration of Sheep Brands and Marks, with a view to the prevention of sheep-stealing. They also advise sheep-owners as to the prevention and treatment of other diseases in sheep, besides scab, and the owners of large stock with respect to the diseases in that class of stock. As Deputy-Registrars of (large stock) Brands they see to the enforcement of registration of the Brands Act. In addition to other duties they are also Inspectors under the Pastures and Stock Protection Acts, Imported Stock Acts, and the Impounding Acts.

(4.) Taxes of all kinds fall more or less heavily upon those who have to pay them.

(5.) There is a debit balance on the account at present; but this will be almost immediately recouped, as the assessments are being paid in.

(17.) Mr. B. C. Simpson :—Mr. Black asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) What is the occupation and position of Mr. B. C. Simpson, who was in receipt of £8,245 18s. 4d. in return for evidence given by him in the McSharry case?

(2.) Was his evidence considered worth the sum it cost to obtain it?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) He is an engineer in private practice.

(2.) I cannot say.

(18.) Case of ex-Tram-guard King :—Mr. O'Sullivan asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the papers in the case of ex-Tram-guard King were lost, and afterwards found?

(2.) In those papers is there a document from a detective stating that there was no dishonesty alleged against King?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that conductor King was not dismissed for dishonesty, but for breaches of the tramway rules.

(19.) Duty on Sugar :—Mr. Pyers asked the Colonial Treasurer,—What he proposes to do *re* keeping the £3 per ton duty on sugar?

Mr. Reid answered,—I would advise the Honorable Member to watch and wait.

(20.) Police Pensions :—Mr. Pyers, for Mr. Perry, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Have the Police pensions usually paid in the month of June been paid; if not, is it the intention of the Government to pay them during the next financial year?

Mr. Reid answered,—Police pensions for quarter ending 30th June, 1898, have not yet been paid. They have always been paid in the month following (July). Police pensions for June quarter will, therefore, be paid during the next financial year. I may add that the Police pensions are not chargeable by law to the Consolidated Revenue Fund.

4. PAPERS :—

Mr. Garrard laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notifications of resumptions, under the Public Works Act of 1888, of land, for Public School Purposes, at Collengullie South, Crow Mountain, Killabakh, Milbrulong, Tooyal, and Tunstal.

(2.) Report of the Trustees of the National Art Gallery for the year 1897.

(3.) Report of the Trustees of the Public Library for the year 1897.

(4.) Amended By-laws of the University of Sydney.

(5.) Report of the University of Sydney for the year 1897.

(6.) Report of the Sydney Grammar School for the year 1897.

(7.) Report of the Nautical School-ship "Sobraon" for the year ended 30th April, 1898.

(8.) Report on the working of the Factories and Shops Act during the year 1897.

(9.) Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1897, with Appendices.

(10.) Regulations under the Public Instruction Act of 1880.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Proceedings of the Australasian Federal Convention, Second Session, held at Sydney, September, 1897.

(2.) Official Record of the Debates of the Australasian Federal Convention, Second Session, held at Sydney, September, 1897.

(3.) Proceedings of the Australasian Federal Convention, Third Session, held at Melbourne, January to March, 1898.

(4.) Official Record of the Debates of the Australasian Federal Convention, Third Session, held at Melbourne, January to March, 1898.

(5.) Return to an Order, made on 5th August, 1897,—“Claims for Gratuities under the Public Service Act.”

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

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

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

30th June, 1898.

6. LITHGOW CO-OPERATIVE COAL COMPANY RAILWAY BILL (*Formal Order of the Day*),—on motion of Mr. Hogue, read a third time, and *passed*.

Mr. Hogue then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to authorise the construction of a Railway from land in the parish of Marangaroo, to communicate and connect with the Great Western Railway.*"

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 construction of a Railway from land in the parish of Marangaroo, to communicate and connect with the Great Western Railway,*"—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, 30th June, 1898.*

7. SUSPENSION OF THE STANDING ORDERS:—Mr. Reid moved, pursuant to Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of a Bill, intituled "A Bill "to extend the time for polling at Parliamentary Elections," through all its stages in one day.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

8. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (POLLING) BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—on motion of Mr. Reid, Mr. Speaker left the Chair, and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to extend the time for polling at Parliamentary Elections.

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 extend the time for polling at Parliamentary Elections.

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

(2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*An Act to extend the time for polling at Parliamentary Elections,*"—which was read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(3.) Bill read a second time.

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. Reid then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to extend the time for polling at Parliamentary Elections.*"

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 time for polling at Parliamentary Elections,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 30th June, 1898.*

9. 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 1898-9; Services of the current year; and for Services to be hereafter provided for by Loan,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 30th June, 1898.*

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Deputy President.

10. FREE-TRADE AND PROTECTION REFERENDUM BILL:—

(1.) The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Reid moved, That Mr. Speaker do now leave the Chair, and the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole to consider the expediency of bringing in a Bill to authorise a referendum to the people, and the taking of a vote on the question whether the existing fiscal policy should continue, or a protective tariff be carried into law; and for purposes consequent on and incidental to the above objects.

Question put.

The

30th June, 1898.

The House divided.

Ayes, 51.

Mr. Garrard,
Mr. Sleath,
Mr. Cook,
Mr. Brunner,
Mr. Haynes,
Mr. Young,
Mr. Jessep,
Mr. Reid,
Mr. Thomas,
Mr. Griffith,
Mr. McGowen,
Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Law,
Mr. Black,
Mr. Watkins,
Mr. E. M. Clark,
Mr. Affleck,

Mr. Morgan,
Mr. Mahony,
Mr. Archibald Campbell,
Mr. Simeon Phillips,
Mr. Dacey,
Mr. Hughes,
Mr. Ferguson,
Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Bavister,
Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Macdonald,
Mr. Cann,
Mr. Pyers,
Mr. T. R. Smith,
Mr. Wheeler,
Mr. McLean,
Mr. Edden,
Mr. Newman,

Mr. Nicholson,
Mr. Dugald Thomson,
Mr. Lonsdale,
Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick,
Mr. Thomas Brown,
Mr. Watson,
Mr. Millard,
Mr. Cotton,
Mr. Dick,
Mr. McLaughlin,
Mr. Miller,
Mr. Carroll,
Mr. Chapman.

Tellers,

Mr. Hawthorne,
Mr. Fegan.

Noes, 8.

Mr. Kelly,
Mr. Henry Clarke,
Mr. Willis,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,
Mr. Chanter,
Mr. Travers Jones.

Tellers,

Mr. Crick,
Mr. Wood.

And so it was resolved in the affirmative.

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

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

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

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

Resolved,—That it is expedient to bring in a Bill to authorise a referendum to the people, and the taking of a vote on the question whether the existing fiscal policy should continue, or a protective tariff be carried into law; and for purposes consequent on and incidental to the above objects.

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

- (2.) Mr. Reid then presented a Bill, intituled "*A Bill to authorise a referendum to the people, and the taking of a vote on the question whether the existing fiscal policy should continue, or a protective tariff be carried into law; and for purposes consequent on and incidental to the above objects*,"—which was read a first time.

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

The House adjourned, at twenty minutes before Twelve o'clock, until Tuesday next at Four o'clock

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

J. P. ABBOTT,
Speaker.

New South Wales.

No. 7.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

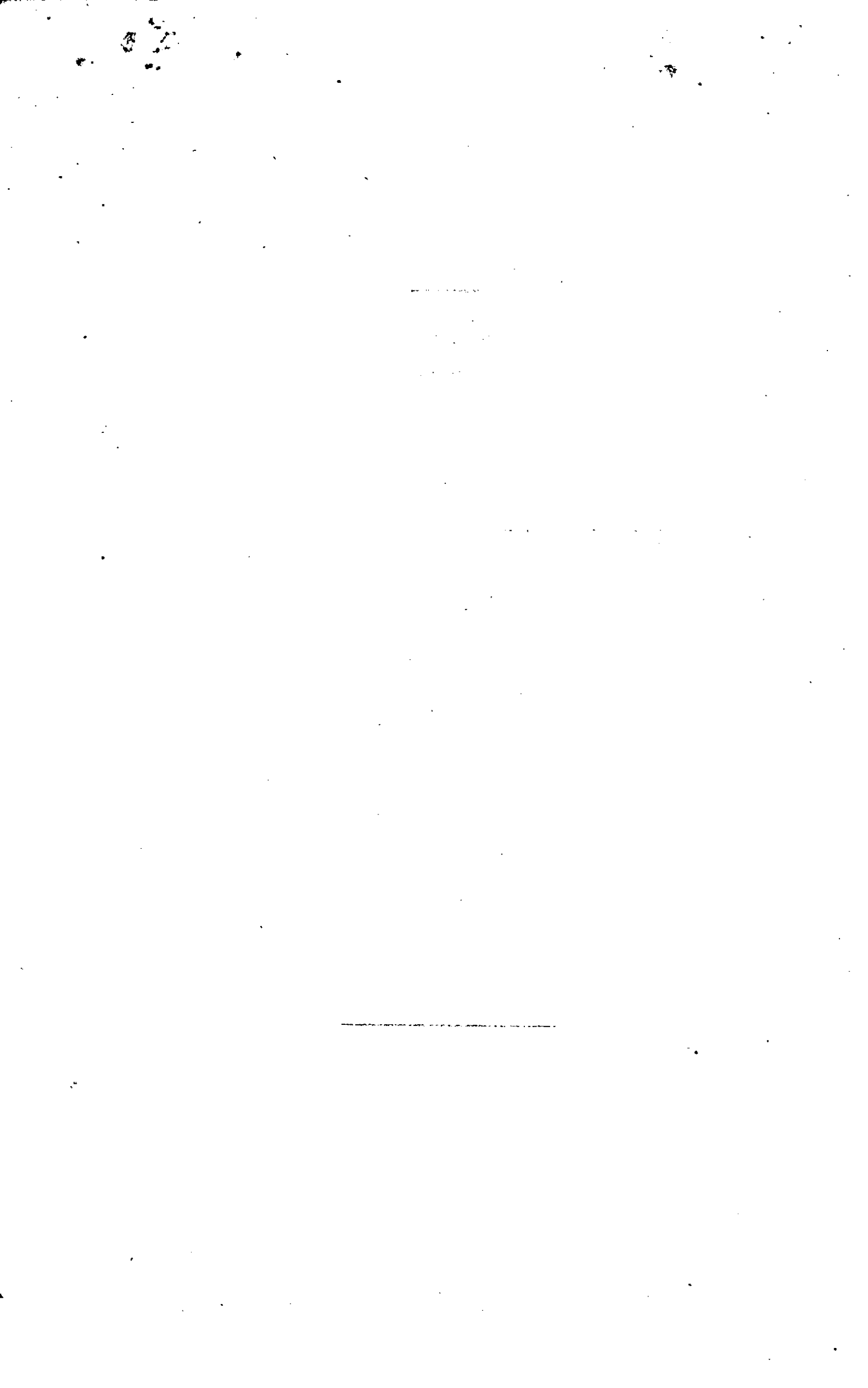
TUESDAY, 5 JULY, 1898.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

ABSENCE OF SPEAKER AND CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES:—The Clerk informed the House that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent; and read a letter from him stating that he had been in bed since Thursday night with an attack of influenza and bronchitis, and requesting the kind indulgence and consideration of the House.

The Chairman of Committees being also absent, the Clerk, pursuant to the 23rd Standing Order, declared the House adjourned at twenty-seven minutes before Five o'clock until To-morrow at Four o'clock.

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



New South Wales.

No. 8.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, 6 JULY, 1898.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.
The Clerk informed the House that he had ascertained to-day that Mr. Speaker was unavoidably absent in consequence of continued illness.
Whereupon the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, pursuant to the 22nd Standing Order of the House. He then apologised for his absence yesterday, and explained the cause of it.
2. CONSOLIDATED REVENUE FUND BILL:—The following Message from His Excellency the Governor was delivered by Mr. Reid, and read by Mr. Deputy-Speaker:—
HAMPDEN, Message No. 19.
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 1898-9; Services of the current year; 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, 1st July, 1898.
3. PAPER:—Mr. Deputy-Speaker laid upon the Table,—Copies of Minutes of His Excellency the Governor and Executive Council,—
(1.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Department of Lands—Contingencies," to supplement the Vote "To pay compensation under Public Roads Act of 1897."
(2.) Authorising the transfer of an amount from the Vote "Land Agents, Appraisers, and others—Contingencies," to supplement the Votes in connection with "Survey of Lands—Contingencies and Legal Expenses."
Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.
4. QUESTIONS:—
(1.) New South Wales Rifle Association:—Mr. J. C. L. Fitzpatrick asked the Colonial Secretary,—
In view of the report of the Committee appointed for the purpose of investigating *re* the management, usefulness, &c., of New South Wales Rifle Association, does he propose to continue the grant usually made that institution, or does he intend to withhold same until it is remodelled?
Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—I would strongly advise the grant to the New South Wales Rifle Association being divided, one-half to the Association, the other half being given for military rifle shooting under service conditions.
(2.) Case of Inspector of Stock *v.* Caleb Cundy:—Mr. Chapman asked the Secretary for Mines,—
(1.) Has his attention been officially directed to the decision of the Carcoar Bench of Magistrates, on the 7th June, in the case of the Inspector of stock *versus* Caleb Cundy?
(2.) Will the Government take immediate steps this Session to amend the Diseases in Sheep Acts if the aforesaid decision is declared by the Supreme Court to be good in point of law?
Mr. Brunker answered,—
(1.) Ycs.
(2.) Steps are being taken to bring the matter before the Supreme Court, but there will be no opportunity of considering an amendment of the Act during this Session.

6th July, 1898.

(3.) Distribution of Allora Spring Wheat to Farmers:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—Is it the intention of the Government to have samples of the Allora Spring wheat (alleged to be rust-proof), and grown by the Government on their experimental or model farms, distributed or delivered to farmers in the interior; if so, where are samples of the wheat to be obtained, and at what price?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—The whole of the Allora Spring wheat fit for seed which was grown on the experimental farms has already been sold to farmers for seed, or has been used on the farms.

(4.) Cost of Wheat-growing in New South Wales:—Dr. Ross asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) What is the estimated cost per acre of growing wheat?
- (2.) The average yield of wheat per acre?
- (3.) The average price per bushel for the same?
- (4.) The average price per acre for labour, seed-wheat, &c.?
- (5.) The average cost expended in manures per acre?
- (6.) Average rent of land per acre?
- (7.) Average market price per bushel for produce?
- (8.) What is the average estimated cost of growing wheat per acre in New South Wales compared with England and the United States?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I will endeavour to obtain the information, and lay it upon the Table of the House in the shape of a return.

(5.) Rifle-shooting under Service Conditions:—*Mr. Nicholson*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—

- (1.) In view of the importance of rifle shooting under service conditions, is it the intention of the Government to increase the subsidy to that branch of rifle competition?
- (2.) Will he be good enough to lay upon the Table of this House, before the close of the Session, copies of all correspondence, questions, reports, and all other documents bearing on this question?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—I will lay the report upon the Table at a later hour.

(6.) The Unemployed:—*Mr. Affleck* asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—What was the number of unemployed registered on the books of the Labour Bureau on the 28th June in each year since its establishment to the present day?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—In 1892, 11,599; 1893, 11,203; 1894, 12,992; 1895, 14,617; 1896, 11,179; 1897, 6,442; 1898, 4,212

(7.) Supply of Electricity by the Railway Commissioners:—*Mr. Chapman*, for *Mr. Rose*, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Does he approve of the Railway Commissioners supplying electric current to a private firm?

Mr. Reid answered,—It has already been pointed out that the electrical energy which the Railway Commissioners propose to supply to outside firms is practically a waste product in connection with the tramways, and it is, therefore, to the public advantage that it should be turned to profitable account. I have no hesitation, therefore, in approving of what has been done.

(8.) Dairy Cattle Purchased in England for Government Farms:—*Mr. Chapman*, for *Mr. Wright*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—

- (1.) The number of dairy cattle purchased in England for the Government Farms?
- (2.) The number of each breed purchased, and the price paid per head of either sex?
- (3.) Who acted for the Government in selecting the stock, and by whom was he recommended?
- (4.) What was the cost of the cattle purchased in New Zealand, and by whom were they selected?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This information will be laid upon the Table of the House in the shape of a return so soon as portion of the particulars asked for by the Honorable Member are received from the Agent General.

(9.) Railway Employees on Duty on Public Holidays:—*Mr. Molesworth* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) What is the recognised practice of the Railway Department with regard to those employees who are obliged to be on duty upon public holidays?
- (2.) Has there recently been any alteration in the arrangements for payment of overtime to railway employees; and, if so, what is the nature of such alteration?
- (3.) Are there still some branches of the railway service where the employees do not enjoy the privilege of a holiday in lieu of the annual picnic day when obliged to be on duty; if so, will he kindly see that the privilege is extended to such?

Mr. Reid answered,—

- (1.) I am informed that railway employees are allowed a day's pay for each proclaimed general public holiday, and if employed on a general holiday are allowed a day in lieu.
- (2.) No alteration has been made recently in regard to the arrangements referred to.
- (3.) No. If there are any employees who, through some misunderstanding, are not allowed the privilege, they should represent the matter to the Railway Commissioners.

(10.) Curves and Grades on the Railway Lines:—*Mr. Molesworth* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

- (1.) When will the work of improving grades and curves on the railway lines, for which a large sum was voted on the Loan Estimates of 1897, be proceeded with?
- (2.) Will he expedite matters in this direction, with the view of providing work for those who are out of employment?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am informed that the larger portion of the vote referred to has been expended by the Railway Commissioners in the improvement of grades and curves.

6th July, 1898.

(11.) Administration of the Coal Mines Regulation Act:—*Mr. Edden*, for *Mr. Watkins*, asked the Secretary for Mines,—Seeing that in certain cases men are being persecuted, owing to the manner in which the special rules under the Coal Mines Regulation Act are being interpreted by certain mine managers, is it his intention to have the rules referred to amended?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—This matter will receive attention.

(12.) The Stockton Inquiry:—*Mr. Fegan* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Will he lay upon the Table of this House the evidence taken before the Coroner's inquest in the Stockton Inquiry?

Mr. Bruncker answered,—There is no objection, and a copy will be prepared as soon as possible.

(13.) Flood Prevention Works on the Hunter River:—*Mr. Chapman*, for *Mr. Price*, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—

(1.) Is it a fact that embankments are being constructed on the Hunter River in the vicinity of East Maitland?

(2.) Is he aware that the construction of any partial scheme in the vicinity of Maitland will prove inimical to the interest of the residents of Morpeth, Miller's Forest, Raymond Terrace, Hexham, and the lower parts of the river?

(3.) In view of his Answer to Question 6 of the 30th June last, will he take steps to prevent the carrying out of any sectional works on the higher reaches of the river?

(4.) Is he aware that, in consequence of the cuttings and other works constructed at West Maitland, the flood-level has been raised at Morpeth, Raymond Terrace, Miller's Forest, Nelson's Plains, and the lower portions of the river; if so, will he take steps to stop the carrying out of works of a similar nature until a comprehensive scheme is devised?

(5.) Have the various reports by the Departmental officers and outside engineers condemned the construction of sectional and partial works, and also urged that improvements to be effective must be commenced at the outlet of the rivers?

(6.) If so, will he see that the recommendation of his officers is given effect to?

Mr. Young answered,—

(1.) A small embankment has been erected near the outlet of the new cut made some years ago, the effect of which will be purely local.

(2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.) In reply to these Questions, I can only refer the Honorable Member to the reply given him on the 30th June last.

(14.) Voting of Railway Employees on Polling Day:—*Mr. Molesworth*, for *Mr. Wheeler*, asked the Colonial Treasurer—Will he see that the men employed on the railway deviation between Wyong and Morrisett are given time to record their votes on polling-day?

Mr. Reid answered,—These men are under the control of the Railway Commissioners, and I am informed it is always the custom to make the best possible arrangements to enable the railway workmen to record their votes.

5. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS:—*Mr. Ewing*, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plans, relating to the proposed Harbour Works at Macleay River.

(2.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Railway from Maitland to Taree.

(3.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendices, and Plan, relating to the proposed Harbour Works at Manning River.

(4.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Harbour Works at Bellinger River.

(5.) Report, together with Minutes of Evidence, Appendix, and Plan, relating to the proposed Harbour Works at Hastings River.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6. PAPERS:—

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Additional Order and Regulation under the Act 14 Victoria No. 36, for the control of the Public Abattoir and its Appurtenances, Glebe Island.

(2.) Return respecting the Customs and Excise Revenue received during 1892 and 1893.

(3.) Return respecting Land and Income Tax Revenue during 1896 and 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

(1.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Mungary West Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.

(2.) Notification of withdrawal, under the Crown Lands Act of 1895, of certain lands from the Pastoral Lease of the Mimosa Leasehold Area, for Settlement by other Holdings.

(3.) Abstract of Sites for Cities, Towns, and Villages, declared under the 4th and 101st sections of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(4.) Abstract of Alterations of Designs of Cities, Towns, and Villages, under the 107th section of the Act 48 Victoria No. 18.

(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.) Amended Regulations under the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act of 1893.

(7.) Report on Rifle-shooting under Active Service conditions.

(8.) Report on the Coast Hospital, Little Bay, for the year 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Young laid upon the Table,—Report of the Department of Public Works for the year ended 30th June, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

6th July, 1898.

7. BOROUGH COUNCIL OF ROOKWOOD:—Mr. Schey presented the following Petitions:—

- (1.) From ratepayers of the Borough of Rookwood, calling attention to alleged evasions of the Municipalities Act of 1897 by that Borough Council; praying that provision be made to enable ratepayers to enforce the proper laying out of their money, in accordance with the Act and by-laws, in some inexpensive way, without having to incur the enormous expense of appealing to the Supreme Court; and praying for such remedy as may be considered just and proper to meet the merits of the case.
- (2.) From John Groves, ex-auditor, Borough of Rookwood, stating that he was duly elected auditor of the Borough on 17th July, 1897, and subscribed the declaration of office under the Municipalities Act to fulfil the duties in accordance with the provisions and directions of the Act; that obstacles were placed in the way of his auditing; that subsequently the Council ignored him, obtained the services of a Government inspector, and took action against him in the Police Court, Parramatta, the case being decided, by majority, against him; and complaining of this decision as a miscarriage of justice, and praying for inquiry and simple justice.

Petitions received.

8. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS (POLLING) BILL:—Mr. 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 extend the time for Polling at Parliamentary Elections,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Assembly without amendment.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

9. ADJOURNMENT:—Mr. Deputy-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 necessity of pushing on the question of old age pensions, with a view to relieving the state of the present costly system of relief to the aged and poor."

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.

Question put and negatived.

10. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Reid (*by consent*) moved, without Notice, That in view of the early closing of the Session, and the necessity for dealing with the papers laid upon the Table, leave be given to the Printing Committee to sit during the sitting of the House.

Question put and passed.

11. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS:—

(1.) Mr. Reid moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity that the following Bills should be passed through all their stages this day:—

- (1.) Trustee Bill.
- (2.) Audit Bill.
- (3.) Impounding Bill.
- (4.) Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill.
- (5.) Coroners' Bill.
- (6.) Banks and Bank Holidays Bill.
- (7.) Bills of Sale Bill.
- (8.) Evidence Bill.
- (9.) Evidence (Penalties) Bill.
- (10.) Wills, Probate, and Administration Bill.
- (11.) Pastures and Stock Protection Bill.
- (12.) Commons Regulation Bill.
- (13.) Public Hospitals Bill.
- (14.) Conveyancing and Law of Property Bill.
- (15.) Liquor Bill.
- (16.) Weights and Measures Bill.
- (17.) Cattle Driving Bill.
- (18.) Naturalization and Denization Bill.
- (19.) Legal Practitioners Bill.
- (20.) Newspapers Bill.
- (21.) Auctioneers' Licensing Bill.
- (22.) Bankruptcy Bill.
- (23.) Medical Practitioners Bill.
- (24.) Stamp Duties Bill.
- (25.) Statute Law Revision Bill.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Reid moved, without Notice, That so much of the Standing Orders be suspended as would preclude the passing of the following Bills through all their stages this day:—

- (1.) Trustee Bill.
- (2.) Audit Bill.
- (3.) Impounding Bill.
- (4.) Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill.
- (5.) Coroners' Bill.
- (6.) Banks and Bank Holidays Bill.

(7.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

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- (7.) Bills of Sale Bill.
- (8.) Evidence Bill.
- (9.) Evidence (Penalties) Bill.
- (10.) Wills, Probate, and Administration Bill.
- (11.) Pastures and Stock Protection Bill.
- (12.) Commons Regulation Bill.
- (13.) Public Hospitals Bill.
- (14.) Conveyancing and Law of Property Bill.
- (15.) Liquor Bill.
- (16.) Weights and Measures Bill.
- (17.) Cattle Driving Bill.
- (18.) Naturalization and Denization Bill.
- (19.) Legal Practitioners Bill.
- (20.) Newspapers Bill.
- (21.) Auctioneers' Licensing Bill.
- (22.) Bankruptcy Bill.
- (23.) Medical Practitioners Bill.
- (24.) Stamp Duties Bill.
- (25.) Statute Law Revision Bill.

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

12. MESSAGES FROM THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL:—Mr. Deputy-Speaker reported the following Messages from the Legislative Council:—

(1.) Trustee Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act for consolidating enactments relating to Trusts and Trustees*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Reid, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act for consolidating enactments relating to Trusts and Trustees*."

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 for consolidating enactments relating to Trusts and Trustees*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(2.) Audit Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Audit*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Audit*."

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

6th July, 1898.

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 laws relating to Audit*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(3.) Impounding Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to the Impounding of Live Stock*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to the Impounding of Live Stock*."

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 laws relating to the Impounding of Live Stock*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(4.) Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages*."

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 Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(5.) Coroners' Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Coroners' Inquests, and to Magisterial Inquiries into the cause of death*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th July, 1898.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Coroners' Inquests, and to Magisterial Inquiries into the cause of death.*"

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 Coroners Inquests, and to Magisterial Inquiries into the cause of death,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(6.) Banks and Bank Holidays Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Banks and Bank Holidays,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Banks and Bank Holidays.*"

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 laws relating to Banks and Bank Holidays,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(7.) Bills of Sale Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Bills of Sale,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Bills of Sale.*"

Question put and passed.

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having this day agreed to the Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Bills of Sale,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(8.)

6th July, 1898.

(8.) Evidence Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to consolidate the Statute Law relating to Evidence*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Statute Law relating to Evidence*."

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 Statute Law relating to Evidence*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(9.) Evidence (Penalties) Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to make temporary provision with respect to certain unrepealed enactments relating to Evidence*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to make temporary provision with respect to certain unrepealed enactments relating to Evidence*."

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 make temporary provision with respect to certain unrepealed enactments relating to Evidence*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(10.) Wills Probate and Administration Bill :—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Wills Probate and Administration*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

(3.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th July, 1898.

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate enactments relating to Wills Probate and Administration.*"

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 Wills Probate and Administration,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(11.) Pastures and Stock Protection Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for the protection of Pastures and Live Stock from the depredations of noxious animals,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for the protection of Pastures and Live Stock from the depredations of noxious animals.*"

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 for the protection of Pastures and Live Stock from the depredations of noxious animals,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(12.) Commons Regulation Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Commons Regulation,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Commons Regulation.*"

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 Commons Regulation,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(13.) Public Hospitals Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled, "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Public Hospitals,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.)

6th July, 1898.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to Public Hospitals.*"

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 Hospitals,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(14.) Conveyancing and Law of Property Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to Conveyances Assignments and Titles to Lands,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Statutes relating to Conveyances Assignments and Titles to Lands.*"

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 Conveyances Assignments and Titles to Lands,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(15.) Liquor Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Laws relating to Publicans and other persons engaged in the Sale of Liquor,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Publicans and other persons engaged in the Sale of Liquor.*"

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 laws relating to Publicans and other persons engaged in the Sale of Liquor,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(16.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th July, 1898.

(16.) Weights and Measures Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Weights and Measures*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Weights and Measures*."

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 laws relating to Weights and Measures*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.

(17.) Cattle Driving Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for preventing cattle being driven through populous towns and places except within certain hours*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts for preventing cattle being driven through populous towns and places except within certain hours*."

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 for preventing cattle being driven through populous towns and places except within certain hours*,"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.

(18.) Naturalization and Denization Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to the Naturalization and Denization of Aliens*,"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

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

The Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Gould, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be now read a third time.

(3.)

6th July, 1898.

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to the Naturalization and Denization of Aliens.*"

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 laws relating to the Naturalization and Denization of Aliens,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(19.) Legal Practitioners Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Legal Practitioners,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to Legal Practitioners.*"

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 Legal Practitioners,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(20.) Newspapers Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to the printing and publishing of newspapers and papers of a like nature,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

(3.) Bill read a third time, and, on motion of Mr. Gould, *passed*.Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to the printing and publishing of newspapers and papers of a like nature.*"

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 laws relating to the printing and publishing of newspapers and papers of a like nature,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(21.) Auctioneers' Licensing Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Licensing of Auctioneers,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.)

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th July, 1898.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the Acts relating to the Licensing of Auctioneers.*"

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 Licensing of Auctioneers,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(22.) Bankruptcy Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the law relating to Bankruptcy,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the law relating to Bankruptcy.*"

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 law relating to Bankruptcy,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(23.) Medical Practitioners' Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the qualifications of medical witnesses at Coroners' Inquests and at Inquiries by Justices of the Peace touching the death of any person and the enactments providing for the registration of legally qualified medical practitioners,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.
Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the enactments relating to the qualifications of medical witnesses at Coroners' Inquests and at inquiries by Justices of the Peace touching the death of any person and the enactments providing for the registration of legally qualified medical practitioners.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered

6th July, 1898.

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 qualifications of medical witnesses at Coroners' Inquests and at inquiries by Justices of the Peace touching the death of any person and the enactments providing for the registration of legally qualified medical practitioners,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(24.) Stamp Duties Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Stamp Duties,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to consolidate the laws relating to Stamp Duties.*"

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 laws relating to Stamp Duties,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

(25.) Statute Law Revision Bill:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having this day passed a Bill, intituled "*An Act to promote the revision of the Statute Law by repealing enactments which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Assembly for its concurrence.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 5th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

(1.) Bill, on motion of Mr. Gould, read a first time.

Ordered to be printed, and now read a second time.

(2.) Bill read a second time.

On motion of Mr. Gould, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill without amendment.

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

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

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

Mr. Gould then moved, That the Title of the Bill be "*An Act to promote the revision of the Statute Law by repealing enactments which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary.*"

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 promote the revision of the Statute Law by repealing enactments which have ceased to be in force or have become unnecessary,*"—returns the same to the Legislative Council without amendment.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 6th July, 1898.*

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

14. POSTPONEMENTS:—The following Orders of the Day postponed until Tuesday next.

(1.) Free-trade and Protection Referendum Bill; second reading.

(2.) Supply; resumption of the Committee.

(3.) Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee.

15.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

6th July, 1898.

15. **BROKEN HILL TRADES HALL SITE BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Cann moved, That this Bill be now read a second time.
Question put and passed.
Bill read a second time.
On motion of Mr. Cann, 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. A. B. Piddington, Temporary Chairman, reported the Bill with an amendment.
On motion of Mr. Cann, the report was adopted.
Ordered, that the Bill be read a third time at a later hour of the day.

16. **SUNDAY TRADING BILL:**—The Order of the Day having been read,—Mr. Copeland 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 legalise, regulate, and restrict Sunday trading; to make other provisions with respect to Good Friday and Christmas Day; and to amend the law with respect to clubs.
Question put.

The House divided.

Ayes, 16.

Mr. A. B. Piddington,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Watson,	
Mr. Copeland,	Mr. Willis,
Mr. Goodwin,	Mr. Cruickshank.
Mr. Chapman,	
Mr. Wright,	
Mr. Reid,	
Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick,	
Mr. Barnes,	
Mr. Haynes,	
Mr. Pyers,	
Mr. Kelly,	
Mr. Mackay,	
Mr. Nicholson.	

Noes, 26.

Mr. Brunner,	Mr. Harvey,
Mr. Macdonald,	Mr. Law,
Mr. Dick,	Mr. Wilks,
Mr. Fegan,	Mr. Rigg,
Mr. Gillies,	Mr. Howarth,
Mr. Hogue,	Mr. Harris,
Mr. Miller,	Mr. Millard,
Mr. Alexander Campbell,	Mr. O'Reilly,
Mr. Whiddon,	Mr. Morgan,
Mr. McGowen,	Mr. Newman.
Mr. McLean,	<i>Tellers,</i>
Mr. Jessep,	
Mr. Molesworth,	Mr. Lee,
Mr. Young,	Mr. Afleck.

And so it passed in the negative.

17. **ADJOURNMENT:**—Mr. Reid moved, That this House do now adjourn.
Debate ensued.
Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Deputy-Speaker.



New South Wales.

No. 9.

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SEVENTEENTH PARLIAMENT.

THURSDAY, 7 JULY, 1898.

1. The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Clerk informed the House of the continued illness of Mr. Speaker, and of his consequent unavoidable absence this day.

Whereupon the Chairman of Committees took the Chair as Deputy-Speaker, pursuant to the 22nd Standing Order of the House.

2. QUESTIONS:—

(1.) Alteration of Time-table of Tramways in certain Districts:—Mr. Whiddon asked the Colonial Treasurer,—

(1.) Is he aware that, as a result of the change in the time-table of the tramways in certain districts, viz., Crown-street, Marrickville, and Balmain, serious inconvenience and delays have occurred?

(2.) Will he confer with the tramway authorities, with the view of having this matter arranged so as to avoid any further inconvenience to the public?

Mr. Reid answered,—I am not aware. These detail arrangements are controlled by the Railway Commissioners, and it is suggested that those interested in the matter should communicate with the Railway Commissioners.

(2.) Danger to Shipping at port entrance, Newcastle:—Mr. Dick asked the Colonial Treasurer,—In view of the manifest danger to shipping offered by the submerged Colonist-Cawarra wreck, at the port entrance, Newcastle, will he call for a report as to the advisableness of marking the danger-spot by a gas-buoy?

Mr. Reid answered,—Yes.

(3.) Capitation Grant to Officers of 4th Regiment Infantry:—Mr. Dick asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Is it a fact that the officers of the 4th Regiment Infantry (partially-paid forces) have not for some years received their capitation grant?

(2.) Are they to receive it; if so, when?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The following information has been supplied by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces:—Capitation is not granted to individuals, but is for the general purpose of clothing the Regiment, and is paid into a Trust Fund under the jurisdiction of the Military Central Clothing Board.

(4.) Voting by Members of the Police Force on Polling-day:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—

(1.) Were some members of the Police Force prevented from exercising the franchise, on referendum day, by their removal to districts outside their electorate?

(2.) Will he take steps on general election day to retain members of the Police Force in their different electorates, that they may be enabled to record their votes?

Mr. Brunker answered,—The Inspector-General of Police informs me that he is not aware that any members of the Police Force were thus debarred from voting, and unless any exceptional emergency arise no such transfers will take place.

(5.) Mr. Bear, Superintendent of Fire Brigades:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—Referring to the Answer given to Mr. E. M. Clark, M.P., to Question 16, of the 29th June last, and the insufficiency of time to move for and obtain a return with reference to the suspension of Superintendent Bear of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades,—

(1.) How often has Mr. Bear been suspended during his occupation of office as Superintendent of Fire Brigades Board, and for what offences? (2.)

7th July, 1898.

- (2.) Did he promise a deputation in 1895 that if Superintendent Bear further misconducted himself he would be dismissed?
- (3.) Was Superintendent Bear again suspended in 1897; and why was he reinstated?
- (4.) Is Superintendent Bear now under suspension; and how is it proposed to deal with him?
- (5.) What salary and allowances are paid for the office of Superintendent of Fire Brigades; and will he take steps to appoint an officer who will efficiently carry out the duties of so important an office?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I have nothing to add to the information I gave the Honorable Member in answer to his Question on the 29th June.
- (6.) Mail Service between Canowindra and Toogong:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—The revenue from the Post Office Department being, it is alleged, largely on the increase, and in a flourishing condition, will he see that steps are taken to grant a bi-weekly mail service between Canowindra and Toogong, *via* Lockwood, as the present weekly mail service is not sufficient to supply the wants of settlers in that locality, and often puts them to much loss and inconvenience?
- Mr. Gould answered,—When the matter was last under consideration in July, 1897, it was shown that the amount of correspondence was insufficient to justify an additional mail, but further inquiries will be made.
- (7.) Trustees of the Molong School of Arts:—Dr. Ross asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—Has he yet decided what steps (if any) he intends to take to relieve the trustees of the Molong School of Arts of their present indebtedness, as brought under his notice some few weeks back by the president of that institution, conveyed to him through Dr. Ross?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—I am unable to comply with this request.
- (8.) Telephone between Rocky Ponds Post-office and Cumnock or Obley:—Dr. Ross asked the Postmaster-General,—Has he yet decided to take any steps to have Rocky Ponds Post-office (in Molong district) connected by telephone with Cumnock or Obley; if so, when is the work likely to be carried out?
- Mr. Gould answered,—No final decision has yet been arrived at, but a report to hand estimates the cost of this line at about £400, and it is not considered that the business likely to be done would justify this outlay.
- (9.) Tower Waggons for the Tramway Department:—Mr. Egan, for Mr. Dacey, asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) What was the successful tenderer's price for two tower waggons for the Tramway Department?
- (2.) What was the amount of the next tender?
- (3.) Are the specifications being strictly adhered to?
- (4.) Is it a fact that colonial wheels are being placed under the waggons instead of "Savan," as specified?
- (5.) Does the Department know that "Savan" wheels must be obtained from America at great cost, and that to allow such an alteration after the tenders were in must be unsatisfactory?
- Mr. Reid answered,—
- (1.) I am informed that James Bennett was the successful tenderer for the tower waggons, at £110.
- (2.) £135.
- (3, 4, and 5.) The recommendation made to the Railway Commissioners was that the waggons should be obtained from America, at a cost of £240, but, believing that equally serviceable waggons could be obtained locally, the Commissioners invited local offers, with the result shown. To avoid delay, the Commissioners approved of the wheels being of colonial manufacture, which, in the opinion of the Tramway Locomotive Engineer, would be equally satisfactory, instead of American, as at first specified. The difference in cost would be little or nothing.
- (10.) Mossman's Public School:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Have tenders been received lately for certain works—painting, &c.—at Mossman's Public School?
- (2.) How many tenders were received, and what were the amounts of same?
- (3.) Is it a fact that the successful tenderer is employing boys on the work, and at what rates?
- (4.) Will he take steps to insist upon a proper employment of labour at a fair rate of wages?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
- (2.) Twelve; £52 13s., £45 12s. 6d., £45 8s., £43 10s., £43 5s., £42 17s. 6d., £40, £39 4s., £37, £33, £32 17s. 6d., £24 17s. 6d.
- (3.) I am not aware.
- (4.) Answered by No. 3.
- (11.) Holidays to Members of the Police Force:—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Are the members of the Police Force at present allowed a holiday one day in the month?
- (2.) Will he take steps to extend to the Police Force the same privileges enjoyed by other public servants of a fortnight's holiday in the year, instead of the present arrangement?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—The following Answers have been supplied by the Inspector General of Police:—
- (1.) As a rule the police in the Metropolitan District and the large towns where the duty is severe are allowed a day's leave each month, and special leave is usually granted when applied for.
- (2.) No reasonable application for leave is refused, but no fixed rule can be laid down. Many constables stationed, for example, at quiet country villages do not desire such leave, nor do they require it.

7th July, 1898.

- (12.) East Minto Public School :—Mr. Schey asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) On whose recommendation was the site for the East Minto Public School chosen ?
 - (2.) What area of land was purchased for same, and at what price ?
 - (3.) Was the site recommended by any of the Departmental Inspectors ; if so, which ?
 - (4.) Was not a central site recommended by the District Inspector ?
 - (5.) Did he refuse to receive a deputation with reference to the removal of the present school to a central position ?
 - (6.) Would the establishment of one school on a central site have the effect of making it a sixth class school ?
 - (7.) Is the effect of having two schools to keep them both as either eighth or ninth class schools ?
 - (8.) Would not the inhabitants secure a much better education for their children in a sixth class school than is possible in either eighth or ninth class schools ?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) District Inspector Johnson.
 - (2.) Two acres ; £28.
 - (3.) Answered by No. 1.
 - (4.) Yes, some years ago.
 - (5.) I have received several deputations in connection with this matter.
 - (6.) I am unable to say.
 - (7.) Not necessarily.
 - (8.) Yes.
- (13.) Fort-street Public School :—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. Black, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that most of the children who attend Fort-street Public School are not resident in its immediate neighbourhood ?
 - (2.) Is it a fact that many children residing in the immediate neighbourhood of the school have been refused admission on the grounds that the school is already overcrowded ?
 - (3.) These things being so, will he either take steps to have the school premises enlarged, or will he recommend that the children of those residing in the locality have preference of admission over those living at a distance ?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—
- (1.) Yes.
 - (2.) No.
 - (3.) The latter course has already been adopted, and is the usual practice of the Department in all such cases.
- (14.) Land Appeal Cases heard at Nowra :—Mr. Morton asked the Colonial Treasurer,—
- (1.) How many land assessment appeal cases were set down for hearing at the Court of Review held in Nowra on 13th May and subsequent days ?
 - (2.) How many were heard by the Judge ?
 - (3.) How many withdrawn on being settled out of Court ?
 - (4.) What was the total amount of the taxes appealed against ?
 - (5.) What was the total amount reduced ?
 - (6.) What was the whole cost to the Commissioners in connection with these appeals, including the Judge's salary and expenses ?
 - (7.) How much pay per day did the Government District Valuator receive whilst attending the Court of Review ; and what salary does he receive ?
- Mr. Reid answered,—The information will be prepared and laid upon the Table in the form of a return, if moved for in the usual way.
- (15.) Purchase of Recreation Ground fronting Narrabeen Lakes :—Mr. E. M. Clark asked the Secretary for Lands,—
- (1.) Has an application been received from James Wheeler for the purchase of a public recreation ground or reservation fronting Narrabeen Lakes ?
 - (2.) Does this land lead to a public recreation ground and other lands ; and will the sale of same in any way interfere with the public rights of access ?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—
- (1.) Yes, dated 26th May, 1898. It has not yet been dealt with, having been delayed at instance of the applicant.
 - (2.) The land is the 100 feet reservation above high-water mark out of James Wheeler's 50-acre grant, on the south boundary of which grant the reserve terminates ; it joins a reserve for public recreation on the north. The rescission of reservation would prevent access to the water except along the foreshore.
- (16.) Railway Passes :—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. Watson, asked the Minister of Public Instruction,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that any Member of the House is indebted to his Department for railway passes issued ?
 - (2.) If so, to what amount ?
 - (3.) Has any demand been made for payment of same ; and, if so, with what result ?
- Mr. Garrard answered,—I must ask the Honorable Member to postpone this Question, as I am unable to answer it at so short a notice.
- (17.) Grant for the Luddenham Road :—Mr. Fegan, for Mr. T. R. Smith, asked the Secretary for Public Works,—Will he grant the £300 promised to the Luddenham Road to be expended by the Roads Engineer, as per Mr. Smith's letter of last week ?
- Mr. Bruncker answered,—I am not prepared to depart from the terms of the bond entered into with the Councils of Penrith, Mulgoa, and St. Marys in 1894 for the maintenance of this road.

7th July, 1898.

- (18.) Paragraph in *Bulletin* respecting Juries at Albury :—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Minister of Justice,—
- (1.) Has his attention been called to a paragraph appearing in the *Bulletin* of 2nd July in reference to the action of the Attorney-General's Department in regard to juries at Albury?
 - (2.) If so, is there any truth in the statements contained therein?
- Mr. Gould* answered,—
- (1.) No.
 - (2.) On inquiry I have been informed by my honorable colleague that there is not the slightest shadow of foundation for the statements in the paragraph.
- (19.) Railway Passes issued through *Mr. Willis*, M.P. :—*Mr. Cann*, for *Mr. Sleath*, asked the Colonial Secretary,—
- (1.) Is it a fact that *W. N. Willis*, M.L.A., has received railway passes from his Department for destitute persons either to or from Sydney?
 - (2.) If so, how many in the years 1895, 1896, 1897, and 1898?
 - (3.) The names of such persons to whom those passes were issued?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered,—I have no objection to furnishing the information desired by the Honorable Member in regard to the number of passes issued if moved for in the usual way. I may be permitted to state that the concession that has been granted to *Mr. Willis* is only in accord with similar concessions granted to other Honorable Members. I may add that it would be manifestly unfair to divulge the names of persons who are forced by adverse circumstances to seek assistance to enable them to end their days in a Charitable Institution.
- (20.) Rosehill Railway :—*Mr. O'Reilly* asked the Colonial Treasurer,—Has the Government any intention of purchasing the Rosehill railway without first taking the opinion of Parliament as to the desirability of so doing?
- Mr. Reid* answered,—No.
- (21.) Voting by Members of the Permanent Volunteer Staff on Referendum Day :—*Mr. O'Reilly* asked the Colonial Secretary,—Is it a fact that the Officer Commanding the New South Wales Forces issued a General Order forbidding members of the Permanent Volunteer Staff from voting at the referendum on 3rd June?
- Mr. Bruncker* answered :—I am informed by the Major-General Commanding the Military Forces that such is not the fact—attention was merely drawn to the Electoral Act bearing on the subject.

3. PAPERS :—

Mr. Gould laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Amended Telephone and Telegraphic Regulations and Rates.
- (2.) Statement of Accounts of the Government Savings Bank for the year 1897.
- (3.) Report of proceedings of the Postal and Telegraphic Conference held in Hobart, March-April, 1898.
- (4.) Rule of the Supreme Court in Divorce.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Reid laid upon the Table,—Actuarial Report on the condition of the Civil Service Superannuation Account as on 31st December, 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

Mr. Bruncker laid upon the Table,—

- (1.) Report of the State Children's Relief Board for the year ended 5th April, 1898.
- (2.) Report by *Frank Farnell*, Esq., M.P., upon the Trawling operations off the coast of New South Wales, together with the scientific Report on the Fishes, by *Edgar R. Waite*, F.L.S.
- (3.) (a) Report of the completion of the Euroka Creek Stormwater Channel; (b) Additional Metropolitan Sewerage By-law, Western Suburbs Outfall Sewer at Rockdale; and (c) Additional Metropolitan Sewerage By-law, Main Outfall Sewer at Middle Harbour, under the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Acts of 1880-1889.
- (4.) Report of the Trustees of the National Park for the year 1897.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

4. PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC WORKS :—*Mr. Ewing*, in accordance with the provisions of the Public Works Act, laid upon the Table,—Report, together with Minutes of Evidence and Plan, relating to the proposed Harbour Works at Numbucca River.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

5. CHARGES MADE BY *MR. LEVIEN*, M.P., AGAINST *MR. SLEATH*, M.P., AND *MR. FERGUSON*, M.P. :—
- (1.) *Mr. Reid* laid upon the Table,—Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into charges made by *R. H. Levien*, Esquire, M.P., against certain Members of the Legislative Assembly.

Referred by Sessional Order to the Printing Committee.

(2.) *Mr. Reid* then moved, That the said Report be now read by the Clerk.

Question put and passed.

The Report was then read by the Clerk, by direction of *Mr. Deputy-Speaker*, as follows :—

Royal Commission appointed to inquire into Charges made by *R. H. Levien*, Esq., M.P., against certain Members of the Legislative Assembly.

REPORT.

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

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,—

Your Commissioner was directed by your Excellency's Commission, dated the 27th day of June last, to make a diligent and full inquiry into charges made by *Robert Henry Levien*, Esq., M.P., in the Legislative Assembly of this Colony, against *Richard Sleath*, Esq., M.P., and *William John Ferguson*, Esq., M.P., as set forth in the *Hansard* report of the proceedings of the said Legislative Assembly on Thursday, the 23rd day of June.

The

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th July, 1898.

The charges referred to in your Excellency's Commission are to be found most concisely set out on page 233 of the Parliamentary Debates, Session 1898, in the report of Mr. Sleath's speech, wherein he spoke of such charges as having been made by Mr. Levien, as follows:—

"I intend to make a charge to-night against the colleague of the Honorable Member for Sturt. I intend to make no secret of the course I intend to pursue. I will show whether he is an honorable man to be a Member of the Assembly of New South Wales.

* * * * *

"It is to you—

"[Here the Honorable Member pointed his finger at me—]

"I allude. I charge you with being one of the most dishonest men who ever lived in the Parliament of New South Wales.

* * * * *

"I suppose that in my life I have committed many faults and sins; but I can say that, looking to my heaven and my God, that I never have been a party who would join with a band of ruffians to blow up and hurl into eternity innocent children, women, and men who never committed a crime, except that they did not obey certain conditions laid down by a labour organisation.

* * * * *

"I will call in no less and no better a witness than the Attorney-General, who will state the honest and bare truth to the country. I suppose he will be called a liar now.

"Far better it would be that those who made the charges were not men who join a foreign association, so that, when other men desire to carry on their lawful occupation, those men who joined in that combination would set a dynamite explosion upon these honest persons in the exercise of their duty to hurl them into eternity. If my honorable friend there takes exception to what I have said, it would have been far better for him to have listened. I know this is a solemn position which I occupy to-night. I know this is a solemn charge that I make; and I say that in the presence of all here. I say to you,—

"[Here again the Honorable Member pointed to me]

"to whom this charge may apply—and I say it to the House and country; I say it to the whole world—if I am stating what is untrue, then at once let the whole of the Assembly vote, and I earnestly ask them to vote, so as to hurl me from the public life of the country, and stamp me as a man unworthy of the confidence of the people, one who has made a charge that is detrimental to my own reputation, and stamps me as one who never ought to be in the Assembly of this country. I stand here to-night fearing nothing. You have invited these obligations. I took upon myself the great responsibility; because it is a great responsibility for a man who has been twenty years within the walls of this Assembly, and who rose from humble circumstances. I am not going to be charged with making an accusation that I am unable to prove.

* * * * *

"I will make the charge. There was a heavy charge there of something that would have hurled Mr. Howell and his family into eternity. He sat behind the bar there, and told me that what I spoke on that occasion was true. It was said of Richard III that he could smile, and murder while he smiled."

In compliance with the terms of Your Excellency's Commission, and bearing in mind the necessity for expedition expressed therein, Your Commissioner at once proceeded therewith. Before calling witnesses, Your Commissioner requested Mr. Levien to formulate, and put into a clear and definite shape, the charges which he intended to make, and of which he wished proof to be adduced; not going beyond the fair intendment of the words used by him in the Legislative Assembly. This, however, Mr. Levien finally declined to do; and, inasmuch as Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson did not press for any such statement, but, on the contrary, preferred that the charges should stand exactly as they were made in the Assembly, Your Commissioner allowed the latter course to be adopted. It became, therefore, necessary for Your Commissioner to decide what, in effect, was intended to be charged by Mr. Levien against Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson: the charges (omitting the imputation of dishonorable conduct, as being only words of abuse, having no specific meaning, except in relation to the particular accusations) appear to be as follows:—

1. That they had joined, or were willing to join, with a band of ruffians in an attempt to blow up certain persons.
2. That they had joined a foreign association with the intention of using dynamite to destroy men who desired to carry on their lawful occupation.
3. That they had attempted, or had conspired to attempt, to blow up Mr. Howell and his family.

In addition to these charges, it was the opinion of Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson that Mr. Levien—as reported in the second column of page 228 of *Hansard*, and at the foot of the second column of page 229—intended to accuse them of murdering a man named Bennett or Bennetts. This suggestion, however, Mr. Levien entirely repudiated. Your Commissioner disposes of it at once, as either a charge that in fact was never made, or, if it appeared to have been made, was absolutely unfounded.

As to the third charge, Mr. Levien, after hearing Mr. Howell's evidence, admitted that he had made a mistake, and that he intended to allude to Mr. Koehler and his family instead of Mr. Howell and his family. The inquiry proceeded as if, in effect, Mr. Koehler's name had been substituted for Mr. Howell's.

Taking into consideration the circumstances under which Your Excellency had thought proper to issue your Commission, and the attitude of Mr. Levien in the matter—as appears at page 235 of *Hansard*, first column—Your Commissioner regarded Mr. Levien as standing in the position of a prosecutor, upon whom was cast the duty of assisting in the inquiry by suggesting the names of witnesses who could give evidence in proof of his charges, and in conducting their examination. And the inquiry which Your Commissioner was directed to make he understood to be an investigation into the truth or otherwise of the charges themselves, independently of any opinion held by, or any motive actuating, Mr. Levien in making them. In the matter of evidence, Your

Commissioner,

7th July, 1898.

Commissioner, though allowing all fair latitude, deemed it to be strictly his duty to exclude all mere hearsay; being, in his opinion, as rigidly bound as a court of law by such broad rules of evidence as are founded upon accepted principles of justice, a departure from which would be likely to vitiate a conclusion of fact founded upon what would be an obviously unsafe basis. Mr. Levien contended strenuously against this ruling, which, he asserted, he had not anticipated, and which had the effect of keeping out some testimony that he was prepared to give; and he intimated that, unless he was allowed to depose to statements made to him by Bennett, in the absence of both Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson, he would probably be unable to prove the charges which he had made. He did not, however, withdraw from the inquiry. Your Commissioner then procured the attendance of Mr. Howell, whose evidence was practically negative, and of the Attorney-General, who declined to reply to questions which he considered his duty to his former clients precluded him from answering—though, in his case as well as in Mr. Levien's, Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson had absolutely waived their own privilege as between themselves and their former Counsel and Solicitor; but it became evident that, if Mr. Want had any testimony that he might otherwise have given, it would have been excluded for the same reason as that which affected the evidence tendered by Mr. Levien. Mr. Levien then asked for the attendance of Detectives Goulder and Brown, who were examined; and he pressed that Messrs. Koehler and Spence should be summoned from Broken Hill. They attended, but could give no evidence of any value. Mr. Levien insisted strongly on the necessity for the making of an attempt to bring Mr. Murphy, formerly a Member of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, from Western Australia. Your Commissioner, having examined Mr. John Bennett, on whose recollection of a conversation which he had had with Mr. Murphy the question of the materiality, in proof of the charges, of Mr. Murphy's evidence turned, was satisfied that it would be useless, and therefore indefensible, because of the delay and expense involved, to attempt to procure Mr. Murphy's attendance. Mr. John Douglas, described as an engineer, wrote from Melbourne to Mr. Levien, volunteering to give evidence. Having seen the letter, Your Commissioner decided to call him.

It was at the request of Mr. Sleath that Mr. Edgar, of Melbourne, was called. It was not practicable, even if it had been of any importance, to marshal the witnesses in any regular order. Mr. Edgar's may be taken as the only evidence adduced in refutation of the charges.

As to the witnesses Colebatch and Bourn Ross, a copy of the Judge's notes of whose evidence, given at the trial at Deniliquin, is appended, it was agreed that their testimony, so recorded, should be taken as evidence on this inquiry. And, for the purpose of saving time, it was also agreed that the depositions, taken at the preliminary hearing, of Detectives Goulder and Brown, should be so used.

A witness, D'Echert, supposed to be in Melbourne, whose attendance was required by Mr. Levien, has not been found.

In explanation of the proceedings at Deniliquin in 1892, a copy of the indictment, with the record of the finding of the jury, was admitted. The man Bennett, or Bennetts, alluded to by Mr. Levien, appears as one of the accused who were convicted. Mr. Howell's evidence explains how this man came, after the expiration of his sentence, to leave Broken Hill. As far as is known, he is now either in South Africa or in South America; and it would have been impracticable to procure his attendance as a witness.

At the close of Douglas's evidence, Your Commissioner asked Mr. Levien, as well as Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson, whether there was any other witness who could be suggested as proper to be called. No witness was named. Your Commissioner also intimated that either Mr. Sleath or Mr. Ferguson could, if he wished, give evidence—or Mr. Levien might, if he chose, have either of them sworn for the purpose of cross-examination. No such course was adopted. In the view of the evidence which Your Commissioner took, he did not think it necessary to compel either Mr. Sleath or Mr. Ferguson to be sworn.

In the whole of the evidence it is clear that there is no proof whatever of any one of the charges which form the subject matter of this inquiry. Further, it appears that, at the time of the Broken Hill strike, diligent efforts were made by the police to ascertain whether the strike leaders were in any manner transgressing the criminal law. The result of these inquiries was the arrest and prosecution of the eight accused—including Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson—whose names appear in the indictment set out in the appendix. The indictment contains three counts—the first charging a conspiracy to raise sedition; the second, a conspiracy to incite to unlawful assembling and rioting; the third, a conspiracy to procure certain persons to combine to prevent others from following their lawful occupations. It follows that the police authorities had not discovered, at that time, in the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, any evidence upon which action could be taken of such a conspiracy—much more serious in its nature than those charged in the indictment—as that now imputed by Mr. Levien to Messrs. Sleath and Ferguson. The evidence adduced at the trial, to which nothing substantial has been added on this inquiry, points only to the contemplation, by the then accused, of certain unlawful acts, such as the derailing of a train containing free labourers; an act which in fact was not carried out, and which might or might not endanger life, according to the mode and spot selected. The convictions were all on the third count only, for what may be described as unlawful picketing.

Your Commissioner, therefore, finds that the charges remain, after all practicable inquiry, absolutely unproved.

I have the honor to be,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

(Signed) C. E. R. MURRAY,

Commissioner.

E. C. WRIGHT, Secretary.

Thursday, 7th July, 1898.

6. BROKEN HILL TRADES HALL SITE 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 vest certain land at Broken Hill in trustees on trust for the erection of a Trades Hall.*"

Question put and passed.

Ordered,

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

7th July, 1898.

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 at Broken Hill in trustees on trust for the erection of a Trades Hall,*"—presents the same to the Legislative Council for its concurrence.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th July, 1898.*

7. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS :—

(1.) Mr. Carruthers moved, without Notice, That it is a matter of urgent and pressing necessity that Standing Order No. 293 be suspended to admit of the Legislative Council's Message, insisting upon its amendments in the Crown Lands Bill being considered on the same day on which such Message is received from the Council.

Question put and passed.

(2.) Mr. Carruthers moved, without Notice, That Standing Order No. 293 be now suspended to admit of the Legislative Council's Message, insisting upon its amendments in the Crown Lands Bill being considered on the same day on which such Message is received from the Council.

Question put and passed.

8. CROWN LANDS 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 8th December, 1897, in reference to the Crown Lands Bill,—

Insists upon its amendments disagreed to by the Assembly,—

1. Because it considers such amendments necessary to safeguard the working of the Bill, and to ensure its successful administration.

2. Because they are equitable in their character, and desirable in the interest of settlement and improvement.

*Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, that the Legislative Council's Message be forthwith taken into consideration in Committee of the Whole.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Deputy-Speaker left the Chair; and the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole for the consideration of the Council's Message.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker resumed the Chair; and Mr. O'Sullivan, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee insists upon its disagreements to the Council's amendments in the Bill.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly having had under consideration the Legislative Council's Message, dated 7th July, 1898, in reference to the Crown Lands 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 :—Mr. Reid, Mr. Moore, Mr. Watson, Mr. Thomas Brown, Mr. Carruthers, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Ashton, Mr. Lyne, Mr. Copeland, and Mr. Hayes.

*Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th July, 1898.*

9. IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION 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 place certain restrictions on immigration; to provide for the removal from the Colony of prohibited immigrants; to impose certain disabilities upon them whilst in the Colony; and for other purposes incidental to, or consequent upon, the before-mentioned 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, 7th July, 1898.*

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

IMMIGRATION RESTRICTION BILL.

Schedule of Amendments referred to in Message of 7th July, 1898.

JOHN J. CALVERT,
Clerk of the Parliaments.

Page 2, clause 2. *After line 7 insert "(f) The officers and crew of any other vessel landing " during the stay of such vessel in any port of New South Wales."*

Page 2, clause 3, line 11. *Omit "any of"*

Page 2, clause 3, line 11. *Omit "classes" insert "class"*

Page 2, clause 3, line 11. *Omit "s" from "subsections"*

Page 2, clause 3, lines 14 and 15. *Omit "himself write out and sign in the characters of any " language of Europe" insert "write out in his own handwriting in some European " language and sign"*

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- Page 2, clause 3, line 19. *After* "Schedule" *omit* remainder of clause.
- Page 2, clause 5, lines 41 to 43. *Omit* "and not coming within the meaning of any of the sub-sections (c), (d), (e), (f), of the said section three"
- Page 3, clause 6, lines 2 to 4. *Omit* "and that he does not come within the meaning of any of the sub-sections (c), (d), (e), (f), of section three of this Act"
- Page 3, clause 8, line 10. *After* "landed" *insert* "before such immigrant is passed by an officer appointed for that purpose by the Government"
- Page 3, clause 8, lines 11 to 14. *Omit* "of not less than one hundred pounds sterling, and such penalty may be increased up to five thousand pounds sterling by sums of one hundred pounds sterling each for every five prohibited immigrants after the first five" *insert* "of one hundred pounds in respect of the landing as aforesaid from his vessel of any prohibited immigrant, and to a further penalty of twenty pounds for each such immigrant so landed in excess of the number of five: Provided that the total amount of penalties incurred in any one voyage of the vessel shall not exceed five thousand pounds"
- Page 3, clause 10. *Omit* clause 10.
- Page 3, clauses 12 and 13. *Omit* clauses 12 and 13.
- Page 4, clause 19. *Omit* clause 19.

Examined—

ARCHD. H. JACOB,
Chairman of Committees.

Ordered, that the Legislative Council's amendments be forthwith taken into consideration.

Whereupon, on motion of Mr. Reid, 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. Ashton, Temporary Chairman, reported that the Committee had agreed to the Council's amendments.

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

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

MR. PRESIDENT,—

The Legislative Assembly has this day agreed to the amendments made by the Legislative Council in the Bill, intituled "*An Act to place certain restrictions on immigration; to provide for the removal from the Colony of prohibited immigrants; to impose certain disabilities upon them whilst in the Colony; and for other purposes incidental to, or consequent upon, the before-mentioned objects.*"

Legislative Assembly Chamber,
Sydney, 7th July, 1898.

10. CROWN LANDS BILL:—Mr. Deputy Speaker reported the following Message from the Legislative Council:—

MR. SPEAKER,—

The Legislative Council having taken into consideration the Legislative Assembly's Message, dated 7th July, 1898, requesting a Free Conference in respect to the Council's amendments in the Crown Lands Bill, to which the Assembly has disagreed, regrets that it does not consider it practicable at this late period of the Session to enter into a Free Conference, which would involve a prolonged discussion, requiring more time than is now available for the consideration of so important a subject.

Legislative Council Chamber,
Sydney, 7th July, 1898.

JOHN LACKEY,
President.

11. CHARGES MADE BY MR. LEVIEN, M.P., AGAINST MR. SLEATH, M.P., AND MR. FERGUSON, M.P.:—

(1) Mr. Levien made a personal explanation, and unreservedly apologised to the House and the Members concerned for the charges which he had made.

(2.) Whereupon Mr. Reid (by consent) moved, without Notice, That this House, having heard read, and having considered the Report of the Royal Commission appointed to inquire into certain charges made by the Honorable Member for Quirindi, Robert Henry Levien, Esquire, against the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, and the Honorable Member for Sturt, Mr. Ferguson, resolves to place on record,—

1. That this House considers the Honorable Member for Wilcannia, Mr. Sleath, and the Honorable Member for Sturt, Mr. Ferguson, exonerated from all the charges made against them by the Honorable Member for Quirindi, Mr. Levien.

2. That such portions of the speech of the Honorable Member, Mr. Levien, as relate to the said charges, and every reference thereto in other speeches made during the same sitting, be expunged from the official report of the Debates.

And Mr. Sleath having addressed the House,—

Question put and passed.

12. PRINTING COMMITTEE:—Mr. Hayes, as Chairman, brought up the Third Report from the Printing Committee.

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

Debate ensued.

Question put and passed.

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

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

WILLIAM McCOURT,
Deputy Speaker.



PROCLAMATION

NEW SOUTH WALES,)
 to wit.)
 (L.S.))
 HAMPDEN,)
Governor.) By His Excellency The Right Honourable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT
 HAMPDEN, 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, HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, the Governor aforesaid, in pursuance of the power and authority so vested in me, do hereby prorogue the said Legislative Council and Assembly until Tuesday, the second day of August proximo, and the same stand so prorogued accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Sydney, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, and in the sixty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
 JAMES N. BRUNKER.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!



PROCLAMATION

<p>NEW SOUTH WALES, to wit. (L.S.) HAMPDEN, Governor.</p>	}	<p>By His Excellency The Right Honourable HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of New South Wales and its Dependencies.</p>
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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 dissolve the Legislative Assembly whenever he should deem it expedient: And whereas it is expedient that the said Assembly should be now dissolved: Now, therefore, I, HENRY ROBERT, VISCOUNT HAMPDEN, the Governor aforesaid, in pursuance of the power and authority so vested in me, do hereby dissolve the said Legislative Assembly, and the same stands dissolved accordingly.

Given under my Hand and Seal, at Government House, Sydney, this eighth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight, and in the sixty-second year of Her Majesty's Reign.

By His Excellency's Command,
JAMES N. BRUNKER.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN!

1898.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS UNDISPOSED OF AT THE CLOSE OF THE SESSION.

(PROROGUED 8 JULY, 1898.)

QUESTIONS:—

1. MR. E. M. CLARK *to ask* THE SECRETARY FOR PUBLIC WORKS,—
 - (1.) Will he lay upon the Table of this House—(a) All papers and documents relating to the competition for designs for the Rossiville-Kenmore Asylum, together with the printed conditions of same which were signed by competitors; (b) also the reports of the Government Architect, Inspector-General of Insane, and Mr. Horbury Hunt, on the designs submitted, together with their adjudication and awards; (c) also papers and report from C. H. Howell, Esq., of London, on the three first premiated designs sent home, and submitted to him, with the names attached in their relative positions, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, as placed by Mr. Howell?
 - (2.) Is the present design being carried out on the *en echelon* principle; and was not the design placed first by Mr. Howell the only one planned in this manner, viz., the *en echelon*?
 - (3.) Was not Mr. Sulman, of Messrs. Sulman and Power, or the firm, paid a sum as solatium or recompense; if so, for what reason?
2. MR. WATSON *to ask* THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION,—
 - (1.) Is it a fact that any Member of the House is indebted to his Department for railway passes issued?
 - (2.) If so, to what amount?
 - (3.) Has any demand been made for payment of same; and, if so, with what result?

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS—ORDERS OF THE DAY:—

1. Free-trade and Protection Referendum Bill; second reading.
2. Supply; resumption of the Committee.
3. Ways and Means; resumption of the Committee.

GENERAL BUSINESS—NOTICES OF MOTIONS:—

1. MR. FRANK FARNELL *to move*, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should introduce without delay a Bill for the purpose of allowing municipalities to levy a general rate on all Government lands within such incorporated areas.
 2. MR. FRANK FARNELL *to move*, That in the opinion of this House, the Government should discontinue the practice of running a free steamer for the conveyance of workmen to the Dock at Cockatoo Island.
 3. MR. FRANK FARNELL *to move*, That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when the Government should carry out their obligation to the purchasers of land on the Field of Mars by the construction of a line of railway or tramway to that locality.
 4. MR. T. R. SMITH *to move*, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing the amounts paid to each contractor and wages paid to every man that worked on the Luddenham Road out of the expenditure of the £1,200 granted to the trustees, Messrs. Fulton, Cox, Wallace, and A. W. Stephen.
 5. MR. T. R. SMITH *to move*, That there be laid upon the Table of this House the report of the surveyor of the trial survey of railway from Liverpool to Mulgoa.
 6. MR. THOMAS BROWN *to move*, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all correspondence, papers, reports, &c., relating to an application by the Peak Hill Municipal Council to have a Licensing Court established at that place.
 7. MR. PRICE *to move*, That the Agricultural Holdings 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.
 8. MR. PRICE *to move*,—
 - (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claims of Mr. W. Bithrey, in connection with certain forfeited road contracts in the county of Gloucester.
 - (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. McCourt, Mr. Gillies, Mr. McLean, Mr. Watkins, Mr. Edden, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. James Thomson, and the Mover.
- MR. PRICE *to move*,—
- (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the excessive royalties charged in connection with timber licenses is prejudicial to the industry, and that such royalties should be reduced.
 - (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.

10. MR. PRICE to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the law relating to proceedings in the Supreme Court, and to amend such other statutes as may be necessary to give effect to the same.
11. MR. PRICE to move,—
 - (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, it is inequitable to charge tolls on punts and allow free traffic over bridges.
 - (2.) That the tolls on punts should be abolished.
 - (3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
12. MR. PRICE to move,—
 - (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable to encourage the manufacture of tobacco and cigars from colonial leaf.
 - (2.) That it is, therefore, desirable that the excise duties on tobacco and cigars made from colonial leaf be reduced.
 - (3.) That the above resolutions be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
13. MR. EDDEN to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when the Government should take steps to secure coal mines sufficient to supply their own requirements.
14. MR. FEGAN to move, That the Women's Franchise Bill, which was introduced in the Assembly during last Session, but was interrupted before its completion by the close of the Session, be now reintroduced at the stage it had reached at the time of such interruption.
15. MR. FEGAN to move, That the Coal Mines Regulation (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.
16. MR. FEGAN to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived when a Bill should be introduced in accordance with the provisions of the "Workmen's Compensation Act," which has recently been passed by the British Legislature.
17. MR. FRANK FARNELL to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should place on the Estimates for 1898-9 a sum of money sufficient to allow of the resumption of land in populous areas to be set aside as public parks.
18. MR. FRANK FARNELL to move, That, in the opinion of this House, no further delay should take place on the part of the Government in having constructed the proposed extension of the tramway to Drummoyne.
19. MR. FRANK FARNELL to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the time has arrived for the Government to undertake the work of the construction of a bridge over the Parramatta River at Ermington.
20. MR. E. M. CLARK to move,—
 - (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into, and report upon, the case of Thomas Buckley, dismissed from the Public Works Department.
 - (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Gormly, Mr. Waddell, Mr. Howarth, Mr. Cann, Mr. Willis, Mr. McGowen, Mr. O'Sullivan, and the Mover.
 - (3.) That the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Select Committees of Sessions 1896 and 1897 be referred to such Committee.
21. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That the report from the Select Committee on "Gore and Artarmon " Estates, North Shore," brought up on 12th November, 1896, be now adopted.
22. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That this House does not assent to the proposals set forth in the *Gazette* notice, dated 6th October last, and laid upon the Table on that date, in pursuance of the provisions of section 105 of the Crown Lands Act of 1884, declaring the intention of the Governor to revoke the dedication of "Branch Road at Double Bay from Darling Point Road to Lower Ocean-street," and rededicate in lieu thereof roads described in such notice.
23. MR. E. M. CLARK to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House copies of all papers and reports in connection with the application of Edward Elias Smith for an oyster lease at Clarence River.
24. MR. MCGOWEN to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and correspondence in connection with Mr. James Farr, late Clerk of Works, Government Architect's Department.
25. MR. PARKES to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 - (1.) The number of children of school age within the municipality of Canterbury.
 - (2.) The number of such children on the Public School rolls.
 - (3.) The number of defaulters who have not attended school the requisite number of days specified by the Educational Act during last twelve months, and the number of prosecutions (if any) instituted against the parents of such children.
 - (4.) The amount of Public School accommodation at present existing in Canterbury, and the distances apart of such schools.
26. MR. HAYNES to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and reports between the Colonial Treasurer's Department and the Public Wharfs Office during the year 1895, in connection with the reduction of tonnage dues payable by certain vessels under the Wharfage Rates and Tonnage Dues Act.
27. MR. CRUICKSHANK to move, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Case of Sydney Cooper, " as to mining under a road, parish of Clive, county of Gough," brought up on 8th December, 1897, be now adopted.
28. MR. THOMAS FITZPATRICK to move, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Ryan's " Conditional Purchases in the Wagga Wagga Land District," brought up on 10th September, 1896, be now adopted.

29. **MR. McLEAN** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of John Sullivan for compensation for loss of employment in the Harbours and Rivers Department.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Rigg, Mr. Lync, Mr. Price, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Wright, and the Mover.
30. **MR. WILKS** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, it is desirable that an Amended Navigation Act should be immediately introduced.
31. **MR. RIGG** to move, That, in the opinion of this House, the Government should take immediate steps to put the land dedicated for a park at St. Peters into a state fit for the residents to use for recreation purposes.
32. **MR. TRAVERS JONES** to move, That the Report from the Select Committee on "Conditional Purchase" by George Vincent, in the District of Gundagai," brought up on 19th August, 1897, be now adopted.
33. **MR. TRAVERS JONES** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the Cootamundra to Gundagai Railway should be extended to Tumut with the least possible delay.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
34. **MR. T. R. SMITH** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The amount of rent charged to each of the Public School teachers in the Nepean electorate for their residences.
 (2.) The valuations (if any) made of these residences since rents have been charged compared with the rents charged by the Public Service Board.
 (3.) The valuation of the Public School teacher's residence at St. Mary's, and the value put upon it by the local business people.
 (4.) The amount the Public School teacher at Penrith pays, and the actual rental value of his residence.
35. **MR. T. R. SMITH** to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The number of engine-drivers in the New South Wales railway service receiving the maximum pay (15s. per diem); also the number in each of the other grades, giving the numbers and pay in each grade.
 (2.) Also the number of firemen in each grade, and the pay in each.
 (3.) Same information as to the number in each class in cleaners' and fitters' branch, with their rates of pay; and also every other rank in the Locomotive Department, giving number and pay in each.
 (4.) Similar information as to the number of guards and assistant guards, and pay of each.
 (5.) Similar information as to all men and boys employed in the Traffic Department.
 (6.) Similar information as to wages and numbers in the Permanent-way Department.
 (7.) Similar information as to all engine-drivers, firemen, guards, &c., in the Tramway Department.
 (8.) Similar information as to the conductors, Tramway Department.
 (9.) Similar information as to all the men employed on the tramways, giving number and pay of all classes.
36. **MR. FEGAN** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the sale of land by A. A. Dangar, Esq., at Wickham, fronting Throsby Creek and Cottage Creek.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Carruthers, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Sleath, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Edden, Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Dick, Mr. Nicholson, and the Mover.
 (3.) That the Minutes of Proceedings and Evidence of the Select Committee of Session 1896 be referred to such Committee.
37. **MR. FEGAN** to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the dismissal of Maurice Hickey, look-out man at Newcastle.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Reid, Mr. Anderson, Mr. Cann, Mr. O'Reilly, Mr. Travers Jones, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Bavister, Mr. James Thomson, Mr. Kelly, and the Mover.
38. **MR. GRIFFITH** to move, That, in view of the refusals of the present and the preceding Ministers of Justice to grant an inquiry into the case of Thomas Suffield under the provisions of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, this House is of opinion that, with the object of enabling him to clear away the stain which rests upon his name, a Royal Commission to inquire into the circumstances connected with his trial should be appointed as soon as practicable after the expiry of Suffield's sentence in October next.
39. **MR. GORMLY** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, steps should be taken to provide that holders of special areas who have not yet been permitted, shall be allowed to make application to have the value fixed on those lands reduced.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
40. **MR. GORMLY** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, where land is made available for settlement no survey fee shall be charged to successful applicants.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
41. **MR. GORMLY** to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, in consequence of the disastrous effects of the droughts that have occurred during the last three years the annual amounts of payments of instalments on resident conditional purchases should be reduced, and that payments be suspended where there is an inability to pay.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.

42. MR. GORMLY to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, in order to diminish the injurious effects of times of a deficient rainfall, the State should at once take steps to have a general scheme of water conservation carried out.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
43. MR. GORMLY to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, the persons who have applied, or shall in future apply, for homestead selections should not be called on to pay for improvements found to exist on the land, but the value of such improvements should be included in the capital value.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
44. MR. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Municipalities Act, to enable municipalities to let, lease, or sell lands within their boundaries on which rates are in arrear for a period of more than five years.
45. MR. W. H. B. PIDDINGTON to move, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House the ordinance granting concessions to Sir Somers Vine and others in British New Guinea, together with all papers, correspondence, &c., relating thereto.
46. MR. HAYNES to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the conduct of the Police and Magistrates and other matters in connection with the case of one Rachel Dawson, convicted at Dubbo of shooting.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Robert Jones, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Black, Mr. Brunker, Mr. Nelson, Mr. O'Sullivan, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Neild, and the Mover.
47. MR. BLACK to move, That an Address be presented to the Governor, praying that His Excellency will be pleased to cause to be laid upon the Table of this House all papers and documents which have passed between Mrs. Naomi McDonald and the Justice Department, the Attorney-General, and the Inspector of Police, with regard to the non-execution of a warrant issued for the arrest of John Alexander McDonald, Gladiola Douglas, and Frank Blackwell, on a charge of conspiracy against the aforesaid Mrs. Naomi McDonald.
48. MR. NEILD to move, That the prayer of the Petition of Captain Comte de Rossi, presented on the 23rd November, 1897, that he be heard by counsel at the Bar of this Honorable House, be granted.
49. MR. GORMLY to move,—
 (1.) That, in the opinion of this House, in consequence of an excessive capital value having been placed on a considerable quantity of land taken up as homestead selections, the holders should be given the right to apply for a re-valuation.
 (2.) That the above resolution be communicated by Address to His Excellency the Governor.
50. MR. RUSSELL JONES to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to provide for the registration of firms.
51. DR. ROSS to move,—
 (1.) That a Select Committee be appointed to inquire into and report upon the claim of Sam Lemon and Mary Lemon, regarding compensation for land resumed for railway purposes on Molong, Parkes, and Forbes Railway.
 (2.) That such Committee consist of Mr. Young, Mr. Hawthorne, Mr. Affleck, Mr. E. M. Clark, Mr. Perry, Mr. Gornly, Mr. Edden, Mr. Hurley, Mr. M. T. Phillips, and the Mover.
52. MR. J. C. L. FITZPATRICK to move, That it be an instruction to the Standing Orders Committee to frame a Standing or Sessional Order for submission to the House hereafter, for the purpose of fixing a time limit, *i.e.*, that of two hours, for Motions for Adjournment.
53. MR. O'SULLIVAN to move, That, in view of the importance of the mining industry to New South Wales, this House is of opinion that the following proposals should be carried into effect as speedily as possible:—The granting of a sum of £100,000 for prospecting aid, and the fitting out of reliable experts and miners to explore those portions of New South Wales where gold or minerals are known to exist; the engagement of travelling lecturers upon the most approved ideas in mining, mine-timbering, metallurgy, smelting, and the treatment of refractory ores, who shall visit outlying mining centres to impart instruction there; the establishment of a mining depôt, where specimens and parcels of ore may be inspected by probable purchasers or investors; and the carrying of all parcels of stone up to 6 tons free of expense by railway when sent by *bonâ fide* prospectors or claim-holders for testing purposes.
54. MR. RUSSELL JONES to move, That leave be given to bring in a Bill to amend the Life Assurance Encouragement Act of 1862, to further encourage and protect Life Insurances and other like provident arrangements for insurers and their families.
55. MR. T. R. SMITH to move, That there be laid upon the Table of this House a return showing,—
 (1.) The number of blind children at the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind Institute, Newtown Road.
 (2.) The number of sighted persons employed at that institute; and the amount of salary per annum paid to each sighted person.
 (3.) The total cost to date of the lands and all buildings erected thereon.
 (4.) The number of blind persons employed at the Industrial Blind Institute, Boomerang-street, Woolloomooloo.
 (5.) The average weekly earnings paid to each blind person from 1st January, 1897, to 1st November, 1897.
 (6.) The number of blind persons who have been suspended for the two years ending 1st November, 1897, and the reasons for such suspensions.

- (7.) The number of sighted persons employed at the Industrial Blind Institute, Boomerang-street, Woolloomooloo.
- (8.) The weekly wage paid to each person so employed.
- (9.) The total cost of the building, to date, known as the Industrial Blind Institute, and the cost of all outhouses erected on the lands of that institution.
- (10.) The number of blind women employed at the Industrial Home for Blind Women, Strathfield.
- (11.) The number of sighted persons employed in the said Home.
- (12.) The amount of salary paid to each, including that of H. S. Prescott and H. Mattingly.
- (13.) The total cost to date of the building, all outhouses, and the land upon which the buildings are erected.
- (14.) The number of blind persons assisted to earn a living, and the amount paid to each, or the total value of the material supplied, from 1st January, 1897, to 1st November, 1897.
- (15.) The amount of revenue received from all sources towards the Industrial Home for Blind Women, at Strathfield, from 1st January, 1897, to 1st November, 1897.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:—

1. City and North Sydney Tunnel-roadway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
2. City and North Sydney Railway Bill; to be further considered in Committee.
3. Dentists Bill (*Council Bill*); second reading.

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 8th July, 1898.

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

Sydney: William Applegate Gullick, Government Printer.—1898.

[6d.]

1898.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

ATTENDANCES OF MEMBERS IN DIVISIONS AND COUNTS-OUT
DURING THE SESSION OF 1898.

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committee.	Counts-out.	Total.
Abbott, The Hon. Sir Joseph Palmer, K.C.M.G. (<i>Speaker</i>)				
Afleck, William, Esq.	5	1		6
Anderson, George, Esq.	3			3
Ashton, James, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	2			2
Ball, Richard Thomas, Esq.	2			2
Barnes, John Frederick, Esq.	4			4
Bavister, Thomas, Esq.	4	1		5
Black, George, Esq.	4	1		5
Brown, Herbert Harrington, Esq.	1	1		2
Brown, Thomas, Esq.	3	1		4
Brunker, The Hon. James Nixon, Esq.	5	1		6
Bull, Charles, Esq.	2	1		3
Campbell, Alexander, Esq.	5	1		6
Campbell, Archibald, Esq.	3	1		4
Cann, John Henry, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	3	1		4
Carroll, James George, Esq.	3			3
Caruthers, The Hon. Joseph Hector, Esq.	3			3
Chanter, John Moore, Esq.	4	1		5
Chapman, Austin, Esq.	4	1		5
Clark, Edward Mann, Esq.	2	1		3
Clarke, Francis, Esq.	1	1		2
Clarke, Henry, Esq.	4			4
Cook, The Hon. Joseph, Esq.	4	1		5
Copeland, The Hon. Henry, Esq.	2			2
Cotton, Francis, Esq.	4	1		5
Crick, William Patrick, Esq.	3	1		4
Cruikshank, George Alexander, Esq.	3			3
Dacey, John Rowland, Esq.	2	1		3
Davis, Thomas Martin, Esq.				
Dick, William Thomas, Esq.	5	1		6
Edden, Alfred, Esq.	4	1		5
Ewing, Thomas Thomson, Esq.	2			2
Farnell, Frank, Esq.	2			2
Fegan, John Lionel, Esq.	4	1		5
Ferguson, William John, Esq.	2	1		3
FitzGerald, Robert George Dundas, Esq.				
Fitzpatrick, John Charles Lucas, Esq.	4	1		5
Fitzpatrick, Thomas, Esq.	4			4
Garrard, The Hon. Jacob, Esq.	3	1		4
Gillies, John, Esq.	3			3
Goodwin, Thomas Henry Hall, Esq.	2	1		3
Gormly, James, Esq.	2			2
Gould, The Hon. Albert John, Esq.	3			3
Graham, James, Esq., M.D.	1			1
Greene, George Henry, Esq.	2			2
Griffith, Arthur Hill, Esq.	4	1		5
Harris, Matthew, Esq.	2			2
Harvey, James Frederick, Esq.	5	1		6
Hassali, Thomas Henry, Esq.	2	1		3
Hawthorne, John Stuart, Esq.	4	1		5
Hayes, James, Esq.	2			2
Haynes, John, Esq.	4	1		5
Hogue, James Alexander, Esq.	4			4
Hollis, Leslie Thomas, Esq., M.B., Ch.M.				
Howarth, George, Esq.	4	1		5
Hughes, William Morris, Esq.	3	1		4
Hurley, William Fergus, Esq.	3	1		4
Jessop, Thomas, Esq.	5	1		6
Jones, Llewellyn Charles Russell, Esq.	2			2
Jones, Robert, Esq.	2			2
Jones, Travers, Esq.	3	1		4

	Divisions in the House.	Divisions in Committee.	Counts-out.	Total.
Kelly, Joseph Bede, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Knox, Adrian, Esq. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Law, Sydney James, Esq.	5	.....	.....	5
Lee, Charles Alfred, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)....	4	.....	.....	4
Levien, Robert Henry, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
Lonsdale, Edmund, Esq.	3	1	.....	4
Lyne, William John, Esq.	3	.....	.....	3
Macdonald, Hugh, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Mackay, James Alexander Kenneth, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Mahony, William Henry, Esq.	3	1	.....	4
McCourt, William, Esq. (<i>Chairman of Committees</i>)	3	.....	.....	3
McFarlane, John, Esq.	1	1	.....	2
McGowen, James Sinclair Taylor, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
McLaughlin, John, Esq.	3	1	.....	4
McLean, Francis Edward, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
McMillan, William, Esq. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Millard, William, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Millen, Edward Davis, Esq.	2	.....	.....	2
Miller, Gustave Thomas Carlisle, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
Molesworth, Edmund William, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
Moore, Samuel Wilkinson, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Morgan, William, Esq.	5	.....	.....	5
Morton, Philip Henry, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
Neild, John Cash, Esq. ....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Nelson, Arthur David, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Newman, Henry William, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Nicholson, John Barnes, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
Norton, John, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
O'Reilly, Dowell Phillip, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
O'Sullivan, Edward William, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	3	1	.....	4
Parkes, Varney, Esq.	2	.....	.....	2
Perry, John, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Phillips, Michael Thomas, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
Phillips, Simon, Esq.	4	.....	.....	4
Piddington, Albert Bathurst, Esq. (<i>Temporary Chairman of Committees</i>)	2	.....	.....	2
Piddington, William Henry Burgess, Esq.	1	1	.....	2
Price, Richard Atkinson, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Pyers, Robert, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Roid, The Right Hon. George Houstoun, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Reymond, Joseph Bernard, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
Rigg, William, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Rose, Thomas, Esq.	2	.....	.....	2
Ross, Andrew, Esq., M.D.	3	.....	.....	3
Ross, Hugh, Esq.	3	.....	.....	3
Schey, William Francis, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
See, John, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
Seath, Richard, Esq.	3	1	.....	4
Smailes, George Wells, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
Smith, The Hon. Sydney, Esq.	2	.....	.....	2
Smith, Thomas Richard, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
Storey, David, Esq.	1	.....	.....	1
Thomas, Josiah, Esq.	3	1	.....	4
Thomson, Dugald, Esq.	2	.....	.....	2
Thomson, James, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Waddell, Thomas, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Watkins, David, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
Watson, John Christian, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Wheeler, Henry Charles, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
Whiddon, Samuel Thomas, Esq.	3	1	.....	4
Wilks, William Henry, Esq.	5	1	.....	6
Willis, William Nicholas, Esq.	4	1	.....	5
Wood, William Herbert, Esq.	3	1	.....	4
Wright, Francis Augustus, Esq.	2	1	.....	3
Young, The Hon. James Henry, Esq.	5	1	.....	6

Legislative Assembly Office,
Sydney, 8 July, 1898.

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

1898.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.
NEW SOUTH WALES.

BUSINESS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES
DURING THE SESSION OF 1898.

1. New Writs issued											2
2. Select Committees :—											
On Public Matters											1
On Private Bills											0
											1
3. Standing Committees											5
4. Public Bills :—											
Originated in the Assembly—											
Received the Royal Assent											3
Otherwise disposed of											5
											8
Brought from the Council—											
Received the Royal Assent											25
Otherwise disposed of											1
											26
5. Private Bills :—											
Originated in the Assembly—											
Received the Royal Assent											0
Otherwise disposed of											3
											3
Brought from the Council—											
Received the Royal Assent											0
Otherwise disposed of											0
											0
6. Petitions received :—											
Printed											2
Not Printed											3
											5
7. Divisions :—											
In the House											5
In Committee of the Whole											1
											6
8. Sittings (for details see paragraph 15, page 2) :—											
Days of Meeting											9
Hours of Sitting											71 h. 4 m.
Hours of Sitting after Midnight											15 h. 19 m.
Daily Average											7 h. 53 m.
Adjourned for want of a Quorum—											
Before commencement of Business											0
After commencement of Business											0
											0
9. Votes and Proceedings											9
Entries in Votes and Proceedings—											
Of Business done											98
Of Questions answered											126
											224
Daily Average											24
Entries in Notice Paper—											
Of Questions											258
Of Notices of Motion											414
Of Orders of the Day											51
Of Contingent Notices											0
											723
Daily Average											80
10. Contingent Notice Papers											0
11. Orders for Papers											1
12. Addresses for Papers											0
13. Other Addresses											1
14. Papers laid upon the Table :—											
By Message											3
By Command											205
In Return to Orders											6
In Return to Addresses											0
Reports from Standing and Select Committees											0
											214
Ordered to be Printed											72
Not ordered to be Printed											142
											214
											15.

15. Sittings of the House:—

Return of the number of days on which the House sat in the Session of 1898, 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		Entries in Votes.
					of Sitting.	after Mid-night.	
					h. m.	h. m.	
1	21 June.....	Tuesday	12 noon.....	12.21 o'clock p.m.	0 21	...	} 10
				4 o'clock p.m....	7 6	...	
2	22 „	Wednesday.....	4 „	12. 4 „ a.m.	8 4	0 4	7
3	23 „	Thursday	4 „	11.45 „ „	19 45	11 45	11
4	28 „	Tuesday	4 „	3.30 „ „	11 30	3 30	19
5	29 „	Wednesday ...	4 „	8.58 „ p.m.	4 58	...	10
6	30 „	Thursday	4 „	11.40 „ „	7 40	...	10
7	5 July	Tuesday	4 „	4.33 „ „	0 33	...	1
8	6 „	Wednesday.....	4 „	10.39 „ „	6 39	...	17
9	7 „	Thursday	4 „	8.28 „ „	4 28	...	13
Total.....					71 4	15 19	98
Average length of sitting, daily, 7 hours 53 minutes.							

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